Welcome to the School of Architecture & Allied Arts!

According to DesignIntelligence, the University of Oregon Architecture program is number one in the nation for 2013 for sustainable design practices and principles. Our undergraduate B.Arch program is ranked #6 for public universities and our M.I.Arch program is in the top three for accredited graduate programs in Interior Architecture.

The School of Architecture and Allied Arts is one of six professional schools at the University of Oregon with degree programs in Eugene and Portland. We’re a learning community renowned for academic excellence and innovative studio-based education.

We are dedicated to giving our students the skills and tools to positively affect not just their own future, but also the people, communities, and environments around them. Our dedication to the principles of civic responsibility, environmental sustainability, international understanding, and cross-disciplinary education goes back to the very founding of the school, and impacts every element of the A&AA learning experience.

Students come here ready to explore, learn and create. When they graduate, they leave with the ability to question critically, think logically, communicate clearly, act creatively, and live ethically. Our goal is to provide skills and mentorship needed for each of our students to take on active roles in the creative communities and face the complex global challenges of the twenty-first century. In short, we empower our students to make good.

The school offers undergraduate and graduate education in architecture, art, arts administration, digital arts, historic preservation, history of art and architecture, interior architecture, landscape architecture, planning, public policy and management, and product design. Graduate certificate programs are available in ecological design, nonprofit management, museum studies, new media and culture, Oregon leadership in sustainability, and technical teaching in architecture.

For undergraduate students, many of the school's faculty members offer courses as part of the Freshman Interest Group (FIG) offerings. We encourage students to explore our disciplines as majors and to select courses that may fulfill general education requirements.

The school has over 1,500 students who are majors in our disciplines and over 2,000 who take classes and studios as part of a broad liberal arts education.

Mission Statement

The School of Architecture and Allied Arts (A&AA) is dedicated to advancing the understanding, value, and quality of visual culture and the built, natural, and social environments through excellent and distinctive teaching, research, and creative endeavors. Grounded in a unique multi-disciplinary structure, A&AA is a diverse, collegial learning community of students, faculty and staff members. We seek to enhance the lives of individuals and communities through endeavors that stem from intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and broad inquiry, rooted in the inter-relatedness of theory, history, and practice.
In support of this mission, A&AA affirms the following values.

**Excellence**
Supporting and celebrating a culture that promotes rigor, encourages risk-taking, and challenges standards in creating, composing, and presenting ideas.

**Open Discourse**
Fostering the open exchange and critique of ideas in an environment that welcomes a diversity of views.

**Inclusiveness**
Actively encouraging the presence and participation in the school of individuals with differing backgrounds, experience, and world-views.

**Cooperation**
Working together in shared efforts to teach, learn, understand, and create.

**Inter-Disciplinary Experience**
Engaging multiple disciplines to expand our perspectives and enrich our teaching, research, and creative practice.

**Responsibility**
Recognizing our accountability for the impact of our actions on environmental, social, and cultural systems.

Department of Architecture

[http://architecture.uoregon.edu/](http://architecture.uoregon.edu/)

The purpose of studying architecture is to learn how to make physical changes to our surroundings that enhance the quality of the built environment and our experience of life. Within this broad purpose, architectural study and practice include the tasks of providing shelter and environmental protection, providing appropriate settings for human activities, and creating forms that are aesthetically pleasing and supportive of social well-being in the community and society.

Architecture faculty members believe that the interdisciplinary cooperation of environmentally concerned fields is important to the study of architecture and continually seek new ways to learn from each other.

The Architecture curriculum centers on the design of new buildings and places (urban/suburban/rural) including various functional and conceptual topics related to multiple housing strategies, institutions, mixed-use, public facilities, hi-rise, urban strategies, and land planning fundamentals, facades and details. Design coursework covers professional, technical, and theoretical topics concerning: architectural history; technical coursework in environmental controls systems; structures and tectonics; building enclosures and advanced building technology; sustainability integration; vernacular and regional studies, as well as other cultural and context-based studies.
A central part of architectural education is the design studio, in which students learn through hands-on experience in design. This kind of learning is demanding and students are expected to be committed and work independently and responsibly toward program and course objectives. In the design studio, continuous evaluation and response are the basic learning modes. The department sets high standards for student performance. Advanced students often work together in courses and as collaborators with faculty members in research investigations through independent study courses.

