Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	**Course Title**	Master of Architecture (MArch)
2	**Course Code**	PT1273 Full Time PT1274 Part Time
3	**Awarding Institution**	Birmingham City University
4	**Teaching Institution(s)** (if different from point 3)	N/A
5	**Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation** (if applicable)	The course fully meets and exceeds the joint criteria set out by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).

6	**Course Description**
	The course is designed to offer increasing specialisation and choice over its duration, building from a 'scaffold' that provides a foundation for all students regardless of their previous background in architectural education towards choices in design unit, in the special study, in collaborative project and through the negotiated practices in the final year. This is intended to place our students at the forefront of the discipline by the point of completion, asking students to exercise initiative and take personal responsibility in their learning, and to foreground skills in decision-making in often complex and unpredictable circumstances. We explore a long history of applied arts in Birmingham, of a synergy between art and industry, culture and production, 'learning though making' forming a central practice of our course, drawing on this heritage and the creative context of the Faculty of Arts, Design and Media. We are interested in making connections, within and beyond the academy, of sharing our position as an independent space to think, learn, act and make. The 'research by design' pedagogy foregrounds the idea that the design work undertaken on the course has value and potential impact beyond the course, with relevance to contemporary issues, with opportunities for transdisciplinarity in the creation of traditional and non-traditional forms of knowledge. We are committed to making work visible through exhibitions, publications, workshops and events. We have a long term commitment to study options that include full and part time, realising that no student is 'full time' in that many work to live during their studies, and that 'part time' means that the single contact day must be complemented by time outside of practice work, requiring a high degree of skill in time management and discipline. We have built a reputation for exploring the boundaries of pedagogy through collaborative practice, and through material exploration and practices and these remain central to our vision. As we evolve within our space, we are committed to a greater testing of architectural conventions through intra, inter and cross-disciplinary working.

7	Course Awards		
7a	**Name of Final Award**	**Level**	**Credits Awarded**
	Master of Architecture	7	240
7b	**Exit Awards and Credits Awarded**		
	Postgraduate Certificate Architecture Postgraduate Diploma Architecture	7 7	60 120

8	Variations from the University Regulations
	This course has approved variations to the University's Academic Regulations. These can be accessed via the student contract page: https://www.bcu.ac.uk/student-info/student-contract

9	Delivery Patterns		
Mode(s) of Study	**Location(s) of Study**	**Duration of Study**	**Code(s)**
Full-time	City Centre	2 Years	PT1273
Part-time	City Centre	3 Years	PT1274

10	Entry Requirements
	The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/.

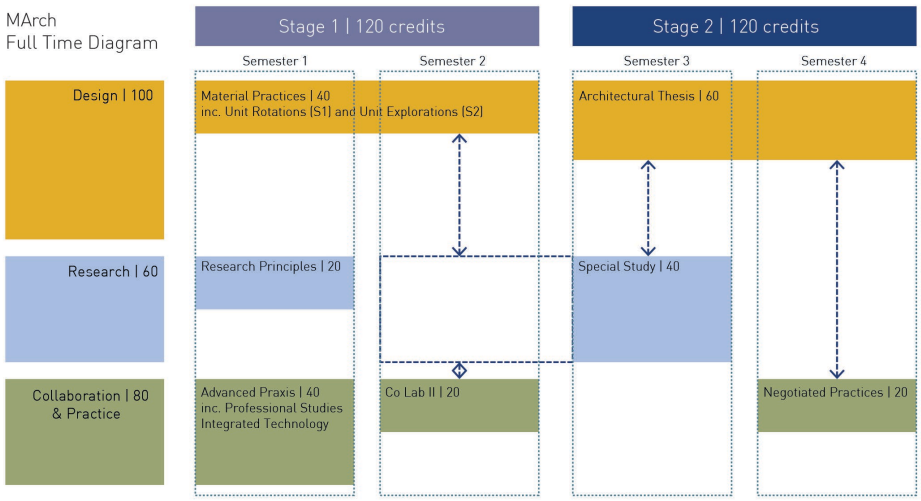
11	Course Learning Outcomes
	Knowledge & Understanding
1	Evaluate the impact of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human including the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural design.
2	Appraise the relationship between people and buildings, and between buildings and their environment, and the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale, in the advancement of complex design proposals.
3	Assess the relevance of the theories of urban design and the planning of communities and current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects, to design development.
4	Assess how the industries, organisations, regulations and procedures related to the practice of architecture impact on the translation of design concepts into buildings and integrating plans into overall planning.
	Cognitive & Intellectual Skills
5	Formulate a conceptual and critical approach to architectural design that integrates and satisfies the aesthetic aspects of a building and the technical requirements of its construction and the needs of the user.
6	Appraise the influence of history and theory on the spatial, social, and technological aspects of architecture through the application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.

