Programme syllabus

Master's Programme, Architecture, 120 credits
Masterprogram, arkitektur
120.0 credits

Valid for students admitted to the education from autumn 15 (HT - Autumn term; VT - Spring term).

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, programme syllabus.

Programme objectives

The overall aim of the programme is to ensure individual progression and individual deepening of knowledge, competence and judgement within architecture and related areas.

The programme fulfils the objectives of the local qualifications ordinance of the Royal Institute of Technology; it conforms to the European Architect Directive (2005/36/EG, article 46) and to the objectives of the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100) as follows:

Knowledge and understanding

A student who has completed the programme should be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the disciplinary and artistic foundation of the field and insight into relevant research and development work and
- demonstrate both broad knowledge and understanding of architectural theory and history as well as specialised knowledge of architectural design, planning and the development of built environments and also the processes, methods and statutory provisions that affect them.

Skills and abilities

A student who has completed the programme should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to plan, design, maintain and renew built environments and buildings in complex contexts and with a holistic approach informed by various demands, in particular the sustainable development required by the community
- demonstrate the ability to use appropriate architectonic methods and syntheses to undertake and evaluate advanced and creative tasks autonomously and critically and within predetermined parameters in the field of architecture and urban planning
• demonstrate the ability to apply knowledge about physical circumstances and technological principles to the erection and alteration of buildings
• demonstrate the capacity for teamwork and collaboration with various constellations, and
• demonstrate the ability in dialogue with different audiences in both national and international contexts to present and discuss, using images and models, his or her conclusions and the knowledge and reasoning on which they are based in speech, writing or some other way and so contribute to the development of the profession and professional practice.

Ability to make judgements and adopt a standpoint

A student who has completed the programme should be able to:

• demonstrate the ability to adopt a holistic view in making judgements and appraisals informed by the relevant disciplinary, social, aesthetic and ethical aspects and which at the same time take into account the different needs and functional abilities of communities and individuals as well as the interaction between individuals and their physical settings, including occupational health and safety
• demonstrate the disposition to base his or her work on high-quality, well-designed long-term functional solutions and
• demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge and undertake ongoing development of his or her skills.

Extent and content of the programme

The two year Master's programme in Architecture corresponds entirely to Advanced Level of the Degree Programmin Architecture.

The overall aim of the two year master's programme in Architecture is to ensure individual progression and individual deepening of knowledge, competence and judgement within architecture and related knowledge areas.

Each semester of the two year Master's programme in Architecture consists of:

• two Studio Projects (12 credits each)
• two courses: an Orientation course (3 credits) and a Seminar course (3credits)

The last semester consists of a final independant Degree Project (30 credits).

During the two year Master's programme in Architecture an individual student completes six Studio Projects, each providing an opportunity to apply and develop skills in varied application areas; and tools to reflect on the learning process.

The courses include the conceptions and ideas relating to society’s goal for sustainable development.

Teaching language
The main teaching language is English

Eligibility and selection
Specific requirements for the Master’s Program in Architecture:

- A Bachelor’s degree in Architecture corresponding to 180 ECTS credits, or equivalent.
- English language proficiency equivalent to (the Swedish upper secondary school) English course B/6.

The portfolio should indicate necessary skills and the ability to make use of the education as well as independence in utilizing adequate methodology to implement and evaluate architecture projects by the following criteria:

Building complexity
Development of project/ level of sophistication
Technical aspects
Design and aesthetics
Theoretical, historical and contemporary context
Portfolio layout

Selection:
Evaluation: The selection is based on the portfolio.

The evaluation scale is 1-75.

Implementation of the education

Structure of the education

The Academic Year is 40 weeks.

The two year Master's programme in Architecture depends little on traditional examinations, which is why the academic year runs continuously without week long breaks for exams.

Courses

The programme is course-based. Lists of courses are included in appendix 1.

The programme combines courses and projects with studio-based teaching. The course list specifies the course offered each academic year. A student who repeats a year of study or returns to his/her studies after a leave of absence, must follow the current course syllabus. The objectives, qualification requirements, content and course requirements can be found in the course syllabus.

The project portfolio is a pedagogical tool used throughout the programme. It is the student's responsibility to assemble a portfolio from previously achieved project results. Portfolio reviews are undertaken regularly as part of courses and studio projects, in order both to support individual reflection in relation to the learning process, and to assess the student's progression of knowledge at different stages of the programme.

Grading system
Courses in the first and the second cycle are graded on a scale from A to F. A-E are passing grades, A is the highest grade. The grades pass (P) and fail (F) are used for courses under certain circumstances.

Courses within the two year Master’s programme in Architecture are graded as follows:

- the grades pass (P) and fail (F) are generally used in the programme.

**Conditions for participation in the programme**

**Semester registration**
Each semester the student must do a semester registration. Semester registration means that the student intends to attend the programme he/she is admitted to during the semester.

Registration is necessary for results to be reported and a prerequisite for student financial aid from CSN.

**Course application**
From Study Year 1 and onwards the student must apply for the compulsory courses of the two year Master's programme in Architecture to be taken the following semester. The application should be made during the following periods:

- 1-15 May for the Autumn semester
- 1-15 November for the Spring semester

Information about how to apply for courses will be given by the administration at the KTH School of Architecture.

There are no non-compulsory courses within 120 credits of the two year Master's programme in Architecture. However, within the projects a certain amount of choice is allowed.

