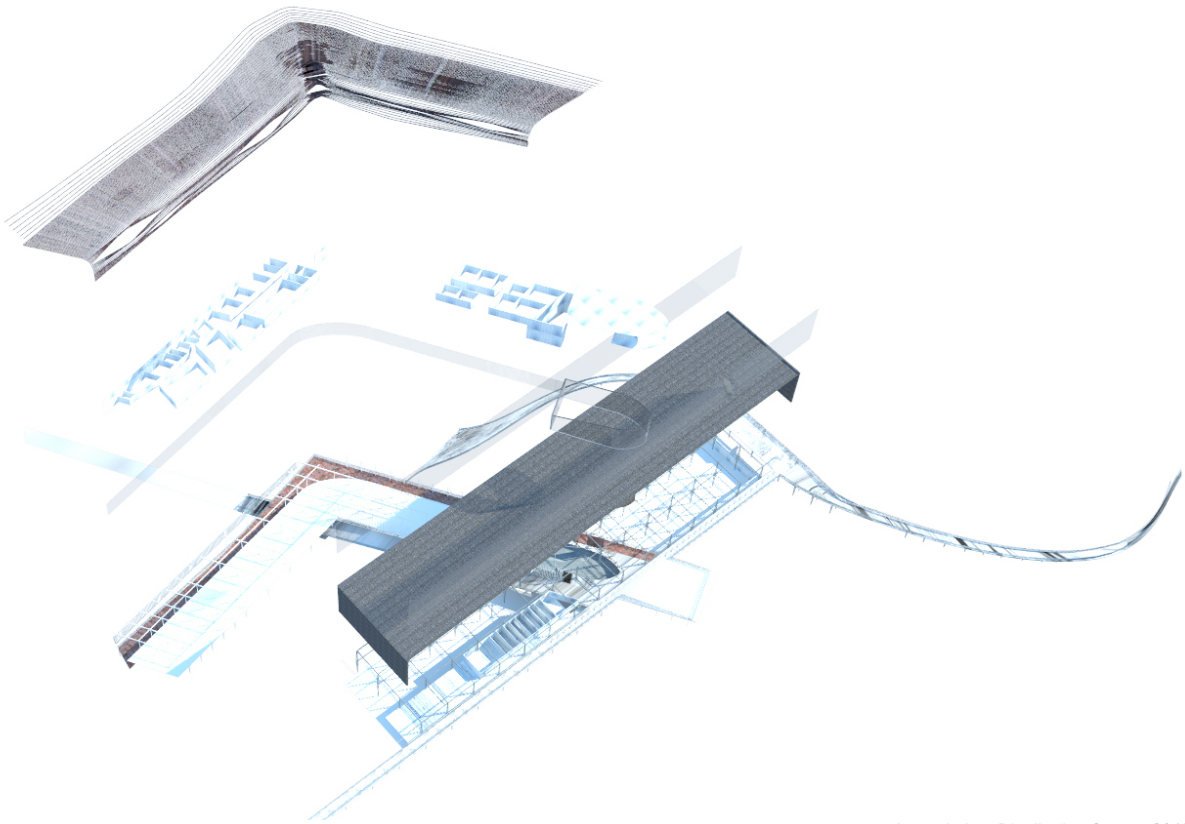


Arturo Lujan, Distribution Center, 2015.

School of Architecture
College of Arts + Architecture
UNC Charlotte

MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE (3+ YEAR AND 2-YEAR CURRICULA)
MASTER OF URBAN DESIGN (12 MONTH CURRICULUM)
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE AND URBAN DESIGN DUAL DEGREE (3+ YEARS – FOR BA/BS 4-YEAR ARCH)
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ARCHITECTURE AND COMPUTER SCIENCE OR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (2 YEARS – FOR BA/BS/MARCH)

Prospectus of Graduate Student Work
Online Catalogue of Current Work: http://issuu.com/soauncc/docs/soa-prospectus-issuu-grad

The School of Architecture at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte offers a fully accredited program recognized for the outstanding quality of its faculty and students, its commitment to outreach and community involvement, and the quality and extent of resources offered through its labs, classrooms, and studios. Students organize their studies around core and advanced coursework in design, technology, history/theory, urbanism and practice. Each area of curriculum is well supported not only by coursework but also by travel and research opportunities. The College participates in several international exchange programs and offers summer travel and study programs in Canada, Australia, Europe, Brazil, Korea, and China to broaden students' global understanding and further inform their work. The specialized study of urban design is also focused under the auspices of either a separate but interrelated graduate program in that discipline or a dual degree program that combines the two-year Master of Architecture program with graduate study in urban design. In addition there are two dual post-professional degrees in Architecture and Computer Science or Information Technology.

Each curricular program offers full use of the School's facilities and labs, a close working relationship with accessible faculty and staff, and a wealth of knowledge and backgrounds given the diverse interests of the graduate students population. The School stresses the importance of *making* in addition to *thinking*, hence students have full use of wood, metal, computer, laser, CNC, and robotics workshops equipped with the latest high performance equipment to allow exploration and innovation. Contact with the profession is also emphasized, and the School maintains various programs, career expos, and mentoring from local and national practitioners. An extensive lecture series involving recognized designers and thinkers further enhance the educational environment as well as provides exposure to contemporary issues.

Below you will find brief descriptions of the Graduate Programs offered by the School of Architecture in the College of Arts + Architecture at UNCCharlotte. Also attached are a collection of frequently asked questions (FAQs) that answer common questions about admissions, funding and other opportunities.

Please feel free to contact me via email concerning any inquiries you might have about our programs. Thank you again for your interest, we look forward to meeting you and introducing you to the programs here at UNCCharlotte.

Sincerely yours,

Peter Wong, Associate Professor
Graduate Program Director / plwong@uncc.edu

The Salon within Storrs Architectural Building, UNC Charlotte Main Campus.

Programs

Master of Architecture
The School offers two program tracks leading to a professional Master of Architecture degree (MArch) which is accredited by the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB). The 3+ MArch curriculum is for students holding bachelors degrees in disciplines other than architecture. The 2-year MArch curriculum is for students holding a four-year bachelors degree in architecture.

Master of Urban Design
The School also offers a Master of Urban Design degree (MUDD) post-graduate/post-professional degree that is 12 months in length, as well as a MArch/MUDD dual degree that takes three and a half years to complete. The dual degree is open to candidates who already hold a 4-year architecture BA or BS. 3+ MArch students may also engage the MUDD degree, which can be completed in four years.