7	Appraise the influence of the design and development of cities, past and present on the contemporary built environment;
8	Generate complex design proposals showing understanding of current architectural issues, originality in the application of subject knowledge and, where appropriate, to test new hypotheses and speculations;
	Practical & Professional Skills
9	Prepare and present building design projects of diverse scale, complexity, and type in a variety of contexts, using a range of media, and in response to a brief;
10	Formulate methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project.
11	Evaluate the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design.
12	Appraise building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations.
	Key Transferable Skills
13	Assimilate problem solving skills, professional judgement, and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances;
14	Manage individual learning needs in understanding the personal responsibility required to prepare for qualification as an architect.
15	Appraise basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architects' practice and architectural projects, recognising current and emerging trends in the construction industry.
16	Prepare studio design projects that employ the creative application of the arts in their broadest sense in relation to their conceptualisation and representation.

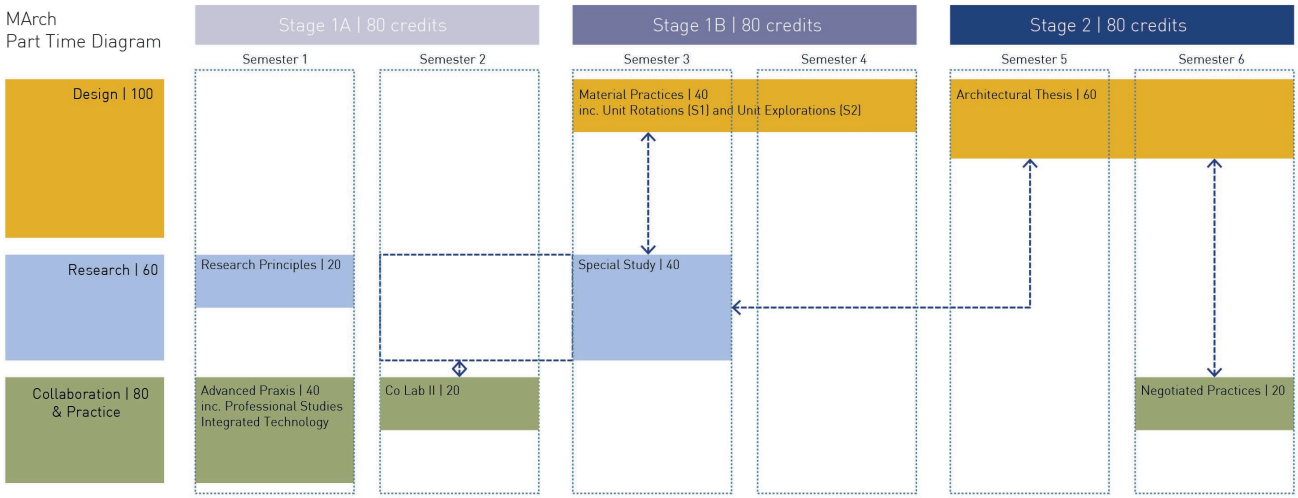
12	**Course Requirements**
12a	**Level 7:** ***In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 240 credits):***

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
Stage 1		
ARC7461	Advanced Praxis	40
ARC7462	Research Principles	20
ARC7463	Material Practices	40
ARC7464	Co.Lab II	20
Stage 2		
ARC7465	Architectural Thesis	60
ARC7466	Negotiated Practice	20
ARC7467	Special Study	40

12b Structure Diagram Full Time



12b Structure Diagram Part Time



Full Time Mode (all core):

SEMESTER ONE	**SEMESTER TWO**
Advanced Praxis (40 credits) Research Principles (20 credits)	Material Practices (40 credits) CoLab II (20 credits) [commence Special Study, no fee]
SEMESTER THREE	**SEMESTER FOUR**
Special Study (40 credits)	Negotiated Practice (20 credits)
Architectural Thesis (60 credits)	

Part Time Mode (all core):

SEMESTER ONE	**SEMESTER TWO**
Advanced Praxis (40 credits) Research Principles (20 credits)	CoLab II (20 credits) [commence Special Study, no fee]
SEMESTER THREE	**SEMESTER FOUR**
Special Study (40 credits)	Material Practices (40 credits)
SEMESTER FIVE	**SEMESTER SIX**
Architectural Thesis (60 credits)	
	Negotiated Practice (20 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

Time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	17% (408 hours)
Directed Learning	41% (972 hours)
Private Study	42% (1020 hours)
Total Hours	100% (2400 hours)

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	94%
Exam	6%
In-Person	0%