

Department of Architecture
School of Architecture & Planning
112 Hayes Hall
3435 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14214-3087

Telephone: (716) 829-3483 x105
Fax: (716) 829-3256
Email: archdept@buffalo.edu
<http://www.ap.buffalo.edu/architecture/index.html>

Graduate Application Information for International Students

Master of Architecture Degree

Master of Architecture - 1½ Year (Post-Professional) and 2 Year (Professional) Track

One and one half year and two year Master's degree applicants are REQUIRED to submit a portfolio. All portfolio material must be bound and may not be more than one inch thick or more than 9" x 12" in overall size. The applicant's name must be clearly visible on the binding. The use of slides is discouraged. If submitted, they should be labeled and placed in 8½" x 11" slide-viewing sheets. Slides will not be projected.

Contents of the portfolio should include copies of architectural work accomplished in academic settings or in actual practice, or any work in the visual arts executed in two or three-dimensions. In addition, you may also include papers, research, or other materials dealing with the built environment in its broadest sense. Submit work which represents only your best creative ability and interests.

All work must carry the name of the applicant, date of work, and an indication of whether the work was an academic, professional or personal project. If the item is part of a group effort, the specific task performed by the applicant should be identified.

Portfolios not meeting these guidelines will not be reviewed.

Upon completion of the admissions process, the portfolio may be claimed in person. If you enclose a self-addressed envelope with US postage attached, your portfolio will be returned to you.

Master of Architecture - 3½ Year Track

Three and one-half year applicants are REQUIRED to submit a portfolio or other evidence of work. Portfolio requirements are the same as for the one and one-half year and two year Master's applicants. In addition, papers, research, or other materials (preferably dealing with the built environment) are also invited as evidence of scholarly, academic, or creative work. In some instances, where the applicant has no architectural or visual art material, the portfolio should include evidence of excellence in other areas, such as: poetry, music, writing, debate, etc. In any case, work must be submitted that represents only your best creative ability and interests.

Upon completion of the admissions process, the portfolio or other material(s) may be claimed in person. If you enclose a self-addressed envelope with US postage attached, your portfolio will be returned to you.

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

The School of Architecture and Planning offers three dual degree programs for Master's candidates. These programs enable students to earn two degrees simultaneously, often in less time than if taken sequentially. In each case, applicants must apply separately and concurrently to the two departments involved and must be accepted by both.

Applicants are REQUIRED to submit a portfolio or other evidence of work. Portfolio requirements are the same as for the one and one-half year and two year Master's applicants.

Master of Architecture/Master of Urban Planning

The expanding field of urban design has increased the demand for the dual Master of Architecture and Master of Urban Planning degree. This dual degree offers a unique opportunity for students to pursue graduate education for professional certification in both fields. Students seeking dual degrees take joint studios offered by the Architecture and Planning faculty. In these studios, graduate students from both architecture and planning engage in projects using regional cities and towns as learning laboratory sites. Students develop proposals for change in collaboration with the constituencies of the learning laboratory sites. In the process, students learn about planning, architecture, and intervention in an integrated fashion.

Students who hold a four-year pre-professional degree in architecture are eligible to enroll in a three year program leading to the Master of Architecture (M.Arch) and Master of Urban Planning (M.U.P.) degrees. Students who hold a Bachelor's degree in an unrelated field are eligible to enroll in a four and one-half year program leading to the Master of Architecture (M.Arch) and Master of Urban Planning (M.U.P.) degrees.

Applicants for the dual degree program, Master of Architecture/Master of Urban Planning must apply to and be accepted separately by the Department of Architecture and the Department of Planning. The program of study, developed by the respective department chairs and the applicant usually takes three years to complete.

Master of Architecture/Master of Business Administration

The Master of Architecture/Master of Business Administration dual degree program provides a combination of architectural, managerial, and administrative skills to prepare students for careers in both fields. It integrates and accelerates the educational process and enables students to pursue careers in public service administration as well. Students who hold a four-year pre-professional degree in architecture are eligible to enroll in a three year program leading to the Master of Architecture (M.Arch) and Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degrees. Students who hold a Bachelor's degree in an unrelated field are eligible to enroll in a five year program leading to the Master of Architecture (M.Arch) and Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) degrees.