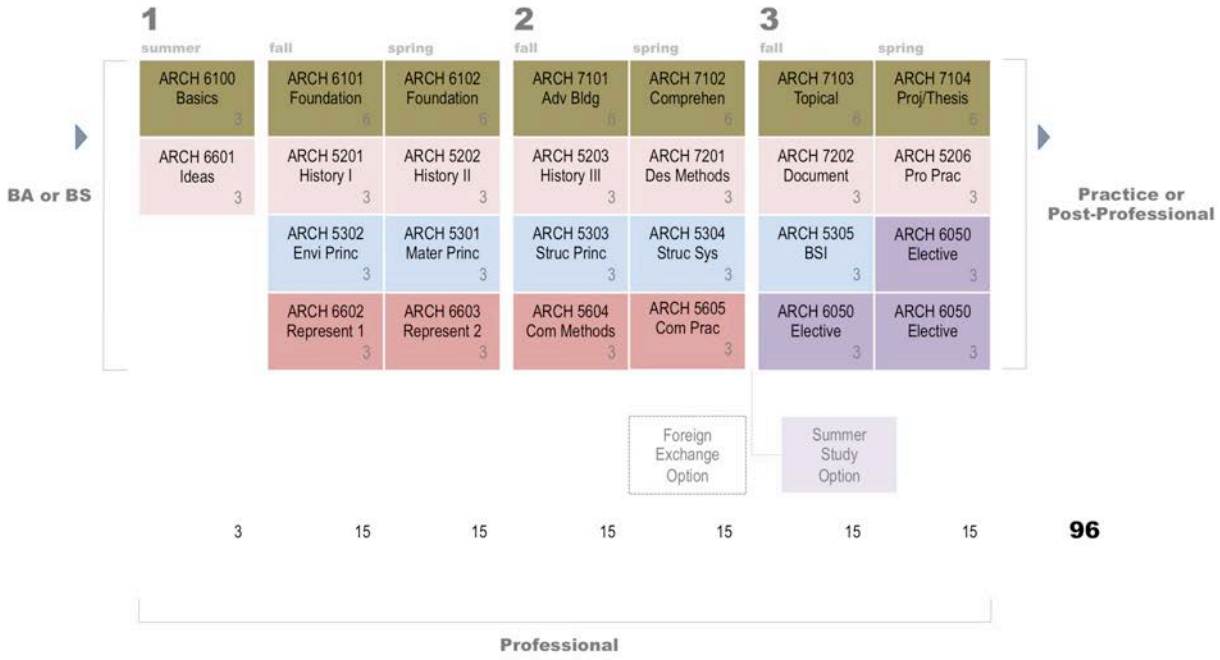
Master of Science
New to the School's master programs is a dual degree in Architecture and Computer Science/Information Technology. This is a two-year curriculum that is structured around integrated coursework with a focus on research. Upon completion of the curriculum, students will receive both a Master of Science in Architecture and a Master of Science in Computer Science or Information Technology (MS). The premise of the dual degree program stems from how design has become increasingly important to computer scientists in conjunction with the way architecture has been influenced by computation. The program is a unique curriculum that systematically combines the strength and insights of both disciplines.

Double Degree (UNC Charlotte + Tongji University)
The School offers a dual degree in architecture and urban design (MArch + MUDD) that is three years in duration. In addition there is a double degree program in collaboration with Tongji University in Shanghai, China. This program is designed for MArch degree-seeking students who wish to obtain a Chinese architecture degree in addition to their NAAB accredited masters. This opportunity is available to qualifying MArch 3+ or 2-year degree students who wish to engage an additional year of study in the College of Architecture and Urban Planning (CAUP) at Tongji University. The program also features a summer internship in Shanghai.

iPAL (Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure)
In 2015, the School of Architecture at UNC Charlotte was selected by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) as one of 14 architecture programs in the U.S. to offer an inaugural "Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure" (iPAL) curriculum as part of its NAAB-accredited program offerings. The iPAL curriculum integrates academic coursework, Architectural Experience Program (AXP), and Architecture Registration Exam (ARE) as part of one's professional architectural education. The core of the program features a structured full-time internship during summer terms, part-time internship during the academic year and a one-year full-time internship prior to one's final year of study. The iPAL curriculum adds one year of study for those pursuing the School's MArch 2 degree entering with 1,250 hrs. or more of documented AXP experience.

UNC Charlotte Center City Building (Kieran/Timberlake) houses the Master of Urban Design Program.

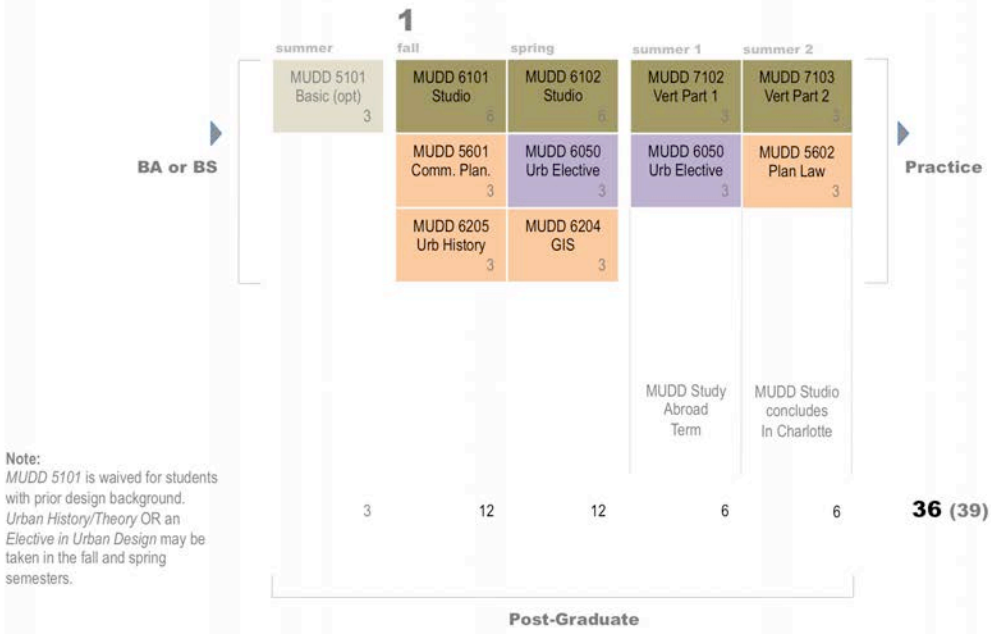
Master of Architecture
3+ Year Graduate Curriculum



Master of Architecture
2 Year Graduate Curriculum

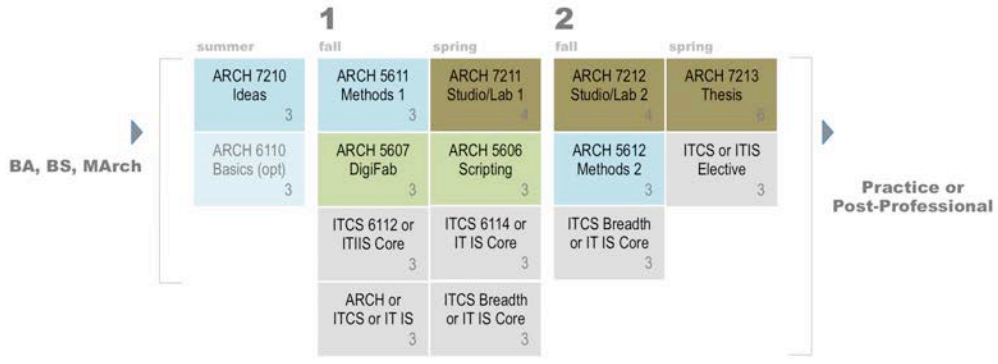
Note:
Technology coursework listed will serve as the required course of study. *Material and Assembly Principles, Structural Principles, Structural Systems* and/or *Environmental Systems Principles* must be completed prior to *BSI* in order to qualify for this curriculum.

