ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES - B.A.

College of Architecture and Environmental Design
www.kent.edu/caed

About This Program

If you want to explore your creativity and study the many ways architecture intersects with art, history, culture, theory, society, environment and urbanism, Kent State's Architectural Studies B.A. program is right for you. The program will introduce you to a wide array of design fields and prepare you for professional master's degrees in architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning/design, historic preservation and other exciting fields. Because of its focus on the language, logic and rhetoric of design, it will teach you to read, write, discuss and debate issues related to architecture and express your voice as an architectural critic. Read more...

Contact Information

- **Brett Tippey** | btippey@kent.edu | 330-672-3934
- Speak with an Advisor
- Chat with an Admissions Counselor

Program Delivery

- **Delivery:**
  - In person
- **Location:**
  - Kent Campus

Examples of Possible Careers

- Architectural criticism
- Architectural history
- Architecture
- Archiving
- Environmental conservation
- Geography
- Graphic design
- Historic preservation
- Industrial design
- Interior architecture
- Interior design
- Landscape architecture
- Museum curation
- Product design
- Urban design
- Urban planning

Admission Requirements

The university affirmatively strives to provide educational opportunities and access to students with varied backgrounds, those with special talents and adult students.

First-Year Students on the Kent Campus: First-year admission policy on the Kent Campus is selective. Admission decisions are based upon cumulative grade point average, strength of high school college preparatory curriculum and grade trends. Students not admissible to the Kent Campus may be administratively referred to one of the seven regional campuses to begin their college coursework. For more information, visit the admissions website for first-year students.

First-Year Students on the Regional Campuses: First-year admission to Kent State's campuses at Ashtabula, East Liverpool, Geauga, Salem, Stark, Trumbull and Tuscarawas, as well as the Twinsburg Academic Center, is open to anyone with a high school diploma or its equivalent. For more information on admissions, contact the Regional Campuses admissions offices.

International Students: All international students must provide proof of proficiency of the English language (unless they meet specific exceptions) through the submission of an English language proficiency test score or by completing English language classes at Kent State's English as a Second Language Center before entering their program. For more information, visit the admissions website for international students.

Former Students: Former Kent State students who have not attended another institution since Kent State and were not academically dismissed will complete the re-enrollment process through the Financial, Billing and Enrollment Center. Former students who attended another college or university since leaving Kent State must apply for admissions as a transfer or post-undergraduate student.

Transfer Students: Students who attended an educational institution after graduating from high school or earning their GED must apply as transfer students. For more information, visit the admissions website for transfer students.

Admission policies for undergraduate students may be found in the University Catalog's Academic Policies.

Students may be required to meet certain criteria to progress in their program. Any progression requirements will be listed on the program's Coursework tab

Program Requirements

Major Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Major Requirements (courses count in major GPA)		
ARCH 10011	GLOBAL ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY I (KFA)	3
ARCH 10012	GLOBAL ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY II (KFA)	3
ARCH 45213	20TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY	3
ARCS 10123	PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF DESIGN [1]	3
ARCS 20123	FIELD AND OBJECT STUDIO [1]	3
ARCS 20124	SCALE AND PERCEPTION STUDIO	3
ARCS 20125	SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS STUDIO	3
ARCS 20501	EXPLORING DESIGN DISCIPLINES	1
ARCS 30123	MATERIALS AND PROCESSES OF MAKING [2]	3

ARCS 30124	METHODS AND THEORIES OF REPRESENTATION	3
ARCS 30321	STRUCTURAL TYPOLOGY [3]	3
ARCS 30421	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPERATIVES	3
ARCS 40022	URBAN DESIGN DISCOURSE (ELR)	3
ARCS 40114	THEORY AND CRITICISM IN ARCHITECTURAL MEDIA (WIC) [4]	3
Architecture (ARCH) or Interior Design (ID) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level) [5]		12
Additional Requirements (courses do not count in major GPA)		
ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
PHIL 11009	CRITICAL THINKING (KADL)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language [6]		11-15
Kent Core Composition		6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning		3
Kent Core Humanities		3
Kent Core Social Sciences (must be from two disciplines)		6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (must include one laboratory)		6-7
Minor Requirement and Non-Architecture Electives (total credit hours depends on earning 121 credit hours, including 39 upper-division credit hours)		24
Minimum Total Credit Hours:		**121**

