WE ARE
ARCHITECTURE
MASTERS PROGRAM
WE ARE ARCHITECTURE
DAR AL HEKMA UNIVERSITY

TO GRADUATE
INNOVATIVE
PROFESSIONALS
WHO ARE COMMITTED TO
RESPECTING THE
ENVIRONMENT
BY CREATING A
HOLISTIC, BALANCED
AND INTEGRATED
ARCHITECTURE
The Master of Architecture Program provides the knowledge and skills required to graduate professionals who value and advocate for the built environment and are able to contribute to the body of knowledge of architecture.

By incorporating integral design principles throughout the curriculum and by linking theory with practice and advanced digital technologies, our aim is to create stimulating and holistic environments that are environmentally, culturally and economically vibrant.
Our Program

The Master’s of Architecture (MArch) program at Dar Al-Hekma is a two-year professional program that broadens the scope of architectural studies. The program is based on a holistic approach towards architectural design integrating multiple dimensions of the built environment. The graduates of the MArch Program are able to connect different domains of knowledge and develop independent inquiry, creativity and responsibility, as they respond to technological, ecological, economic and socio-cultural dimensions of the built environment. The electives in the program have been clustered to give concerted knowledge in the following domains: Realestate Development, Building Technology and Heritage and Conservation.
Why DAH?

- Strong focus on cultural and contextual architecture
- An intimate and personal experience of learning
- Innovative technologies in the form of digital modeling and fabrication
- Development of creativity, confidence, and communication skills
- Community engagement and social awareness: students are trained to think about broader societal challenges and to design interventions that contribute to alleviating such changes
- Internships amongst the most diversified in the kingdom at firms such as Foster & Partners, AECOM, Libeskind, etc.
- Focus on sustainability both in its broader conceptualization and in its practical and technical application
- Faculty are amongst the most diversified and currently represent North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia
Dr. Hana Motasim Mahmoud Ali
Assistant Professor

- EngD (Doctor of Engineering), Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, 2012
- MA, Human Settlements, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, 2006
- BSc. Architecture, University of Khartoum, Sudan, 2003

Dr. Ayse Yucel
Assistant Professor

- PhD, Architectural Design, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, 2011
- MSc, Architectural Design, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, 1991
- BArch, Architecture, Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, 1987

Dr. Abdulaziz Banawi
Assistant Professor

- PhD (Doctor of Philosophy in Civil Engineering), Construction Management and Sustainability, University of Pittsburgh, USA, 2013
- MSc, Construction Management, Florida Institute of Technology, USA, 2008
- MSc, Engineering Management, Florida Institute of Technology, USA, 2008
- BA. Architecture, King Abdulaziz University, KSA, 2003

Dr. Ahmed Alaidarous
Assistant Professor

- MSc, Architectural Conservation, Scottish Centre for Conservation Studies, University of Edinburgh, Britain, 2011
- BA. Architecture, King Abdulaziz University, KSA, 2007
Dr. Ammar A Naji  
Assistant Professor  
- PhD (Doctor of Philosophy), Urban & Regional Planning, University of Florida, USA, 2016  
- MBA, Leadership, University of Nebraska, USA, 2007  
- BA, Urban & Regional Planning, King Abdulaziz University, KSA  

Dr. Ahmed Baik  
Assistant Professor  
- PhD (Doctor of Philosophy), Geomatics Engineering, UCL, UK, 2017  
- MSc, Geospatial Information, RMIT University, Australia, 2011  
- BArch, Architecture, King Abdulaziz University, KSA, 2006  

Dr. Mostafa Sabbagh  
Assistant Professor  
- PhD (Doctor of Philosophy), Environmental Design, Building Science and Performance, University of Calgary, 2013  
- BArch, Faculty of Environment Design, King Abdulaziz University, KSA, 2003
OUR
FACILITIES

STUDIOS

LECTURE ROOMS

FACILITIES.

PRINTING LAB
Studios are considered the intellectual hubs of creativity, thought, discussion, and learning. Students are grouped in sessions led by instructors to discuss the possibility of creating solutions to design problems found in our cities and communities. Through desk reviews, peer reviews, and critiques, students are able to create, enhance, and improve architectural designs of different scales. Learning the basics of architectural thinking, and with the tools and facilities provided by the department, students individually develop their own design approaches and techniques. At Dar Al Hekma University, we follow a studio culture policy that follows that on the National Architectural Accreditation Board (NAAB).

**ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS**

**STUDIO PEDAGOGY**
We believe in the pedagogical benefits and purpose of a problem-based learning and learning by doing.

**STUDIO SPACE**
Our studio spaces promote interaction between students and faculty. It allows students to share, discuss, and learn from one another.