Master of Urban Design
12 Month Graduate Program



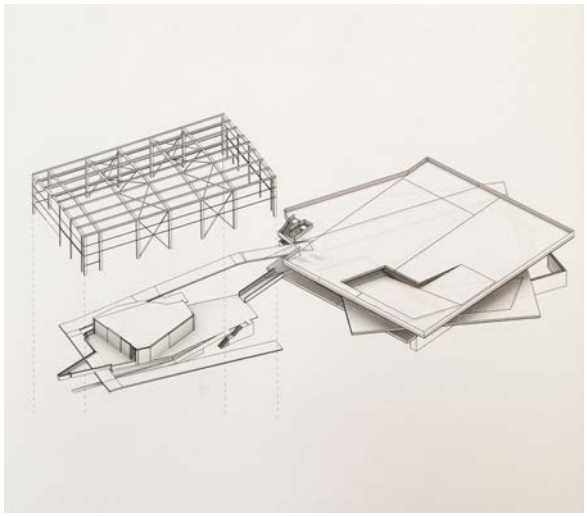
Note:
MUDD 5101 is waived for students with prior design background. *Urban History/Theory* OR an *Elective in Urban Design* may be taken in the fall and spring semesters.

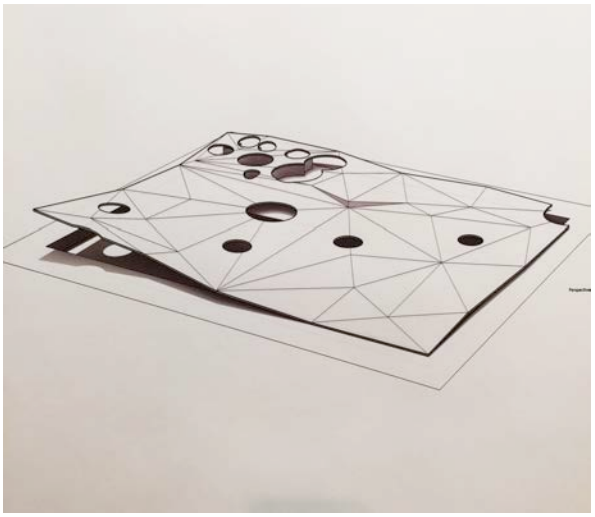
Master of Science in Architecture + Computer Science *or* Information Technology
2 Year Dual Degree Graduate Program



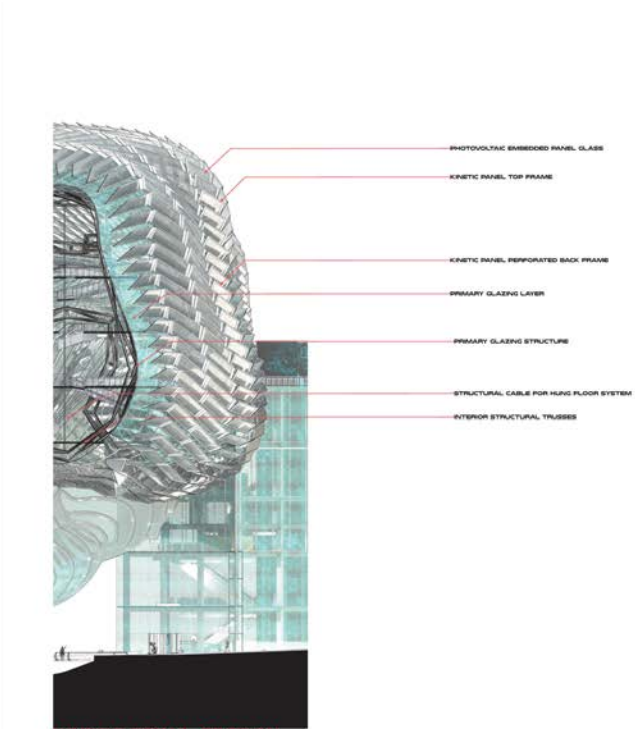
Note:
The dual degree in Architecture and Computer Science (or Information Technology) is research-based and is not an accredited program for architectural licensure by the NAAB. ARCH 6110 in the first summer is waived for those with design background.

