Architecture

The Architecture concentration introduces students to a broad understanding of concepts and methods for the planning and design of buildings and urban environments. It connects architectural education firmly to the humanities and provides a greater awareness of historical, global, environmental, social and economic issues in the built environment. This approach to the education of architects and urban planners aims to provide them with the tools needed in today's fractured urban society. Apart from training careful observation, critical analysis and problem solving, students will acquire skills in sketching, drafting, model-making, and digital rendering. By combining a carefully selected range of classes in architectural design, the humanities, engineering and technology, and urban life and theory, students will acquire necessary proficiency for pursuing a graduate degree in architecture after Brown.

Summary of Concentration Requirements

1 Introduction to Design Studio 1
2 Practice Courses 2
1 Double-Credit Design Studio 2
4 History of Art and Architecture lecture courses bearing the A designation 4
1 Pathway Elective in Sciences 1
1 Pathway Elective on Social Sciences / Humanities 1
1 Capstone Course 1
Total Credits 12

• HIAA 0100 Introduction to Architectural Design Studio 1
• HIAA 0130 Architectural Projection 1
• HIAA 0140 Architectural Analysis 1
• HIAA 0150 Intermediate Architectural Design Studio 2
  or HIAA 0190 Advanced Design Studio
4 History of Art and Architecture lecture courses bearing the A designation.

Temporal Periods:

Ancient/Medieval:
HIAA 0022 The Art of Enlightenment
HIAA 0032 Art and Architecture of the Roman Empire
HIAA 0322 The Arts of Religion and Ritual in the Ancient World

Early Modern:
HIAA 0062 Dutch and Flemish Art: Visual Culture of the Netherlands in the Seventeenth Century
HIAA 0550 Gold, Wool and Stone: Painters and Bankers in Renaissance Tuscany
HIAA 0560 Constructing the Eternal City: Popes and Pilgrims in Early Modern Rome
HIAA 0630 Cultural History of the Netherlands in a Golden Age and a Global Age
HIAA 0660 Giotto to Watteau: Introduction to the Art of Europe from Renaissance to French Revolution

Modern/Contemporary:

HIAA 0070 Introduction to American Art: The 19th Century
HIAA 0072 Introduction to American Art: The Twentieth Century
HIAA 0075 Introduction to the History of Art: Modern Photography
HIAA 0077 Revolutions, Illusions, Impressions: A History of Nineteenth-Century Art
HIAA 0084 Postwar to Postmodernism: Art Since 1945
HIAA 0087 Contemporary Art
HIAA 0090 The Other History of Modern Architecture

Geographic Regions:

Africa:
HIAA 0070 Architecture and Urbanism of Africa

Americas:
HIAA 0070 Introduction to American Art: The 19th Century
HIAA 0072 Introduction to American Art: The Twentieth Century
HIAA 0089 Contemporary Photography

Asia:
HIAA 0022 The Art of Enlightenment
HIAA 0023 South Asian Art and Architecture

Europe:
HIAA 0032 Art and Architecture of the Roman Empire
HIAA 0075 Introduction to the History of Art: Modern Photography
HIAA 0077 Revolutions, Illusions, Impressions: A History of Nineteenth-Century Art
HIAA 0550 Gold, Wool and Stone: Painters and Bankers in Renaissance Tuscany
HIAA 0560 Constructing the Eternal City: Popes and Pilgrims in Early Modern Rome
HIAA 0630 Cultural History of the Netherlands in a Golden Age and a Global Age
HIAA 0660 Giotto to Watteau: Introduction to the Art of Europe from Renaissance to French Revolution

Multiple Regions:
HIAA 0010 A Global History of Art and Architecture
HIAA 0023 South Asian Art and Architecture
HIAA 0041 The Architectures of Islam
HIAA 0081 Architecture of the House Through Space and Time
HIAA 0420 Cathedrals and Castles
HIAA 0770 Architecture and Urbanism of Africa

Architecture
The Arts of Religion and Ritual in the Ancient World
Cathedrals and Castles
Art and Technology from Futurism to Hacktivism
Modern Architecture
Contemporary Architecture
City and Cinema

1 Pathway Elective in Sciences
1 Pathway Elective in Social Sciences / Humanities
1 Capstone course. Capstone projects embrace many possibilities. You can participate in a graduate seminar to which the instructor has admitted you. You can take an additional studio course. You can develop work that you do as an architectural intern or research assistant in the context of an independent study course. You might work on an archaeological excavation. You can participate in the Honors Program. Beyond these opportunities, the Department is open to other approaches. You should work with a faculty sponsor and with your concentration advisor to decide what will work best for you.

Total Credits 12

1 A maximum of four credits may be allowed for courses taken at other universities (transfer credits or from study abroad) or courses on architectural subjects taken in other departments. No concentration credit will be granted for AP/A-level scores.
2 Electives should be chosen in consultation with your concentration advisor.

Self-Assessment

All concentrators are required to write an essay when they file for the concentration that lays out what they expect to gain from the course of study they propose. All second-semester seniors will be required to write a final essay that takes measure of what they have learned from the concentration, including their capstone and other experiences relating to their study of architecture. The self-assessment should be submitted through ASK with a revised list of courses actually taken at least one month prior to graduation.

Honors

During the second semester of the junior year all concentrators will be invited to apply for admission to the Honors Program in Architecture. The honors program is an opportunity for you to mobilize what you have learned to make an original research contribution to the field. There are two pathways to honors in the Architecture concentration: thesis and project-based.

Those pursuing the thesis option research and write a historical or theoretical essay on a topic of their choice over the course of their senior year. The thesis should be no more than 35 pages in length, plus bibliography and illustrations.

Those pursuing the project option further develop a design project that they initiated in an Advanced Studio either in their junior year or in the first semester of their senior year. They devote a minimum of one additional semester further developing their project in regular consultation with a faculty advisor. (This can mean building an additional, more elaborate model, creating more renderings, refining the concept, and so forth.)

During both fall and spring semesters you will participate in the monthly meetings of the Honors cohort, in which honors students in both HIAA concentrations share their work-in-progress with each other and with the faculty member who supervises the seminar. (These monthly meetings, usually three per semester, are mandatory but do not require a course registration.) You will also enroll in your advisor’s section of HIAA 1990 (Honors Thesis) in both semesters, for thesis students, or at least one semester, for project-based honors.

Theses and projects will be due to the advisor and second reader by March 1 of the Spring semester or by November 1 of the Fall semester if you plan on graduating in December. Comments will be returned to the students for final corrections at that point. There will be a public presentation of Honors work at the end of the Spring semester.

Students wishing to pursue honors should have produced consistently excellent work and maintained a high level of achievement (i.e. a majority of “A” or “S with distinction” grades) in all concentration courses. While acceptance into the Honors program depends on the persuasiveness of the proposal as well as the number of students applying, students may refine their proposals by speaking in advance with potential advisors. No honors student may take more than four courses either semester of their senior year—with the honors seminar being considered one of the four courses. Students interested in honors who are expecting to graduate in the middle of the year should contact the concentration advisor no later than the beginning of their junior year.