The Department of Architecture offers fully-accredited professional degree programs in Architecture (B. Arch., and M.Arch (accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board) and Interior Architecture (B.I. Arch. and M.IArch - accredited by the Council for Interior Design), and is home to more than 700 students. We also offer post-professional degrees: a Master of Science in Architecture, Master of Science in Interior Architecture, and a Ph.D. program in Sustainability.

Architecture Programs

The University of Oregon Department of Architecture offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:

B. Arch. (231 undergraduate credits)

M. Arch.: Track I (non-pre-professional undergraduate degree + 144 graduate credits needed to fulfill all professional degree requirements); and

M.Arch.: Track II (pre-professional undergraduate degree + 87 graduate credits needed to fulfill all professional degree requirements)

The M.S. in Arch. degree is a post professional degree and is not accredited. These students must have completed a NAAB accredited degree or the international equivalent prior to enrolling.

The Ph.D. degree program focuses on sustainable architecture and integrated design. Home to professional education in architecture and related environmental design fields since 1914, the PhD program in architecture is an advanced research degree that engages students in multidisciplinary investigations that create new knowledge in compelling and time-sensitive research topics.

Interior Architecture Program

The Interior Architecture Program, situated within the Department of Architecture, provides a comprehensive interior design curriculum that provides students the opportunity to act as independent problem-solvers and valuable design-team members. Shared coursework with architecture in the early stages of the program provides an interdisciplinary context for study and learning, leading to advanced courses that explore theory, technology and practice.

The Interior Architecture program is highly regarded by both design educators and leading design firms from across the country and is consistently listed as one of the top interior design programs in the country. CIDA (Council for Interior Design) accredited degrees are offered at both the undergraduate
and graduate levels. A post-professional degree focused on research is offered for students who already have a professional degree.

The University of Oregon Department of Architecture offers the following NASAD and CIDA-accredited degree programs:

B.I.Arch. (225 undergraduate credits)

M.I.Arch.: Track I (non-pre-professional degree + 147 credits); and

M.I.Arch.: Track II (pre-professional degree + graduate credits needed to fulfill all M.I.Arch. requirements.)

The M.S.I.Arch. degree is a post professional degree and is not accredited by CIDA. These students must have completed a CIDA accredited degree or the international equivalent prior to enrolling.

Opportunities for students preparing to enter professional practice include interior design within an architectural firm or as an independent interior designer, lighting designer, exhibit designer, set designer, facilities manager and furniture designer.

The Interior Architecture curriculum centers on developing knowledge of adaptive re-use (urban/suburban/rural) strategies and the design of interior spaces for specific uses including various institutional, commercial, residential/housing and mixed-use projects. Design coursework covers professional, functional, technical, and theoretical topics concerning: interior design history; interior construction methods; social and community issues; integrating programming, human behavior and the making of atmosphere; surface materials and detailing; developing and building conceptual/functional furniture prototypes; furniture theory; advanced electric lighting design; and color theory. Considerations of sustainable design are integrated throughout the curriculum.

Design studio courses are the core of the curriculum and are augmented by courses in theory, technology and practice. Knowledge gained in specialized coursework in design history, construction and materials, color theory, furniture design, electric lighting, and professional practice is integrated in studio work.

A fully-equipped furniture design workshop allows students to design and construct furniture prototypes and details. Professional programs culminate in an individualized comprehensive design project developed by each student.

A Culture of Collaboration

Our programs in architecture and interior architecture emphasize collaboration and a noncompetitive but rigorous learning environment. Studio work is evaluated using individualized discussion and written assessments rather than letter grades, and a supportive studio culture is encouraged through facilitated peer teaching and teamwork. The department doesn't dictate a specific design aesthetic or
ideology, but encourages intellectual inquiry as the basis for design exploration.

**Responsible Design**

The Department of Architecture is dedicated to recognizing designers’ accountability for their impact on environmental, social, and cultural systems. Studio teaching serves as the primary means of integrating all design issues—e.g., cultural, social and behavioral, environmental, contextual, technological, theoretical, economic, political, and professional, resulting in meaningful design achievements.

**Innovation and Leadership**

The department is nationally recognized for the achievements of its faculty and students in innovation and environmental sustainability research including the design of buildings, interiors, and communities. Student organizations assume leadership roles in curriculum development, extracurricular programs, and community service. Graduates are broadly educated designers who attain leadership positions in the professions of architecture, interior design and allied fields.