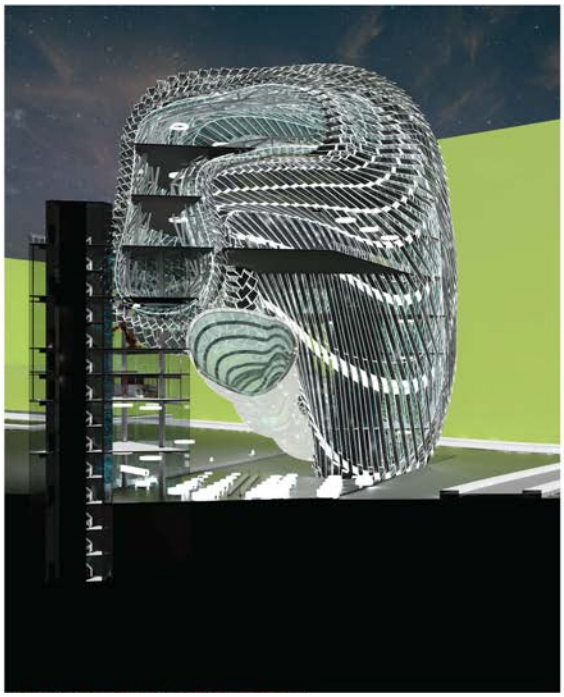
Student Design Work



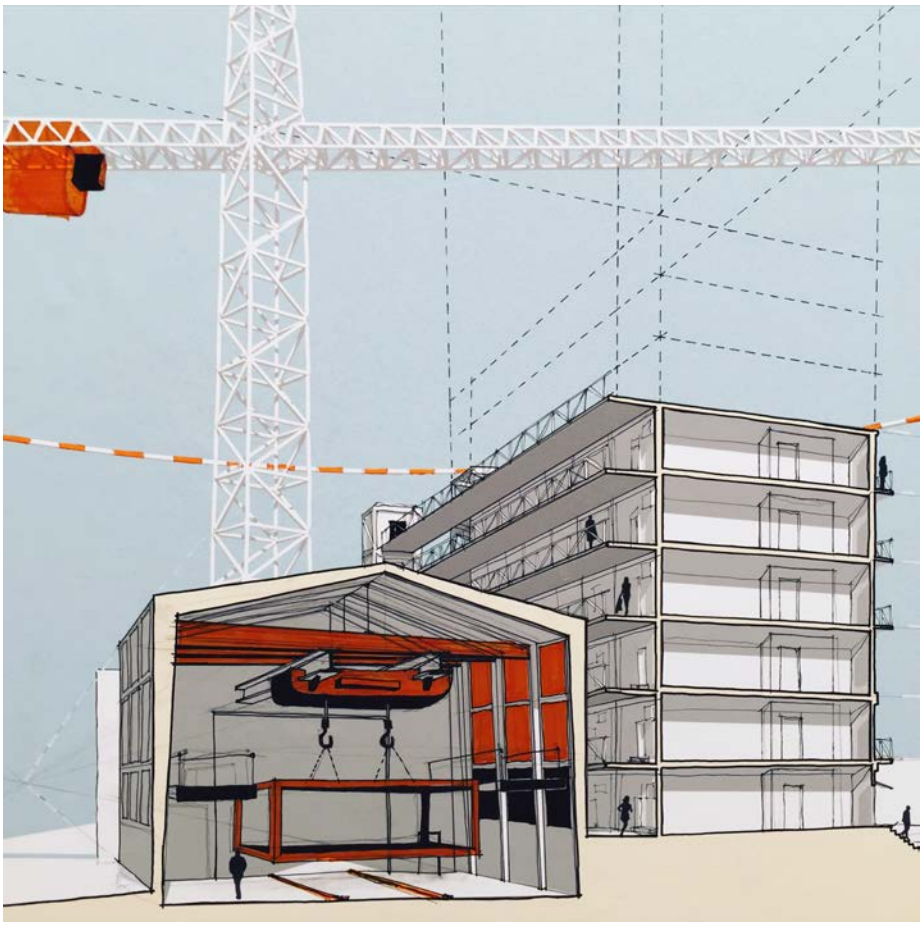


Alicia Foreman, MArch 1/MUDD and Ellie Rhue, MArch 1, Auto Repossession and Car Park, Prof. Nesbit, 2016.

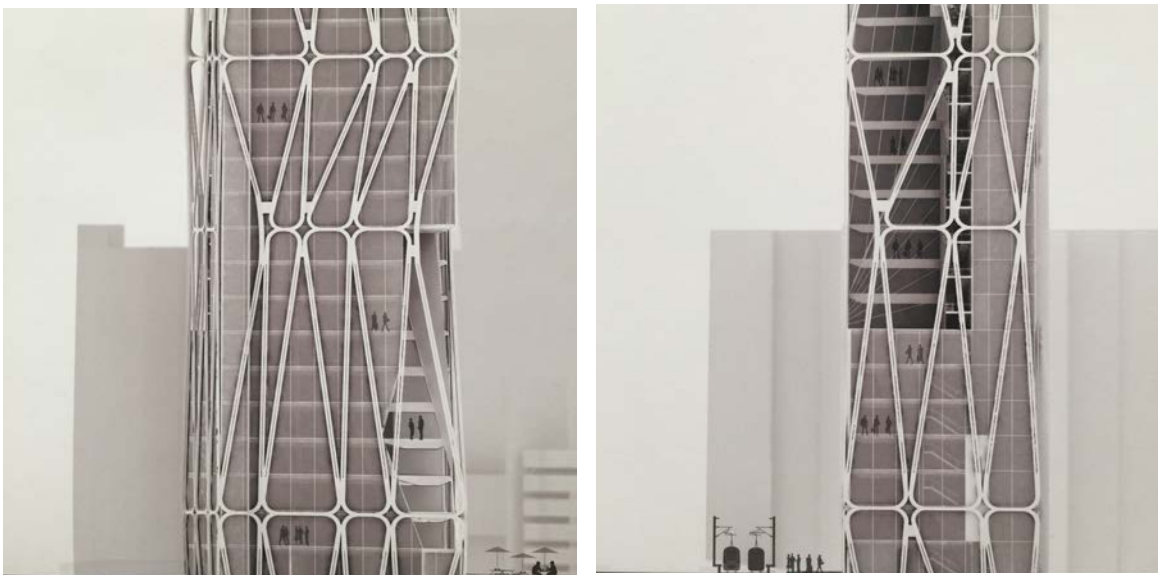




Phillip Broszkiewicz, MArch 2, Kinetic Façade Studio, Professor Kim, 2015.

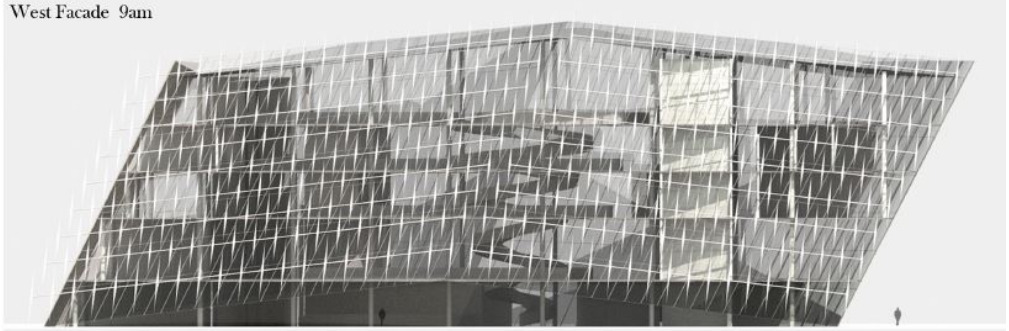


Andrew Beres, MArch 2, Pre-fabricated Housing, Prof. Nelson, 2015.

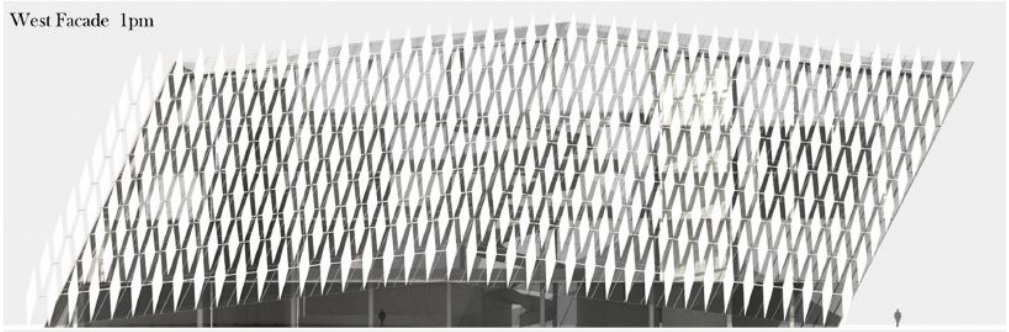


Velina Paneva, MArch 1, Noushin Radnia, MArch2/MS, Integrated Design Studio, 2016.

