

ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN RESEARCH (MS)

Contacts

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 Program Website (<https://www.jefferson.edu/academics/colleges-schools-institutes/architecture-and-the-built-environment/programs/architecture-ms.html>)

Program Description

- **STEM** designated program

The Master of Science in Architecture and Design Research is a post-professional research-based degree designed to provide students who have already earned an accredited undergraduate degree in architecture or related design or built environment discipline with an opportunity to specialize in an area of study that is critical to the profession today. The program prepares students for specialist and consulting positions in the broad field of the built environment, including Architecture, Engineering and Construction.

The MS in Architecture and Design Research offers students the platform to shape a customized education that furthers their architectural experience by developing advanced knowledge and expertise in areas of personal interest and specialization. Led by CABE faculty advisors, students shape a Master's research project. This project can be self-directed or students can work directly with faculty in their specific research areas. Students assemble a suite of electives with faculty from across the College and University to build a graduate level research collaborative foundation for the Master's thesis.

- Customize study by selecting one of four research tracks:
- Material & Design Computation
- Health & Design
- History, Theory & Architectural Pedagogy
- Self-directed Research Area

Students in each track take two required research methods courses and a set of select courses from an approved list of designated electives, and general electives.

Learning Goals/Outcomes

- Critically analyze and synthesize established research theories and methods related to Material & Design Computation, or Health & Design, or Theory, History & Architectural Pedagogy, or other topics related architecture and buildings.
- Collaborate with professionals and academic experts in fields beyond architecture and the built environment.
- Demonstrate expertise in a chosen area of research.
- Demonstrate professional presentation and communication skills.
- Review and critically analyze original research in architecture and related disciplines.

- Conduct cutting-edge, applied research that culminates in a final project that contributes to the fields of architecture and the built environment.

Graduates who are interested in subsequently pursuing further studies in Jefferson's PhD in Architecture and Design Research program can get advanced placement into the PhD program for up to 18 credits which allows to complete the PhD studies in three academic years instead of the typical four-year timeframe. For advanced placement into the PhD program, graduates have to pass an oral and written Assessment Interview which evaluates the student's research statement including a general literature review of his/her broad area of inquiry, thesis and coursework papers, and transcripts.

Curriculum: 2 years, 30 credits

Course	Title	Credits
First Year		
Fall		
SDN 601	Princ & Methods of Sust Design	3
ADR 701	Research Theories & Methods 1	3
Elective	General Elective or Designated	3
Credits		9
Spring		
SDN 622 or ARCH 613	MS: Living Buildings or Design 3	4
ADR 702	Research Theories & Methods 2	3
ARCH 630	Research Methods	3
Elective	General Elective or Designated	3
Elective	General Elective or Designated	3
Credits		16
Second Year		
Fall		
Elective	General Elective or Designated	3
Elective	General Elective or Designated	3
Elective	General Elective or Designated	3
Credits		9
Spring		
ARCH 902	Graduate Thesis Project II	3
Credits		3
Total Credits		37

- Note:
1. Students are required to take a minimum of 9 credits from an approved list of designated electives
 2. No more than 6 credits from the total 33 credits may be from independent study courses and no more than 9 credits from non-CABE courses
 3. The Self-Directed Research Track requires:

Code	Title	Credits
ADR 701 & ADR 702	Research Theories & Methods 1 and Research Theories & Methods 2	6
SDN 601	Princ & Methods of Sust Design	3
ARCH 902	Graduate Thesis Project II	3

Electives will be selected in consultation with advisor
 4. ARCH 622 Visualization 2 recommended for Material & Design Computation, Health & Design tracks students who do not have required skills in computational modeling (Rhino software)

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5. If student research topic involves studio-based methods, 2 graduate electives can be substituted with a Design Research Studio (i.e., ARCH 507 Design 9 for Architecture or ARCH 508 Design 10 for Architecture) or an independent study format design course (6 credits)