**STUDIO CULTURE**
Our faculty and staff are key to creating the predominating positive atmosphere that encourages students to question and experiment.

**STUDIO EXTENSIONS**
We consider our entire department an extension to the studios; our printing lab, model shop, and material room, as well as our pin-up corridors and student support space.
ARCH 6301 Urban Housing 3
ARCH 6302 Research Methods in Architecture & Urbanism 3
ARCH 6401 Integral Design Studio 4
ARCH 63XX Elective I 3
ARCH 6303 Sustainable Development & Green Architecture 3
ARCH 6304 Digital Modeling & Simulation 3
ARCH 6402 Sustainable Design Studio 4
ARCH 63XX Elective II 3
ARCH 6403 Thesis Research 4
ARCH 6305 Architecture & the City 3
ARCH 63XX Elective III 3
ARCH 6601 Project in Satisfaction of Masters Degree 6

Program of Study

Year One

Year Two

10 Credits

6 Credits
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARCE6301</td>
<td>Building Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCE6302</td>
<td>Advanced Material Technology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCE6306</td>
<td>Construction Systems &amp; Information Modeling</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCE6304</td>
<td>Environmental Psychology &amp; Human Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARCE6305</td>
<td>Architecture Heritage &amp; Conservation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARCE6303</td>
<td>Vernacular Architecture</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARCE6307</td>
<td>Building Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARCE6308</td>
<td>Real Estate Development</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARCE6309</td>
<td>Construction Management</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARCE6310</td>
<td>Integral Design Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Elective Courses**
I have always wanted to understand how things are put together, what happens after pen and paper.

Designing is important, but I am interested in understanding how to sell it. What defines economically successful architecture?

I am always fascinated by the buildings of Al Balad and the architecture of each region that has a character of its own.
ARCH 6301
Urban Housing
3 Credits

This course introduces the evolution of urban housing theory and practice. It examines the various factors that impact residential developments around the globe. The course also focuses on the environmental, technological, political, cultural and socio-economic dimensions of housing design and production. It also investigates numerous housing projects of various scales and evaluates the impact of these projects on their respective communities.

No pre-requisites

ARCH 6401
Integral Design Studio
4 Credits

This course addresses the concept of integral design as a comprehensive design strategy. It examines architectural precedents that assist in the production of innovative architectural design solutions and exhibits evaluations of the relevance of integrated systems within the built form using various assessment tools. This studio promotes the development of programmatic requirements in relation to the four integral domains of design; human, technology, ecology and culture, in their multiple levels of complexity.

No pre-requisites

ARCH 6302
Research Methods in Architecture & Urbanism
3 Credits

This course focuses on the research skills required for writing a Master level thesis. The course covers various research methods in architecture and urbanism and examines the ways used to write a comprehensive research proposal based on a thorough literature review. The course discusses the different methods of data collection and verification that support the development of a thesis.

No pre-requisites
YEAR ONE | SEMESTER TWO

ARCH 6303
Sustainable Development & Green Architecture
3 Credits

This course introduces the concept of sustainable development and the related role of green architecture. It discusses the natural resources constraints and the pressing needs for environmental protection. The course also highlights the link between economic development, environmental stability and social impartiality. It focuses on the significant role of green architecture principles and responsible design decisions in the production of environmentally sound buildings and humane urban environments.

No pre-requisites

ARCH 6402
Sustainable Design Studio
4 Credits

This course introduces advanced applied levels of the theory of sustainable design to studio projects. It incorporates emergent sustainable technologies into the design process and production. The course investigates the role of advanced building materials and construction methods in providing sustainable solutions. It assesses the local built fabric and proposes solutions that address the human, technological, economic, social, ecological and cultural domains of sustainable design.

No pre-requisites

ARCH 6304
Digital Modeling & Simulation
3 Credits

This course introduces a range of digital modelling and simulation tools for designing and assessing the built environment. It investigates different aspects of digital technology and its role in promoting creative architectural solutions. The course considers the incorporation of building information modeling in building performance simulation and optimization throughout the building lifecycle.

No pre-requisites
YE A R  T W O  |  S E M E S T E R  O N E

ARCH 6403
Thesis Research
4 Credits

This course focuses on the production of a comprehensive research thesis that addresses an architectural or urban challenges. It emphasizes the need to adopt a critical and analytical approach to the evaluation of a problem prior to proposing potential solutions.

ARCH 6302 Research Methods in Architecture and Urbanism

ARCH 6304
Architecture & the City
3 Credits

This course introduces the theoretical discourse on architecture and the city. It analyses the historical growth of urban form and discusses the role of the urban artefact in structuring the city. It also introduces the concepts of type and typology and explains their impact on architectural production in urban settings. The course explains the city as a physical manifestation of social, cultural, economic, and political conditions. It also draws particular attention to the different scales of interventions within cities focusing on the role of urban design, urban renewal and urban planning in re-shaping our cities today.