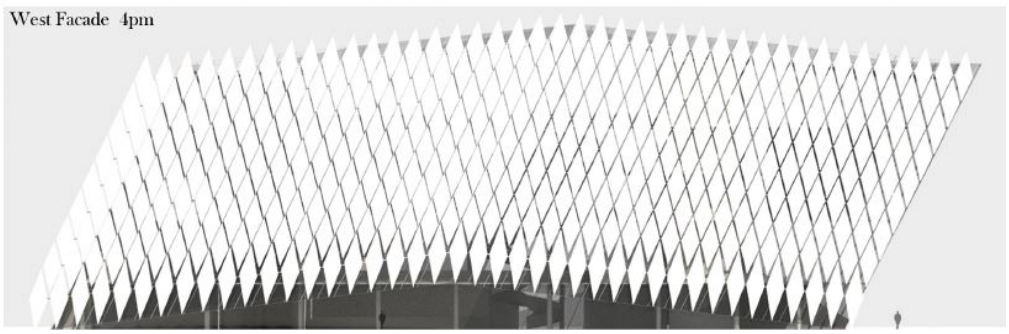
West Facade 9am



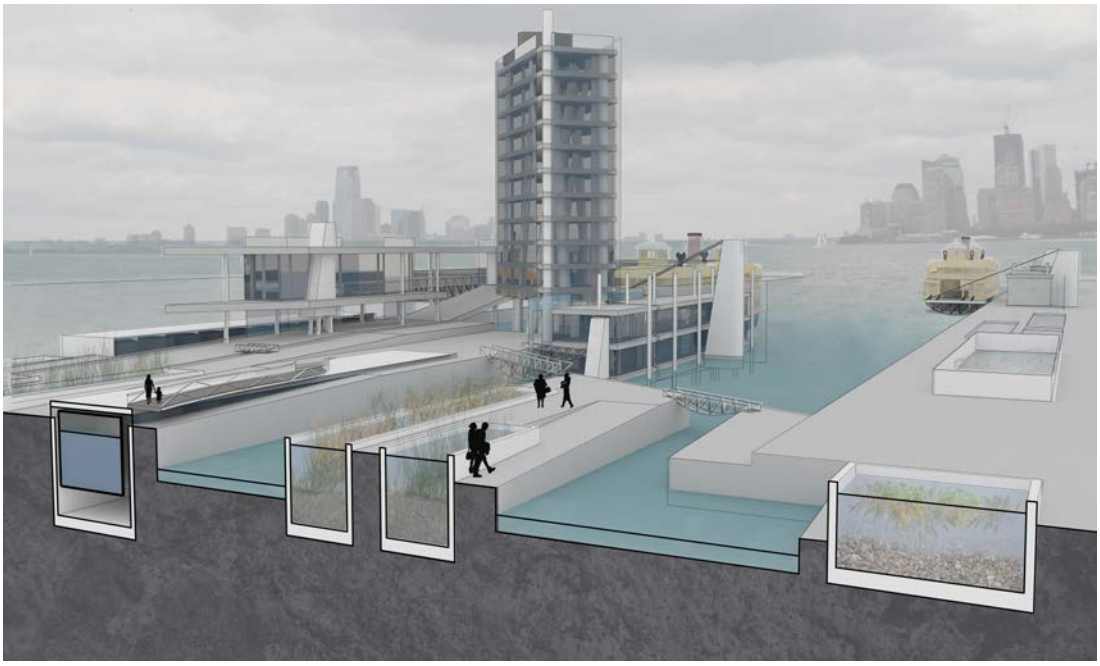
West Facade 1pm



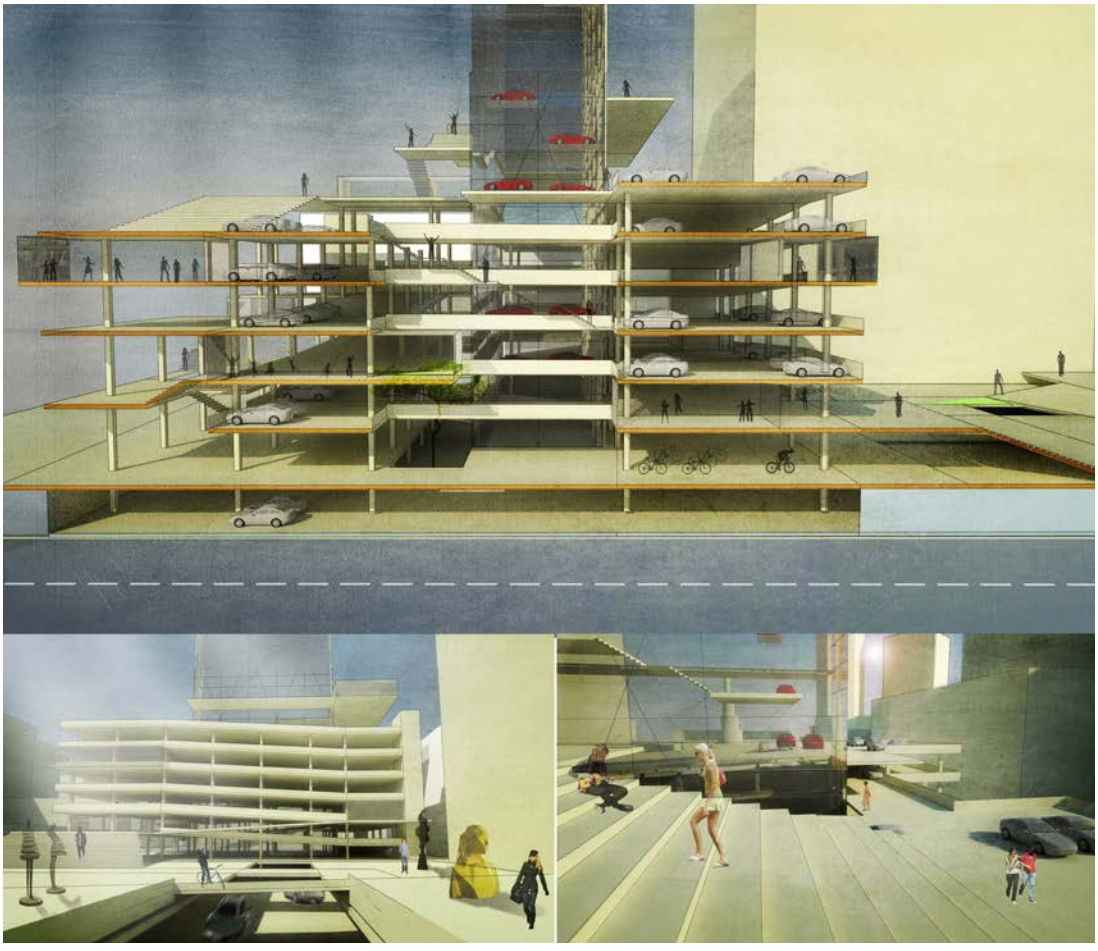
West Facade 4pm



Y. Lou, Graduate Exchange Student, Kinetic Façade Studio, Prof. Kim, 2015.



Shannon Hosey, MArch 1, Thesis: Liquid Landscapes, Profs. Snyder and Wong, 2015.