[1] Students switching from the B.S. in Architecture to the B.A. in Architectural Studies may substitute ARCH 10101 for ARCS 10123 and ARCH 10102 for ARCS 20123. Students requesting either of these substitutions must submit a 1-2-page statement of purpose to the architectural studies program coordinator that explains a) what they understand about the ARCS program, and b) why it suits their interests and goals. Please contact the program coordinator for more information. Requests for these exceptions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis according to a standardized rubric.

[2] Students declaring a dual degree program with the B.S. in Construction Management may substitute CMGT 21071 for ARCS 30123.

[3] Students declaring a dual degree program with the B.S. in Construction Management may substitute CMGT 33111 for ARCS 30321.

[4] A minimum C grade must be earned to fulfill the writing-intensive requirement.

[5] Students declaring a dual degree program with the B.S. in Construction Management may substitute CMGT 43099 for 3 credit hours of Architecture Upper-Division Electives. Students may not use ARCH 30031 to fulfill Architecture Upper-Division Electives.

[6] Students declaring a dual degree program with the B.S. in Construction Management may substitute ACCT 23020, ECON 22060, ECON 22061 and MKTG 25010 for the foreign language requirement.

Graduation Requirements

Minimum Major GPA	Minimum Overall GPA
2.250	2.000

- Students must declare and graduate with a minor to earn the B.A. degree in Architectural Studies. Students may select any minor available at Kent State University. The number of credit hours required to complete the minor depends on the minor selected.

Roadmap

This roadmap is a recommended semester-by-semester plan of study for this major. However, courses designated as critical (!) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation.

Semester One		Credits
ARCS 10123	PRINCIPLES AND TECHNIQUES OF DESIGN	3
ARTH 22006	ART HISTORY: ANCIENT TO MEDIEVAL ART (KFA)	3
UC 10001	FLASHES 101	1
Foreign Language		4-5
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**14**
Semester Two		
ARCS 20123	FIELD AND OBJECT STUDIO	3
ARTH 22007	ART HISTORY: RENAISSANCE TO MODERN ART (KFA)	3
PHIL 11009	CRITICAL THINKING (KADL)	3
Foreign Language		4-5
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**16**
Semester Three		
ARCH 10011	GLOBAL ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY I (KFA)	3
ARCS 20124	SCALE AND PERCEPTION STUDIO	3
Foreign Language		3-5
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Four		
ARCH 10012	GLOBAL ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY II (KFA)	3
ARCS 20125	SYSTEMS AND NETWORKS STUDIO	3
ARCS 20501	EXPLORING DESIGN DISCIPLINES	1
Non-Architecture Elective		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**16**
Semester Five		
ARCS 30123	MATERIALS AND PROCESSES OF MAKING	3
ARCS 30321	STRUCTURAL TYPOLOGY	3
Non-Architecture Electives		6
Kent Core Requirement		3
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Six		
ARCH 45213	20TH CENTURY ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY	3
ARCS 30124	METHODS AND THEORIES OF REPRESENTATION	3
ARCS 30421	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPERATIVES	3
Non-Architecture Electives		6
	Credit Hours	**15**
Semester Seven		
ARCS 40022	URBAN DESIGN DISCOURSE (ELR)	3
ARCS 40114	THEORY AND CRITICISM IN ARCHITECTURAL MEDIA (WIC)	3
Architecture (ARCH) or Interior Design (ID) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level)		6
Non-Architecture Elective		3
	Credit Hours	**15**

Semester Eight

Architecture (ARCH) or Interior Design (ID) Upper-Division Electives (30000 or 40000 level)	6
Non-Architecture Electives	6
Kent Core Requirement	3
Credit Hours	**15**
Minimum Total Credit Hours:	**121**

University Requirements

All students in a bachelor's degree program at Kent State University must complete the following university requirements for graduation.

