

## Course Specification

| Course Summary Information |                                                                                       |                                                                                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                          | <b>Course Title</b>                                                                   | PG Dip Architectural Practice                                                       |
| 2                          | <b>BCU Course Code</b>                                                                | PT0809                                                                              |
| 3                          | <b>Awarding Institution</b>                                                           | Birmingham City University                                                          |
| 4                          | <b>Teaching Institution(s)</b><br>(if different from point 3)                         |                                                                                     |
| 5                          | <b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable) | Architects Registration Board (ARB)<br>Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) |

| 6 | Course Description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|   | <p>Successful completion of this postgraduate architecture course gives you recognition for RIBA Part 3, registration with the Architects Registration Board (ARB), direct access to title as an architect and therefore gain membership of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).</p> <p>There are two separate entry and completion points per year, providing a flexible approach to obtaining the final professional qualification. Intensive two-day lecture and workshop sessions are supported by weekend revision and study groups, which allow the course to be delivered harmoniously alongside your existing work commitments.</p> <p><b>What's covered in the course?</b></p> <p>Aimed at students engaged in architectural practice, this postgraduate course gives you the skills and knowledge to gain your qualification. It can also form the basis of your ongoing professional architectural development.</p> <p>You will gain a critical understanding of legal requirements, practice management and construction procurement in the architecture industry, and the fundamentals of good architectural practice.</p> <p>You will receive the support of outstanding professional staff whose extensive connections with architectural practices offer you exceptional opportunities. Lectures are delivered in four two-day intensive courses by a number of leading practitioners and experts in their field. They cover the legal framework, clients and building procurement, as well as practice and management. Based on your own experience in architectural practice, you will be required to prepare a case study in two parts, one around a pre-contract issue and one around an issue arising during the construction phase of a contract. You will also use records of experience to develop a critical career appraisal.</p> <p>You will be based in our multi-million pound City Centre Campus Parkside Building with access to advanced digital studios for rapid prototyping and digital production, as well as drawing, CAD and digital visual communication skills workshops.</p> |

|           |                                             |              |                        |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| <b>7</b>  | <b>Course Awards</b>                        |              |                        |
| <b>7a</b> | <b>Name of Final Award</b>                  | <b>Level</b> | <b>Credits Awarded</b> |
|           | Postgraduate Diploma Architectural Practice | 7            | 120                    |
| <b>7b</b> | <b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>      |              |                        |
|           | Not applicable                              |              |                        |

|          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <b>8</b> | <b>Variation from the University Regulations</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|          | This course has approved variations to the University's Academic Regulations. These can be accessed via the student contract page: <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/student-contract">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/student-contract</a> |

|          |                          |                             |                          |
|----------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>9</b> | <b>Delivery Patterns</b> |                             |                          |
|          | <b>Mode(s) of Study</b>  | <b>Location(s) of Study</b> | <b>Duration of Study</b> |
|          | Part-time                | City Centre                 | 2 years                  |
|          |                          |                             | <b>Code(s)</b>           |
|          |                          |                             | PT0809                   |