Maryam Keramati, MArch 2, Thesis: Car Parks as Urban Experience, Prof. Shield and Wong, 2015.

Guest Critics

Joshua Prince-Rames, 2014

Bernard Tschumi, 2014

Brigitte Shim, 2012.

Program Exclusives

Research Centers at the School of Architecture
The School takes pride in its scholarly and applied research work, supported by extensive labs, specialized equipment, faculty and staff. Three officially-sponsored centers are the arms for research: Integrated Design Research Laboratory (IDRL) focusing on sustainable design, daylighting, and high-performance and low-energy architecture; Laboratory for Innovative Housing (LIH) researching sustainable housing technologies; Digital Arts Research Team (DArts) innovating computation and digital fabrication in the building arts; and the City.Building.Lab (CBL) located in downtown Charlotte, this center serves as the research arm for the MUDD program. All masters students have the opportunity of engaging coursework, assistantships, and specific research activities inspired from the knowledge generated by these Centers and labs.

Graduate Financial Support and Scholarships
The School of Architecture has several graduate assistantship opportunities: 1) Graduate Support Assistant Plans (GASP) are awarded to Architecture students for the duration of the program and offer tuition-paid enrollment for in-state and non-resident students with an annual stipend for research assistance in one of the School's three Research Centers, (2) Tuition Awards providing tuition assistance for resident and non-resident students during the term of their programs with a stipend for research assistance, (3) Teaching Assistant stipends (amount varies), and School of Architecture Scholarship awarded annually ranging. These awards are based on academics, merit, and need.

Study Abroad and Off-Campus
The School of Architecture offers three types of foreign study options important to its curricula in Architecture and Urban Design: (1) one-week field study as part of a regular semester course (e.g., London, Berlin, or depending on the subject of the course), (2) five-week summer program, and (3) semester exchange with an allied institution or SoA semester abroad program.

Summer abroad opportunities are structured and organized by the School of Architecture and/or College of Arts and Architecture faculty. The locations vary and depend on the particular expertise of the faculty. A three-year plan is created so that students know what countries will be scheduled at least three years in advance. These summer programs are primarily travel in nature, and include carefully structured observational, analytical, and/or design assignments. Past and future programs include Italy, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland, Eastern Europe, Brazil, Korea, and China.

Semester student exchanges are available via the University's official exchange agreements with other universities, institutes and colleges around the world. Students in architecture have participated in exchanges at: the Technical University at Delft, The Netherlands; Aachen University, Germany; Royal Danish Academy, Denmark; University of Oulu, Finland, and Tongji University, China. In this type of abroad study, students attend foreign language or English-taught courses at the host institution but pay their normal tuition at UNCCharlotte. Travel, accommodations, and insurance while abroad are the some of the cost incurred during an exchange.

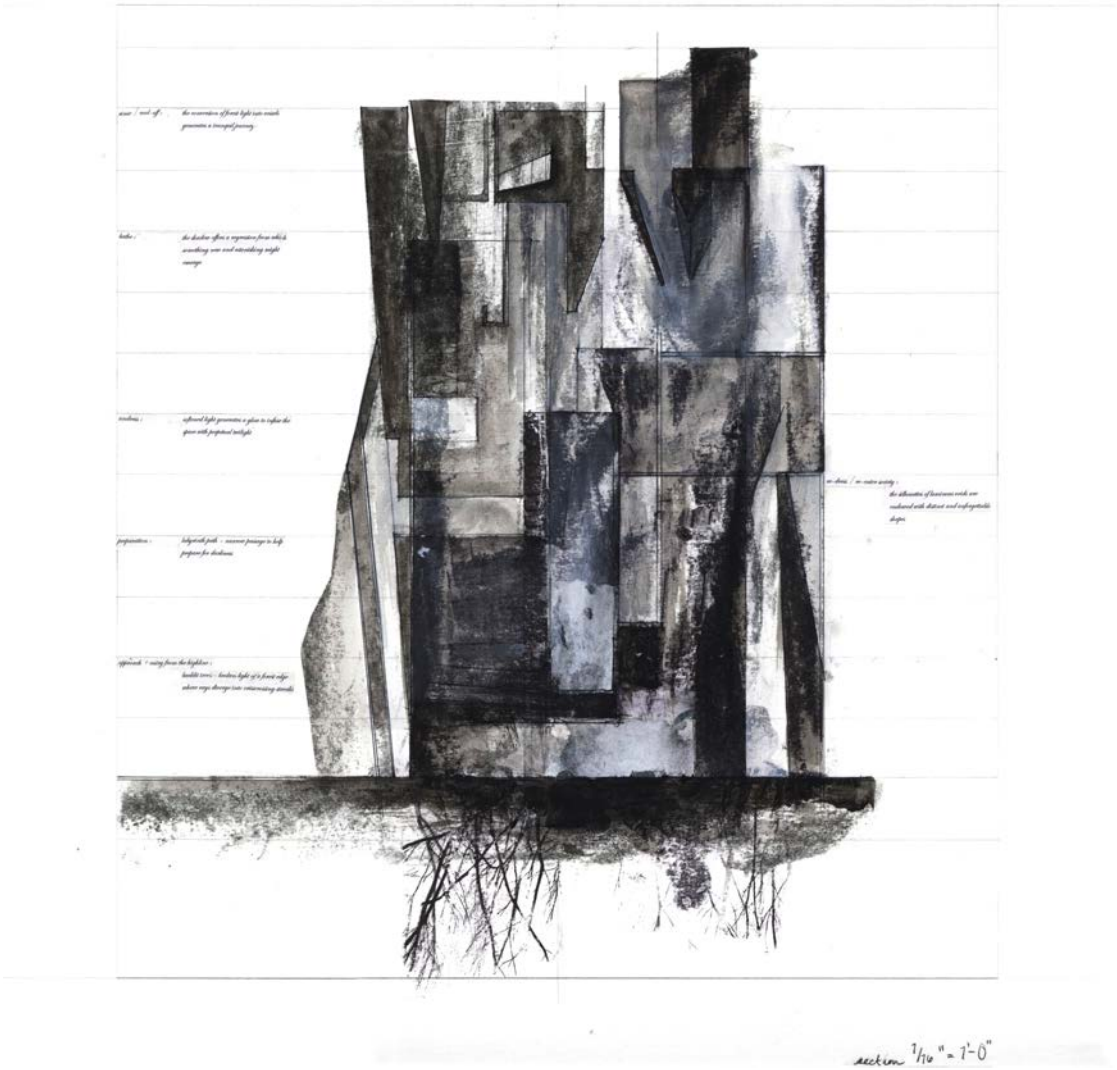
China Summer Program in Huang Shan, China, Prof. Lin Coordinator.