NOTE: University requirements may be fulfilled in this program by specific course requirements. Please see Program Requirements for details.

Flashes 101 (UC 10001)	1 credit hour
Course is not required for students with 30+ transfer credits (excluding College Credit Plus) or age 21+ at time of admission.	
Diversity Domestic/Global (DIVD/DIVG)	2 courses
Students must successfully complete one domestic and one global course, of which one must be from the Kent Core.	
Experiential Learning Requirement (ELR)	varies
Students must successfully complete one course or approved experience.	
Kent Core (see table below)	36-37 credit hours
Writing-Intensive Course (WIC)	1 course
Students must earn a minimum C grade in the course.	
Upper-Division Requirement	39 credit hours
Students must successfully complete 39 upper-division (numbered 30000 to 49999) credit hours to graduate.	
Total Credit Hour Requirement	120 credit hours

Kent Core Requirements

Kent Core Composition (KCMP)	6
Kent Core Mathematics and Critical Reasoning (KMCR)	3
Kent Core Humanities and Fine Arts (KHUM/KFA) (min one course each)	9
Kent Core Social Sciences (KSS) (must be from two disciplines)	6
Kent Core Basic Sciences (KBS/KLAB) (must include one laboratory)	6-7
Kent Core Additional (KADL)	6
Total Credit Hours:	**36-37**

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of this program will be able to:

1. Demonstrate understanding of the language, logic and rhetoric of design and ability to deploy this understanding in design projects, research, analysis and critique.
2. Demonstrate abilities in design thinking, visual thinking, critical thinking and design discourse.
3. Demonstrate skills in research and apply these skills to the design of the built environment.
4. Recognize the value of cultural diversity and a broad range of historical traditions.
5. Demonstrate understanding of the interconnectedness of the allied design disciplines and the ability to articulate relationships between these professions and other areas of study.
6. Appreciate a wide range of contrasting perspectives on sustainability, recognize the relationship between these perspectives and the design of the built environment and advocate for specific positions.
7. Utilize and interpret literature and data related to environments and their design.
8. Demonstrate leadership skills in cross-disciplinary settings.

Full Description

The Bachelor of Arts degree in Architectural Studies builds a broad foundation for professional master's degrees in architecture and other design disciplines. By focusing on historical and contemporary design thinking, the program links design to art, culture, society, environment and urbanism. The degree prepares student to be innovative, active, well-rounded, critical and informed designers and introduces students to architectural design culture while emphasizing the history and theory of architecture and art. The program includes design studios, lecture/studio hybrid courses and seminars that focus on architectural history, theory and criticism; urban issues; and sustainability.

Students are required to complete elective credits outside of the Architectural Studies major, which allows students to customize their undergraduate experience to suit their own career and educational goals, expand their understanding of design and explore the ways it is connected to other fields. Students may use these electives to pursue minors, double majors and dual degrees in other areas of interest, such as a streamlined dual degree with the B.S. degree in Construction Management.

Students may take advantage of the semester-long study abroad program in Florence, Italy, during any semester after successful completion of at least 6 credit hours of Architectural Studies (ARCS) coursework and 30 total credit hours at Kent State University. The Florence program is open to all Architectural Studies students who have made satisfactory progress toward completion of their undergraduate program.

Students may apply early to the M.L.A I degree in Landscape Architecture and double count 9 credit hours of graduate courses toward both degree programs. See the Combined Bachelor's/Master's Degree Program Policy in the University Catalog for more information.

Students in the Architectural Studies major must declare a minor at Kent State.