Applicants for the dual degree program, Master of Architecture/Master of Business Administration must apply to and be accepted separately by the Department of Architecture and the School of Management. The program of study, developed by the respective department chairs and the applicant usually takes three years to complete. [Note: GMAT requirement by the School of Management.]

Master of Architecture/Master of Fine Arts

The Department of Architecture and the Department of Media Study offer a dual degree program leading to a Master of Architecture and a Master of Fine Arts degree. The dual degree addresses a rapidly expanding desire on the part of students and a critical need on the part of the architecture profession for expertise in both architecture and digital media. Students who hold a four-year pre-professional degree in architecture are eligible to enroll in a three year program leading to the Master of Architecture (M.Arch) and Master of Fine Arts (M.F.A.) degrees. Students who hold a Bachelor's degree in an unrelated field are eligible to enroll in a four and one-half year program leading to the Master of Architecture (M.Arch) and Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degrees

Applicants for the dual degree program, Master of Architecture/Master of Fine Arts in Media Study must apply to and be accepted separately by the Department of Architecture and the Department of Media Study. The program of study, developed by the respective department chairs and the applicant, usually takes three years to complete.



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Master of Architecture Graduate Application - International

INSTRUCTIONS: Read and follow all instructions carefully. Failure to follow instructions may delay the consideration of your application.

- 1) **Complete items A through D on page 2 and items 1 through 20 beginning on page 3 of this form. Print or type.**
- 2) Include the following items with this application:
 - a) **Transcripts** - transcripts must be submitted with this application. Have all colleges and universities that you have attended send official transcripts to you in a sealed envelope. Enclose them with this application. Transcripts are official only if enclosed in sealed envelopes as issued by the institution.
 - b) **Application Fee** - Include a check or money order for \$70 payable in U.S. funds to "University at Buffalo, State University of New York." Be sure to indicate your full name on the check. Under no circumstances will this fee be waived. The fee may, however, be deferred until initial enrollment for students from countries whose laws absolutely forbid the possession or exchange of foreign currency. Individual requests for deferral must be submitted in writing with your application.
 - c) **Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL) Score Report** - A TOEFL score report must be submitted directly to the University at Buffalo by the testing agency administering the exam. The TOEFL code for our University is 2925.
 - d) **Three Recommendations** - Complete the upper portion of the Recommendation Form before requesting a recommendation. Recommendations should be returned, sealed in the envelopes provided, directly to the applicant. Include the three sealed envelopes with the other materials.
 - e) **Portfolio or Resume** - See the separate information sheet.
 - f) **Graduate Record Exam (GRE) Score Report** - The GRE is required. The GRE is administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS). A free information bulletin and registration form is available by writing to Educational Testing Service, Box 6000, Princeton, New Jersey 08541. For further information please consult the GRE website at: <http://www.gre.org/>. The GRE code for our university is 2925; our department code is 4401.
- 3) **International Applicants** - Students who currently hold or who will require a non-immigrant visa should refer below and to page 2 of this application form. Read the special instructions and information carefully, and complete the items marked A through D on page 2.
- 4) **Deadline** - Completed applications for the Master of Architecture program, including the application form and all academic credentials, must be received by January 15. There is no spring or summer admission.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

Eligibility for Graduate Admissions: Applicants must have completed an academic program equivalent to a U.S. Bachelor's degree prior to enrolling in University at Buffalo graduate programs. Students may apply during their final year of such a degree program but must furnish proof of graduation before the end of their first semester of enrollment at the University at Buffalo. The following are not by themselves considered to be satisfactory for admission to the Graduate School:

Taiwan - Diplomas from junior colleges or non-degree granting institutions;

British education systems - O.N.D.s or H.N.D.s

Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka - Two and three year Bachelor's degrees (only the B.E., B. Sc. Eng., and all Master's degrees are considered equivalent to U.S. undergraduate degree);