Costs

The State of North Carolina offers resident and non-resident tuition scales. Due to State mandates North Carolina residents receive very modest tuition and fee rates. In addition, non-resident fees, compared to most out-of-state tuition costs, are on average one of the lowest in the Nation. These fee structures make for a very attractive tuition value for both in-state and out-of-state applicants seeking high levels of educational instruction. The current (2016-2017) tuition and fees for full-time graduate students are as follows:

Master of Architecture/Urban Design Resident Tuition and Fees per Semester:	$4,514.00
Master of Architecture/Urban Design Non-Resident Tuition and Fees per Semester:	$11,099.50

2016-17 costs, applicants planning their education should estimate an annual increase of 5% per year for the duration of their program. The costs above do not include the University's optional health insurance policy (approx. $1,100/semester).



McKenzie Canaday, M2, Thesis: Public Spa in NYC, Profs. Lin and Wong, 2014.

Application FAQs

Peter Eisenman dialogues with students at the SoA.

1. How do I apply and follow the progress of my application?

The application process is submitted online via the University's Graduate School (see link below). All materials for the application process are submitted electronically (transcripts, recommendations, statement of intent, GRE test scores, etc.).

You are responsible to make sure that all of your materials have been submitted via the electronic application process. Please do not forward any materials to the School of Architecture during the process. Application completion status can be checked via the Graduate School's website. Applications will only be reviewed if they have been officially completed. It is critical that you check your online application frequently in order to insure everything has been received.

2. Which program do I apply to if I have completed a four-year bachelors in interior design and/or architectural technology?

Most interior design and architectural tech programs do not provide the necessary design studio experience for entry into our 2-year MArch program. At the same time, applicants with these undergraduate degrees may feel that they have taken some or all of the additional coursework for the 2-year program (e.g. the completion of history, structures, materials, environmental systems, etc.) during their undergraduate degree. In all cases it is recommended that these degree holders apply to the 3+ MArch (3-1/2 year program) to begin with. During the acceptance process the Admissions Committee will evaluate your application for any advance standing.

3. I have already taken courses that are required in your graduate program. Will I have to repeat these?

In some cases, the School of Architecture may waive a required course if we determine it is redundant to your studies. In such cases we will need to evaluate the course by reviewing its syllabus, all assignments, as well as the final grade you received for the class. If a waiver is permitted, then you will be asked to enroll in an advanced elective course to replace the required course credit. By the same token, credit may be given for prior academic material through "credit by examination" at the discretion of the Associate Director.

4. I am a 2-year MArch applicant but I did not take Structures 2 during my undergraduate degree, however I completed everything else. Do I need to complete this class before I apply?

Some four-year architecture bachelor degree holders may have to take one or more courses to fulfill the basic entry requirements for the 2-year MArch program (refer to Graduate Catalog). Hence non-studio coursework – such as, Environmental

Systems, Structures 2, etc. – may have to be completed. Such coursework may be fulfilled after acceptance to the program. In some cases, the program of study may be longer in order accommodate these additional classes.

5. What should be included in the portfolio and how should it be formatted?

Your portfolio is an expression and demonstration of your creative work. This should be clear for 2-year MArch applicants familiar with the process of making one. For 3+ MArch students (who typically have degrees in fields outside of design), it is suggested that you include visual work from courses in: visual art, sculpture, photography, personal projects, etc. You may also include samples of architectural work from offices if you've had such experience. In addition, you may also consider any creative work such as essays or reports that you have authored during your college/professional career(s). In general, any creative work you deem worthy may be included in the portfolio.

Digital Portfolio Requirement: The format for the portfolio is limited to a maximum size of 8-1/2" x 11". It should be formatted as a pdf document and uploaded as part of the online application process. What you include in this folio is an indication and demonstration of your creativity. In all cases it should be elegant, concise, light, and simple. A typical portfolio may have a total of 15-20 pages that demonstrates your accomplishments in an organized, visual manner. Each piece of work featured should be presented with high-quality images and a brief text description. The careful composition, layout, and visual presentation of the portfolio are an important indication of the applicant's creativity.

6. What scores do you expect for the GRE?

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is the preferred test that the Admissions Committee uses to evaluate all graduate students. Be conscious of the times that this test is offered since you must have the scores reported to the Graduate School prior to the deadline for admission. Hence, prepare to take this early.

There are three parts that the Admissions Committee looks at: verbal, quantitative, and analytical scores. In the past, applicants admitted typically score 150+ for the verbal and 155+ for the quantitative sections of the exam. Analytical scores are typically 4.5 and above. The score rating represents the range and numerical standards of the 2015-16 ETS set of examinations.

Note that these scores are only one factor for admission. The Admissions Committee looks comprehensively at all parts of your application (portfolio, transcripts, letters of recommendation, GPA etc.) when it makes its recommendation for admission.

7. What should my GPA be when I apply?

The Graduate School at UNCCharlotte requires an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 and higher. Typically those accepted to the masters program have GPAs of 3.25 and higher.

8. Are there prerequiste courses that I must take for the 2-year or 3+ MArch degrees?

3+ MArch applicants are asked to have taken coursework in pre-calculus and basic physics. 2-year MArch applicants with a 4-year degree in architecture are expected to have a minimum of: 6 semesters of design studio, 2 semesters of introductory architectural history/theory, 2 structures courses, 1 environmental systems course, and 1 architectural materials course.

9. What scholarships, financial awards, research and/or teaching assistantships are available?

There are a number of awards that all accepted applicants are assessed for during the admission process. These are awarded to the most promising new graduate students on a merit basis. For 2-year MArch applicants, awards are based on prior academic and professional experience as well as skills and achievements in architecture. For 3+ MArch students, awards are based on academic achievement and promise.