No pre-requisites
ARCH 6601
Project in Satisfaction of Masters Degree
6 Credits

This course focuses on the production of a comprehensive research thesis that addresses an architectural or urban challenges. It emphasizes the need to adopt a critical and analytical approach to the evaluation of a problem prior to proposing potential solutions.

ARCH 6403 – Thesis Research
ELECTIVE COURSES DESCRIPTIONS

ARCE 6301
Building Sciences
3 Credits

This course focuses on the integration of building sciences within architectural design practice with the aim of improving the energy efficiency of buildings. It discusses the application of new technologies in generating holistic architectural designs that satisfy multiple buildings’ performance goals. The course stresses the ecological importance of energy-conscious designs. It discusses the role of energy analysis and comfort assessment tools in designing efficient and highly-functioning interior environments.

ARCE 6302
Advanced Material Technology
3 Credits

This course focuses on major advancements in material technology and their application in contemporary architecture. The course covers the science of building materials and explores new developments in the production of sustainable and environmentally sensitive materials. It explores advanced technologies in the manufacturing, testing and application of materials. The course highlights the role of smart materials in energy-based applications.

ARCE 6303
Vernacular Architecture
3 Credits

This course focuses on vernacular architecture and discusses the manner in which it provides a material record of human values and communal practices. The course records the type of traditional dwellings and other structures built by different cultural ethnic groups in diverse geographic regions of the world. It also analyses the built environment as a reflection of the context within which it emerges. The course highlights the social, cultural, environmental and aesthetic qualities of vernacular architecture that may inform architectural design practice in the 21st century.
ARCE 6304
Environmental Psychology & Human Behavior
3 Credits

This course introduces the theory, research and methods in the field of environmental psychology and humans’ interaction with the built and natural environments. It focuses on environmental perception and knowledge and preferred environments concept. It discusses the problems of mental attention fatigues and restorative environments principles. The courses highlights the application of the human natures model on the issues of common property resource management and the psychology of sustainability.

ARCE 6305
Architecture Heritage & Conservation
3 Credits

This course provides comprehensive explanation of the global and local architectural heritage. It emphasizes the different values that people give to historic buildings and places. The course also highlights the role of heritage conservation in the modern ecological agenda. It examines case studies that explicate the properties of historical buildings and discusses numerous conservation techniques employed in their repair.

ARCE 6306
Construction Systems & Information Modeling
3 Credits

This course explores contemporary developments in construction systems and building technology. It introduces systems appropriate for the production of medium to large scale buildings. The course examines the optimization of different production and assembly processes and their impact on the overall efficiency of construction projects. The course examines the practical application of Information Modelling in the development and delivery of projects.
This course introduces the economics of a building’s lifecycle. It explains the financing of projects and discusses the diverse factors influencing design and building costs. It covers the various approaches to managing costs from initial project definition through to construction, delivery and use. The course also covers the various techniques utilized for project budgeting, cost estimating, and lifecycle cost analysis.

This course introduces the concept of real estate development within the global and local contexts. It discusses the impact of urban design and planning on improving real estate values. The course sheds light on the ways the different players in the construction industry can impact the production of the built environment. It explains the administrative processes, laws and regulations that govern real estate practice the course emphasizes the effects of micro and macro-economics on the property market.
ARCE 6310
Integral Design Theory
3 Credits

This course introduces the Integral Design theory, establishing a holistic framework for design thinking and application in architecture and urbanism. It focuses on the multiple levels of complexity and the importance of the four dimensions of the design process; human, technology, ecology and culture. The course emphasizes the egologic, technologic, ecologic and ideological overarching theoretical frameworks and their role in defining architecture.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- A complete application form
- A degree from an accredited / recognized post-secondary institution / university
- Official copies of transcript(s) and certificate(s) of undergraduate and/or graduate studies completed earlier (originals will be required for verification)
- 2 recommendation letters from previous professors.
- Letter of good standing
- Letter of intent / personal statement
- Four recent passport-size color photographs (hair must be covered)
- Photocopy of ID card (original required for verification)
- Photocopy of passport (original required for verification)
- Proof of work experience
- Curriculum vita (CV)
- No-objection letter from applicant employer
- Complete health record
Minimum GPA: 3.75/5

Paper-Based TOEFL: 550

Work Experience: 1 YEAR

Digital Format: Portfolio

Application Process:

1. Online Application
2. Portfolio (Digital Format)
3. Work Experience (1 YEAR)
4. Interview
5. Portfolio (Digital Format)

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APPLY NOW