**Election of seminar courses and studio projects**
For elections to the various themes of the seminar courses and studio projects for the current school year a distribution is normally made as the places may be limited. The available places are allocated on the basis of the students' ranking of the various themes and from criteria previously presented to the students.

**Prerequisites for advancement**
The following prerequisites for advancement to the higher study years apply:

For Year 2 of the two year Master's programme in Architecture:

- All compulsory courses from Year 1 must be completed.

To initiate the Diploma Degree Project all compulsory courses of the two year Master's programme in Architecture must have been completed (90 credits for a 120 credits Degree of Master of Science with a Major in Architecture).

For advancement to the following study year within the two year Master’s programme in Architecture the following dates apply:
For advancement to Year 2 and to initiate the Diploma Degree Project during the Autumn semester, completion of courses and projects must be submitted no later than 15 August.

For advancement to Year 1 and 2 and to initiate the Diploma Degree Project during the Spring semester, completion of courses and projects must be submitted no later than 7 January.

Regulation regarding completion

Projects:

- A student who does not receive a passing grade will receive a written notification from the Examiner, no later than 15 working days after the course has ended. The student will be informed about the possibility of completion with a clear instruction on the extent of additional work that will be required for a passing grade. A time schedule and a project plan should be agreed upon.

The project must be completed within a given time frame. For examination of Studio Projects, completed works must be submitted to the Examiner, at the latest:

- 15 May, for completion relating to the Autumn semester of the same academic year
- 15 August for completion relating to the Spring semester of the previous academic year.

This possibility of completion of Studio Projects cannot be extended nor repeated.

Note: A student who is fully qualified for study year 4 and 5 respectively, may participate in the following project during the study year even if an earlier project is not completed.

Examination will take place no later than 15 working days after these dates.

Regulation completion regarding Seminar and Orientation courses:

- A student who does not receive a passing grade will be given a written notification from the Examiner, no later than 15 working days after the examination, with a clear instruction on the additional work required for a passing grade. A time schedule and a project plan should be agreed upon.

Recognition of previous academic studies

A student may apply for recognition of previous academic studies. The application form can be found on the KTH website.

The application form is to be handed in to the administration at the KTH School of Architecture. The decision rests with the Director of Undergraduate and Master's studies (grundutbildningsansvarig).

The KTH policy concerning recognition of previous academic studies in its entirety can be found in the KTH handbook:

Studies abroad
Students within the Master's programme in Architecture are eligible for exchange studies in the second semester of Year 1 and in the first semester of Year 2.

**Degree project**

The Degree Project in Architecture comprises 30 credits.

The Degree Project is an independent work that must be carried out within a specified time frame: one semester.

General regulations and guidelines for the Degree Project relating to the Master's programme in Architecture are listed in the internal regulation No. 12/07 (Rektors beslut Dnr 595/2007, dnr V-2007-749).

All compulsory courses in accordance with the two year Master's programme in Architecture comprising 90 credits must be completed before the student may start the Degree project.

In exceptional cases, and if prior consent has been granted, a Degree Project can be carried out differently to the above. This alternative may apply to professional architects who lack a degree, and return to complete their studies after extensive work experience. In these cases, a Degree Project may comprise several parts, such as analyses of executed architectural commissions. The final examination can then be carried out in various ways, for example as a public lecture. In these situations, a project plan and time schedule will be formulated in collaboration with the student.

**Degree**

Degree

- Master of Science with a major in Architecture, 120 credits

**Qualifications requirements for the Degree of Master of Science with a Major in Architecture, 120 credits**

The Degree if Master of Science with a Major in Architecture may be awarded after completion the equivalent of all compulsory courses within two year Master's programme in Architecture and if the student fulfills the National qualifications requirements.

**Reference to the internal qualifications ordinance of KTH.**

Local regulation for qualifications at first- and second cycle:

(Students whose education fulfils the requirements of the European Architect Directive (2005/36/EG, article 46) may apply for an Arkitektexamen (Master of Architecture).)

Appendix 1 - Course list
Appendix 2 - Programme syllabus descriptions
# Appendix 1: Course list

Master's Programme, Architecture, 120 credits (TARKM), Programme syllabus for studies starting in autumn 2015

## General courses

### Year 1

**Mandatory courses (60.0 Credits)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A42A13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42B13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42C14</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42D14</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42O1A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 4: 1</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42O2A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 4: 2</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42SEH</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 4HT</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A42SEV</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 4VT</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Supplementary information

The two year Master's programme in Architecture corresponds entirely to Advanced Level of the Degree Programmin Architecture.

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Teaching language
The main teaching language is English

Year 2

Mandatory courses (54.0 Credits)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A52A13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52B13</td>
<td>Studio Project, Advanced Level</td>
<td>12.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52EXA</td>
<td>Degree Project in Architecture, Second Cycle</td>
<td>30.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conditionally elective courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
<th>Course name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Edu. level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A52O1A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 5</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52O2A</td>
<td>Orientation; History, Theory and Technology of Architecture 5: 2</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52SEH</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 5HT</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A52SEV</td>
<td>Seminar Course, Advanced Level 5VT</td>
<td>3.0 hp</td>
<td>Second cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supplementary information

This is a preliminary course list, study year 2, for students who started the programme 2015. Changes may occur. For an updated, current course list, please see the course and programme directory.

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**Teaching language**
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Appendix 2: Specialisations

Master's Programme, Architecture, 120 credits (TARKM), Programme syllabus for studies starting in autumn 2015

This programme has no specialisations.