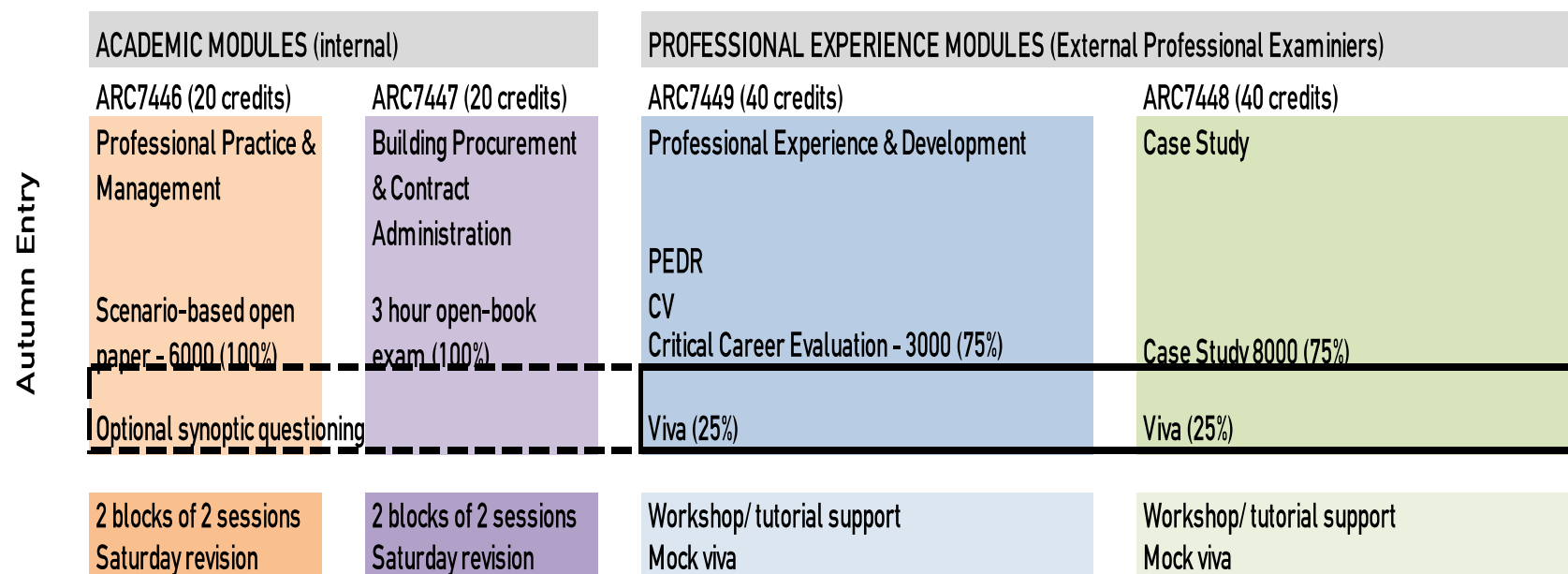
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|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>10</b> | <b>Entry Requirements</b>                                                                                                                                    |
|           | The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a> . |

|                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>11</b>                                | <b>Course Learning Outcomes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>1</b>                                 | Demonstrate a clear understanding of the architect's obligation to society and the profession, and a sufficient awareness of the limits of their competence and professional experience to ensure they are unlikely to bring the profession into disrepute. |
| <b>2</b>                                 | Evaluate the range of services offered by architects and delivering those services in a manner prioritising the interests of the client and other stakeholders.                                                                                             |
| <b>3</b>                                 | Discuss the relationship between the practice of architecture and the UK construction industry.                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>4</b>                                 | Appreciate the appropriate law, legislation, guidance and controls relevant to architectural design and construction.                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Cognitive and Intellectual Skills</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>5</b>                                 | Analyse the legal context within which an architect must operate, and the processes undertaken to ensure compliance with legal requirements or standards.                                                                                                   |
| <b>6</b>                                 | Evaluate of the business priorities, required management processes and risks of running an architectural practice.                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>7</b>                                 | Interpret the briefing process, forms and terms of appointment, the means of professional remuneration, relevant legislation, and the execution of appropriate coursed and coordinated project tasks.                                                       |
| <b>8</b>                                 | Interpret the legal business entities, office systems, administration procedures and the relevant legislation.                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Practical and Professional Skills</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>9</b>                                 | Demonstrate overall competence and the ability to behave with integrity, in the ethical and professional manner appropriate to the role of architect.                                                                                                       |
| <b>10</b>                                | Plan project-related tasks, coordinate and engage in design team interaction, execute effective contract communication and resolve construction-related challenges and disputes.                                                                            |
| <b>11</b>                                | Interpret UK construction and contract law, construction procurement processes and the roles of built environment professionals.                                                                                                                            |
| <b>12</b>                                | Evaluate the contractual relationships, the obligations upon an architect acting as contract administrator, job-related administrative systems and the management of projects.                                                                              |
| <b>Key Transferable Skills</b>           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>13</b>                                | Apply effective communication and presentation, organisation, self-management and autonomous working.                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>14</b>                                | Communicate and positively interact with statutory and private bodies or individuals, and competently deliver projects within diverse legislative frameworks.                                                                                               |
| <b>15</b>                                | Employ the skills necessary to provide a competent service, both singly and as part of a team, including understanding of client needs, appropriate communication, programming, coordination and competent delivery.                                        |
| <b>16</b>                                | Engage in business administration and ability to resource, plan, implement and record project tasks to achieve stated goals, either individually or within a team.                                                                                          |