Nigeria - Nigerian Certificates of Education

Admission Requirements

(1) **English Language Proficiency** - All applicants who are not native speakers of English, including those who are transferring from or who have completed degree programs at other U.S. colleges or universities must prove their English language proficiency by taking the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and having their score reported directly to this University. The minimum scores acceptable for university admission are 550 on the paper-based version or a 213 on the computer-based version. Only scores from tests taken within two years prior to the time of admission are acceptable. However, students who score 550 or better prior to enrolling in another U.S. college or university may present that earlier TOEFL score to satisfy the language proficiency requirement. Further information about the TOEFL may be obtained from the U.S. Embassy or U.S. Information Service in your country or by writing the Educational Testing Service, PO Box 6000, Princeton, New Jersey 08540, U.S.A. or by consulting the TOEFL website at: <http://www.toefl.org/>.

Applicants who have not yet achieved a 550 on the paper-based version or a 213 on the computer-based score on the TOEFL should consider the possibility of attending the English Language Institute. The English Language Institute offers courses during the Summer (6 and 12-week sessions), Fall and Spring semesters.

For more information about the English Language Institute, access <http://wings.buffalo.edu/eli> on the World Wide Web. Send E-mail inquiries to elibuffalo@acsu.buffalo.edu or write to the English Language Institute, University at Buffalo, 320 Baldy Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1000.

IMPORTANT: No Certificate of Eligibility will be issued until a satisfactory TOEFL score has been submitted.

2) Financial Documentation - All international applicants must document their ability to meet all educational and personal expenses for the entire period of intended study before this University can issue an I-20 or IAP-66. It is essential that you read the *International Applicant Financial Form Fall 2006* carefully and complete and return that form along with supporting documentation as outlined in the instructions. You can download the form from this website: <http://wings.buffalo.edu/intled/admissions/forms.html>
No Certificate of Eligibility will be issued without satisfactory financial documentation. Financial documentation is required for visa issuance only. The information provided will in no way affect your application for departmental financial awards. **Students who are requesting departmental financial assistance are strongly urged to submit as much financial documentation as possible.** If departmental assistance does not cover all mandated financial requirements, students who fail to submit additional documentation will experience further delays in the issuance of Certificate of Eligibility.

Financial Assistance: Graduate, Teaching or Research Assistantships are rarely awarded to newly admitted graduate students. All applicants wishing to apply for an assistantship should send a letter describing their interest to the department chair.

Visa Information: Applicants recommended for admission by a graduate department are considered eligible for a visa certificate only after they have satisfied the language and financial requirements listed above. All international graduate students are issued a Certificate of Eligibility (I-20) for a Student Visa (F1). The issuance of an IAP-66 for the acquisition of Exchange Visitor status (J1) is restricted to the following applicants: (1) those funded by the

U.S. Government or by an international organization; (2) those receiving full or partial financial support from the University at Buffalo; (3) participants in formal University at Buffalo exchange programs; (4) those currently in the U.S. on a J1 Visa and transferring to the University at Buffalo to continue their original program; (5) those from countries which require all departing students to possess Exchange Visitors Visas (J1). Indicate the type of visa necessary on the application form.

Part-time and Non-degree Study: All international students are required to enroll as full-time degree program students. International students may be admitted as non-degree students only if they are funded by an institution or international agency for the specific purpose of non-degree study. If approved, such study may not exceed one calendar year in duration.

Part time (less than 12 credit hours per semester) enrollment of international students is permitted only in the following cases: (1) Canadian nationals who intend to commute to the University at Buffalo for their course work; (2) persons holding non-immigrant visas other than F1 or J1; (3) spouses or dependents of persons holding F1 or J1 visas.

All non-degree and part-time students must meet all admissions requirements applicable to full-time matriculating international students, including financial documentation. Courses taken by non-degree students do not automatically apply toward a graduate degree if the student eventually matriculates in a degree program.

Final Admissions and Pre-arrival Information:

- Do not proceed to the University until you have received your Certificate of Eligibility and formal admission letter from the University Office of Admissions.
- Do not enter the U.S. on a Visitor's Visa (B2) unless it is stamped "prospective student," as it is extremely difficult to change your visa status while in the U.S.
- Do not enter the U.S. on an I-20/AP-66 issued by another U.S. university and intend to enroll at the University at Buffalo.
- If accepted, you will receive additional information regarding pre-arrival information and housing availability.