There are four types of awards:

a. Graduate Assistant Support Plan (GASP): These awards are for resident and non-resident students and provide support for two or three years of tuition during the regular academic year. Each award also includes a yearly stipend (in past years

this amount has been approximately $9,000/year) that covers research assistant work within one of the School of Architecture's three research centers - Digital Arts Research Team (DArts), Design + Society and Research Center (DSRC), and the Center for Integrated Building Design Research (CIBDR). These awards are available for both to 2-year MArch and 3+ year MArch applicants based on their academic merits and record during the admissions process.

b. Tuition Awards: These awards are for both in-state and non-resident applicants. The award reduces annual tuition liability equal to the amount of in-state tuition or the difference between in-state and non-resident tuition. These awards may also include a research assistant stipend (in past years this amount has been approximately $6000/year). These awards do not apply to summer semesters (fall and spring only), and are available for both 2-year and 3+ year applicants.

c. Teaching Assistantships: Stipends for teaching assistantships are available for qualified masters candidates and ongoing students in the MArch program. The amount varies according to departmental needs for teaching and the candidate's expertise. Awards are typically given to MArch II students that have some experience in the education of architecture. Assignments include: undergraduate assistant roles, class administrative duties, and laboratory assistants.

d. School of Architecture Scholarships: There are also endowed School of Architecture scholarships that any matriculated student may apply for in the Fall semesters of their academic careers. These are offered via an application process at the beginning of each fall and spring semester. These competitive awards range from $1000 to $2500.

10. If I'm accepted, when does the program begin?

For 3+ MArch students, the program begins in the "second summer term" (typically the first week in July). For 2-year MArch students the program begins in the "fall semester" (typically the third week of August). Please make sure that you apply to the correct program, and hence, register your first course(s) for the correct entry semester. MUDD applicants without prior design experience are also start during this summer session.

As a rule, summer (for 3+ MArch applicants) and fall (for 2-year MArch and MS applicants) are the only semesters in which new students accepted to the School begin their programs.

11. May I take course work as a post-bac student in the School of Architecture prior to admission?

As a rule, you must formally apply and be admitted to either the two MArch programs before you can take required coursework. Some applicants, however, have enrolled in non-required courses such as Liberal Studies (LBST) general education undergraduate lecture classes as an introduction to architecture. These courses do not count towards their master's studies. Another option is to enroll at UNCC as a Post Baccalaureate student. Post Bac status will allow students to take graduate level elective coursework at UNCC with instructor approval and if space is available. Up to 6 credits of Post Bac studies may be transferred into a graduate program should the student be accepted as a graduate student.

12. Can I attend the program as well as work part-time outside of classroom hours?

The School of Architecture is a full-time enrollment program in which all of our graduate students take courses beyond the full-time graduate load. The typical graduate student enrolls in at least 9 credits of coursework per semester; Master of Architecture students typically enroll in (on average) 15 units per term. Given this heavy course load and given the significant amount of time needed to complete assignments and projects, the School of Architecture highly recommends that students not seek outside employment.

The School of Architecture realizes that full time enrollment in graduate school is a costly endeavor; some students will find it necessary to work off campus to make ends meet. This will represent a significant demand on student time and, therefore, may conflict with the demands of graduate study.

13. What areas of architecture does the School specialize?

The School of Architecture offers a broad-based program of study. However, since 2003, the School has invested a considerable amount of time and effort into its research centers. These centers have grown around faculty interests and expertise in the areas of: (1) digital fabrication, (2) lighting technology and energy conservation, and (3) urban and community design.

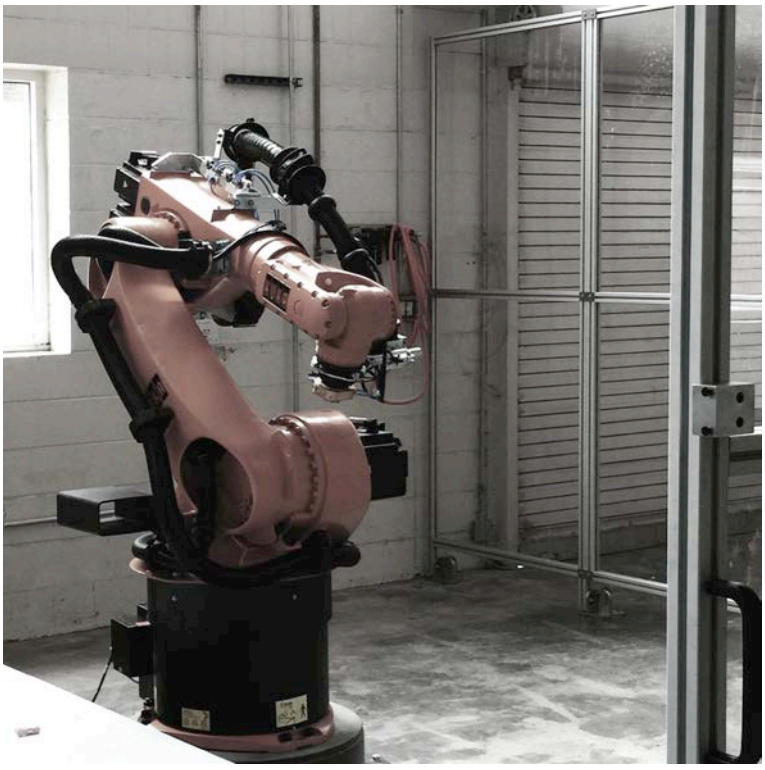
These three research areas have given rise to dedicated electives for graduate study in the program. These areas are seen as local areas of expertise in which students may engage research as well as deepen their programs of study. These areas are particularly important to 2-year MArch students who are asked to identify an area of interest in their first year of study. 3+ MArch students are also encouraged to engage is such coursework as they move into their second year of study in the 3-1/2 year program.

Graduate students who undertake and perform at a high level in such studies have the opportunity to participate in research projects being conducted in one of the School's three research centers as mentioned above. It is also anticipated that these special interests will contribute significantly to the topic of their final project or thesis, which is completed in the final year.

14. When is my application due for the MArch Programs?
The deadline for all application materials submitted online is January 15 for admission to the following academic year. Some programs have a rolling admission schedule. Contact the Graduate Program Director for details.

15. When can I visit the School of Architecture?

The School of Architecture offers a general Open House in the fall semester (typically the third week in October) and a special spring Open House event (typically the last week in March) for applicants **accepted** to the program. Though different, each of these Open House events features a tour of the School, introduction to faculty and student work/projects, and an opportunity to see the program in action. Please contact Peter Wong at plwong@uncc.edu to learn of the exact dates as well as to schedule your participation at one of these Open House events.



Robot Arm in the FabLAB, Storrs Main Campus Building.

Important Website Links

Application Process
Graduate School Online Application: https://gradadmissions.uncc.edu/

Detailed Program Information
Graduate Catalog: http://catalog.uncc.edu/index.php?catoid=19
School of Architecture Information: http://coaa.uncc.edu/academics/school-of-architecture

Tuition, Fees, and Housing Information
Tuition: https://finance.uncc.edu/sites/finance.uncc.edu/files/media/Student-Accounts/College%20of%20Arts%20and%20Architecture%202016_17.pdf
Housing Information: http://housing.uncc.edu/

Prospectus of Graduate Student Work
Online Catalogue of Current Work: http://issuu.com/soauncc/docs/soa-prospectus-issuu-grad

Prof. Forget's Housing Studio, Field Study Trip to Case Study House 22 by Pierre Koenig.