| 12          | Course Requirements                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |              |             |              |         |                                      |    |         |                                                  |    |         |                                         |    |         |            |    |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|---------|--------------------------------------|----|---------|--------------------------------------------------|----|---------|-----------------------------------------|----|---------|------------|----|
| 12a         | <p>Level 7:</p> <p><i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i></p> <table><tr><th>Module Code</th><th>Module Name</th><th>Credit Value</th></tr><tr><td>ARC7446</td><td>Professional Practice and Management</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC7447</td><td>Building Procurement and Contract Administration</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>ARC7449</td><td>Professional Experience and Development</td><td>40</td></tr><tr><td>ARC7448</td><td>Case Study</td><td>40</td></tr></table> | Module Code  | Module Name | Credit Value | ARC7446 | Professional Practice and Management | 20 | ARC7447 | Building Procurement and Contract Administration | 20 | ARC7449 | Professional Experience and Development | 40 | ARC7448 | Case Study | 40 |
| Module Code | Module Name                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Credit Value |             |              |         |                                      |    |         |                                                  |    |         |                                         |    |         |            |    |
| ARC7446     | Professional Practice and Management                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 20           |             |              |         |                                      |    |         |                                                  |    |         |                                         |    |         |            |    |
| ARC7447     | Building Procurement and Contract Administration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 20           |             |              |         |                                      |    |         |                                                  |    |         |                                         |    |         |            |    |
| ARC7449     | Professional Experience and Development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | 40           |             |              |         |                                      |    |         |                                                  |    |         |                                         |    |         |            |    |
| ARC7448     | Case Study                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 40           |             |              |         |                                      |    |         |                                                  |    |         |                                         |    |         |            |    |

## 12b Structure Diagram

### Postgraduate Diploma in Architectural Practice - (120 credits)



|              |                                                |                                             |                                                                    |                                         |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Spring Entry | ACADEMIC MODULES (internal)                    |                                             | PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE MODULES (External Professional Examiniers) |                                         |
|              | ARC7447 (20 credits)                           | ARC7446 (20 credits)                        | ARC7449 (40 credits)                                               | ARC7448 (40 credits)                    |
|              | Building Procurement & Contract Administration | Professional Practice & Management          | Professional Experience & Development                              | Case Study                              |
|              | 3 hour open-book exam (100%)                   | Scenario-based open paper - 6000 (100%)     | PEDR<br>CV<br>Critical Career Evaluation - 3000 (75%)              | Case Study 8000 (75%)                   |
|              | Optional synoptic questioning                  |                                             | Viva (25%)                                                         | Viva (25%)                              |
|              | 2 blocks of 2 sessions<br>Saturday revision    | 2 blocks of 2 sessions<br>Saturday revision | Workshop/ tutorial support<br>Mock viva                            | Workshop/ tutorial support<br>Mock viva |

| <b>SEMESTER ONE</b>                                                                                              | <b>SEMESTER TWO</b>                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Core</b><br>ARC7446: Professional Practice and Management (20 credits)                                        | <b>Core</b><br>ARC7447: Building Procurement and Contract Administration (20 credits) |
| <b>Core</b><br>ARC7448: Case Study (40 credits)<br>ARC7449: Professional Experience and Development (40 Credits) |                                                                                       |

### 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

#### Level 7

#### Workload

##### 25% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

| Activity           | Number of Hours |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Scheduled Learning | 100             |
| Directed Learning  | 860             |
| Private Study      | 240             |
| <b>Total Hours</b> | <b>1200</b>     |

#### Balance of Assessment

| Assessment Mode | Percentage |
|-----------------|------------|
| Coursework      | 63%        |
| Exam            | 25%        |
| In-Person       | 12%        |