The program offers students the flexibility to explore other disciplines represented in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, including architecture, landscape architecture, historic preservation, art, arts and administration, and art history. In many cases, interior architecture students enrich their academic experience by participating in departmental study programs in Portland, Rome and Denmark.

We offer numerous study abroad opportunities in Italy, Japan, Germany, Finland, and Denmark. For those wanting real-world building experience, designBridge is an interdisciplinary, student-run group in the School of Architecture and Allied Arts that provides design and design-build services for non-profit community organizations. Cultivating a forum for dialogue and networking opportunities between students and professionals practicing ecological and sustainable design, the student-led Ecological Design Center hosts the H.O.P.E.S. Holistic Opportunities for Planet Earth Sustainability Conference each spring.

The Ecological Design Certificate and the Teaching Technology Certificate allow graduate students to earn additional recognition for acquiring specific expertise. Programs and activities such as the urban architecture concentration located in Portland’s White Stag Block provide unique opportunities for focused study. Collaborations with other programs within the School of Architecture and Allied Arts provide opportunities to engage in explorations that involve landscape architecture, planning, historic preservation, product design, art, history of art and architecture, and arts administration.

The Department of Architecture also offers minor concentrations in architecture and interior architecture. The School of Architecture and Allied Arts offers additional undergraduate minors in art history, fine and applied arts, historic preservation, landscape architecture, or planning, public policy
and management. Graduate students may select a concentration of coursework from the school’s other graduate programs as well.

Undergraduate architecture and interior architecture students often choose minors (and sometimes a double major) offered by other colleges and schools at the UO. The most popular are: business, international studies, music, Italian, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese, German, French, dance, theater, ethnic studies and environmental studies.

RESEARCH AND OUTREACH

- Baker Lighting Laboratory
- Collaborative for Inclusive Urbanism
- Energy Studies in Buildings Laboratory
- Facade Integrated Technologies Research & Testing Facility (FIT)
- High Performance Environments Laboratory (HIPE)
- Oregon B.I.L.D.S
- Portland Urban Architecture Research Laboratory
- Portland Urban Projects Workshop
- Sustainable Cities Initiative

A&AA in Portland

http://aaa.uoregon.edu/portland/about

The White Stag block houses the University of Oregon in Portland programs offers state-of-the-art technology, light-filled workspaces, a superb art and design library, and exhibition areas. Sustainability practices are evident in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold-certified building and in the programs offered by the school. The historic White Stag block is located in the heart of Portland's Old Town and Chinatown.

Portland’s creative culture

Portland’s creative arts and design community is recognized for its DIY culture and creative collaborations. From film and television production to arts education, Portland artists and designers have contributed to the quality of the life of this vibrant city. Students at the UO in Portland have worked with a number of nonprofit organizations, other academic institutions, and with industry leaders as part of their professional education and creative pursuits.

Portland’s leadership in sustainable urban design

Portland's design and planning accomplishments are the subject of many national and international publications. The city's downtown regeneration, urban design innovations, regional growth policies, and land-use-transit planning are considered national models.

One of the nation's few regional governments, Portland's METRO has worked with towns and municipalities to set urban growth boundaries, create policies to stimulate higher density in-fill development near existing centers and transit, and reduce sprawl while strengthening the city center.
Vast open spaces have been preserved in close proximity to downtown and the neighborhoods. UO faculty members are working with METRO to visualize how greenhouse gas reduction measures can be locally implemented. The Department or Architecture previously partnered with METRO's Nature in Neighborhoods group on an influential Integrating Habitats competition.

Portland Sustainability Initiatives

The City of Portland is a national leader in urban sustainability policies. The city established the country’s first sustainability bureau, which administers a wide range of innovative programs to improve energy conservation, air and water quality, building practices and green transportation alternatives. Many regional and national environmental organizations are headquartered in Portland. The University of Oregon maintains close ties with groups such as Cascadia Green Building Council the Portland Sustainability Institute the Portland Building Enclosure Council and the Portland chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The Department of Architecture office is open Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. and is located at 210 Lawrence Hall. The Architecture Recruiter may be reached at 541.346.1740 or archrecruiter@uoregon.edu.