A. **Language Proficiency:** Native Language: _____

Date you have taken or will take the TOEFL: / /
(Month/Day/Year)

B. If you are currently living in the U.S., complete (a) through (c) below:

a. Date of Entry / /
(Month/Day/Year)

b. Point of Entry: _____
(City)

c. Current Visa Status (Circle one) F1 F2 J1 J2 Other (Specify type)

C. **Canadian Citizens and Landed Immigrants only:** (Check one)

Will you: _____ commute from Canada or _____ establish temporary residence in the U.S.?

D. I intend to study: (Circle one) Full-Time Part-Time (See above information for restrictions on part-time study)

MAIL THIS APPLICATION, THE APPLICATION FEE, RECOMMENDATION FORMS, PORTFOLIO, TRANSCRIPTS AND DEGREE CERTIFICATES (in sealed envelopes from the university attended), **ORIGINAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, THE "INTERNATIONAL APPLIANT FINANCIAL FORM" AND A PHOTOCOPY OF YOUR PASSPORT BIOGRAPHICAL PAGE TO:**

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Master of Architecture Graduate Application - International

1. Name: _____
(Family Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

Enter birth name or any other name used at a previous school: _____

2. If you currently possess a valid U.S. Social Security Number, enter that number in the boxes below. If you have no number, leave the boxes blank.

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(U.S. Social Security Number)

3. Year you desire to begin studies (No Spring or Summer admission): Fall _____
(Year)

4. Degree Program: (Check one)

Master of Architecture – 2 Year Track for those holding a pre-professional four-year degree in Architecture.

If you have chosen the 2-year track, you must also choose the Graduate Research Group to which you are applying. Please rank order the Graduate Research Groups below as your 1st choice, 2nd choice and 3rd choice.

- _____ Inclusive Design
- _____ Material Culture
- _____ Situated Technologies
- _____ Sustainable Urban and Natural Environments

- Master of Architecture – 3.5 Year Track for those holding a four-year bachelor degree in a field other than Architecture.
- Master of Architecture – 1.5 Year Track for those holding a U.S. undergraduate five-year professional degree in Architecture or equivalent.
- Master of Architecture and Master of Urban Planning - 3 Year Program for those holding a four-year pre-professional degree in architecture and a 4½ Year Program for those holding a bachelor degree in an unrelated field.
- Master of Architecture and Master of Business Administration – 3 Year Program for those holding a four-year pre-professional degree in Architecture and a 5 Year Program for those holding a bachelor degree in a field other than Architecture.
- Master of Architecture and Master of Fine Arts in Media Study – 3 Year Program for those holding a four-year pre-professional degree in Architecture and a 4½ Year Program for those holding a bachelor degree in an unrelated field.

5. Mailing Address:

6. Permanent Address

(Number and Street)

(Number and Street)

(Town or City)

(Town or City)

(State and Zip Code, if currently in the U.S.)

(State and Zip Code, if currently in the U.S.)

(Country)

(Country)

(Telephone)

(Telephone)

Enter the date until which you may be reached at the above mailing address. After this date: / /
we will forward all mail to your permanent address unless otherwise instructed by you. (Month/Day/Year)

I am submitting a portfolio and/or evidence of personal work as described on the information sheet for Master of Architecture applicants.

19. In 500 words or less, state your current position about the discipline of architecture. Please be specific about influential courses, instructors, books, personal or professional experiences and goals.

20. I understand that withholding information requested on this application or giving false information may make me ineligible for admission or subject to dismissal. I certify that the above information is correct.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

The UB School of Architecture and Planning has an admission policy that actively encourages applicants from protected groups and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or veteran status. Admission is competitive, and applicants are reviewed according to the admission criteria. Acceptance of students in the pre-professional, professional, and post-professional programs is determined on the basis of the applicants' qualifications and experience. However, since the school's size is limited, the programs may exercise discretionary powers of selection. Courses and programs offered by the UB School of Architecture and Planning may include an instructional technology fee.