

Building 3-108, Brighton Campus
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Architects are licensed professionals who design buildings and other structures. The design of a building involves far more than its appearance alone. Buildings also must be functional, safe, and economical and must suit the needs of the people who use them.

There are three main steps in becoming an architect:

- 1) The attainment of a **professional** degree in architecture
- 2) Work experience through an internship
- 3) Licensure through the passing of the Architect Registration Exam

Degree:

Three types of professional degrees in architecture are available: a 5-year bachelor’s degree, a 2-year master’s degree for students with an undergraduate degree in architecture or a related area; and a 3- or 4-year master’s degree for students with a bachelor’s degree in another discipline.

Criteria of Importance for Acceptance to Architecture School May Include:

- Grade point average
- Portfolio (e.g. freehand drawing, painting, graphic design, sculpture, etc.)
- Personal interview
- Past practical work experience related to the field (e.g. construction, building, planning, etc.)
- Strong math, science (especially physics), and art skills
- Mechanical drawing and CAD, while valuable to understanding the profession, may not be required for admission
- Architects need the ability to “conceptualize”

Important Notes:

- Due to the sequential nature of the coursework, transfer applicants for bachelor degree programs in architecture are often considered for admission as first year students. Four or five additional years to complete the program may be required.
- Each architecture school has its own set of requirements. Contact the school directly for specific information.
- Make sure to check application deadline dates. It is common for architecture degree programs to be fall start only.

Suggested MCC Courses for Skill and Portfolio Development: All courses listed are not required to be completed at MCC prior to transfer.

ART 104 - Drawing I	PHY 145 - College Physics I
ART 204 - Drawing II	PHY 146 - College Physics II
ART 109 - Two Dimensional Design	or
ART 125 – Three Dimensional Design	PHY 131 - Applied Physics I
ART 118 - Art History I: Ancient	PHY 132 - Applied Physics II
ART 119 - Art History II: Modern	BIO 116 – Intro to Environmental Science
ART 170 - Intro to Western Architecture	MTH 200 - Applied Calculus (or higher)
ART 270 - American Art & Architecture	ENG 101 – English Composition
Additional 3-D courses (e.g. sculpture)	ENG 200 – Advanced Composition
MET 101 - Technical Graphics	SOC 101 – Introduction to Sociology
MET 121 - Computer Aided Drafting/Design I	SOC 202 - Urban Sociology

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Colleges in New York State Offering an Accredited Professional Degree in Architecture

Bachelor of Architecture

City College (CUNY)
Cooper Union
Cornell University
New York Institute of Technology
Pratt Institute
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Syracuse University

Master of Architecture

City College (CUNY)
Columbia University
Parsons the New School for Design
Pratt Institute
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Syracuse University
University at Buffalo (SUNY)

Partial Listing of New York State Programs in Architectural Technology or Studies

New York City College of Technology (CUNY)
Hobart and William Smith Colleges
SUNY Alfred State
SUNY Delhi
SUNY Farmingdale
SUNY Morrisville

Related Occupations include Architectural Drafter, Civil Engineer, Commercial & Industrial Designer, Graphic Designer, Landscape Architect, and Urban Planner.

For more information, see:

- <http://www.archcareers.org/>
- <http://www.aia.org>
- <http://www.ncarb.org/certification/index.html>
- <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos038.htm>
- <http://www.naab.org/>

Please note: while every effort is made to ensure that the information in this guide is accurate, students are advised to meet with a counselor in the MCC Career Center and to contact transfer institutions for specific course requirements and the most up-to-date information.