THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG
Master of Architecture

1.   Applications are invited for admission in September 2019 to read for the degree of Master of Architecture. To be eligible for admission to the programme, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admission Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements as listed below:

(a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
(b) shall possess a **bachelor's degree** with honours of this University or another equivalent qualification from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
(c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to high degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b);
(d) shall satisfy the examiners in qualifying examination if required.

An application for exemption from the above requirements shall be considered on a case by case basis. Preference will be given to applicants with professional experience that has shaped their practical and intellectual capacity in a positive manner.

2.   The Master of Architecture (MArch) is a three-year full-time programme offered by the Department of Architecture. Built on the existing 2-year MArch, the 3-year MArch offers a path for qualified students from undergraduate programmes outside of architecture to pursue an architectural education. The 3-year MArch will operate on a mixed funding model consisting of both self-funded and UGC-funded places. **One year of advanced standing of up to a maximum of 60 credits may be granted by the Board of the Faculty to applicants who hold a Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies degree at this University; or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose.** Students who are granted with 60 credits of advanced standing can complete the program in two-year of study.

The two-year professional Master of Architecture degree is recognized by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), the Architects Registration Board of HKSAR (ARB), the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA), the National Board of Architectural Accreditation (NBAA) and the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The accreditation of the three-year Master of Architecture degree is pending for approval.

3.   The curriculum extends over three years of full-time study offering courses on the following: advanced structural systems, architecture and its discourses, core design courses, design and construction communication, design and technology of sustainable buildings, digital media and methods, history of modern architecture, introduction to building structures, pre-thesis seminar, principles of building, professional practice I & II and electives . The main feature of the curriculum is to enable students to acquire a broad range of skills in related fields, providing opportunities for student to keep pace with topical issues and to develop flexibility and mobility of thinking, coupled with a greater degree of initiative, innovation and self-reliance. The other feature is to place greater emphasis on project work congruent with the essential features of architectural professional practice and to closely link formal teaching to practice.

4.   Applications for a taught postgraduate programme can be submitted via our online application system at http://www.aal.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list-1920.

5.   The University Grants Committee (UGC) has ruled that non-local students admitted to UGC-funded UG and TPG programmes will be charged a higher than standard tuition fee. According to the UGC's definition, non-local students are:

Students holding –
   (a) Student visa / entry permit;
   (b) Visa under the Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates; or
   (c) Dependent visa, who are aged 18 years old or above before 1 September of the year of which they are admitted to relevant post-secondary programmes in Hong Kong,
   issued by the Director of immigration"..

Tuition fee for local students and non-local students will be subject to review on a per annum basis.

6.   MArch Applicant's Checklist
      Please submit the following via soft-copy and hard-copy by: <mark>12:00 noon (HKT), January 31, 2019</mark>

<mark>**(i) Soft-copy Submission**</mark>

☐ A portfolio with no more than 20 pages of creative work related to landscape orientation in PDF format. Proper credit and context must be given for all work related to author, collaborators, and professional office in which the work was completed or academic course and instructor for which the work was completed, where appropriate. A portfolio should be submitted via an online document submission system: https://extranet.ad.arch.hku.hk/Admission/MARCH/. The maximum file size is **30MB**.

☐ Two letters of reference, preferably one by previous teacher and one by professional employer. At least one academic reference is required. Referees should use and submit the designated form via an online referee report system: https://extranet.ad.arch.hku.hk/Referee/MARCH/. Referees should complete an online evaluation form in addition to submitting a signed soft-copy (PDF) letter of recommendation with their institutional/company letterhead.

☐ A written statement of interest (500 words maximum) should be submitted via an online document submission system: https://extranet.ad.arch.hku.hk/Admission/MARCH/. It should include the followings: -
(i) Describe why you want to attend the Master of Architecture Programme at HKU and identify specific aspects of the programme or the context of Hong Kong that have influenced your decision to apply; (ii) Describe an academic project or professional experience that has shaped the way you approach architecture or urbanism; and (iii) Identify a topic or architecture or urbanism that you would like to explore in greater depth in your graduate studies at HKU.

☐ Curriculum vitae (inclusive of publications and academic awards, if any) with a maximum length of 5 pages should be submitted via an online document submission system (Optional submission): https://extranet.ad.arch.hku.hk/Admission/MARCH/.

☐ A fully completed online application form available at http://www.aal.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list-1920.

☐ A non-refundable application fee of HK$300 should be made online at http://www.aal.hku.hk/tpg/programme-list-1920 by credit card (VISA or MASTERCARD only).

<mark>**(ii) Both Soft-copy and Hard-copy Submissions**</mark>

☐ Official transcripts of academic record and graduation certificate from your college or university showing degree earned or anticipated. If official transcripts are not available at the time of applications, progress transcript must be submitted. Other transcripts only for relevant courses. Please upload the transcripts to an online document submission system and send them to the Faculty of Architecture's postal address.

☐ Official scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or International English Language Testing System (IELTS) should be submitted to an online document submission system and sent directly by the Educational Testing Service. (if you have not been studying in the university in which the courses are taught in English). **Please note that the University's TOEFL code is 9671**.

<mark>**(iii) Hard-copy Submission**</mark>

☐   Proof of your identity (i.e. a copy of an identity card or a copy of a valid passport).

> Postal Address: Master of Architecture (Admission)
> Faculty of Architecture, Room 415, 4/F
> Knowles Building
> The University of Hong Kong
> Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong
> (Ref.: MArch)

*** Detailed soft-copy submission guidelines and login details will be sent to the applicants and referees respectively via email within one day upon completion of online application. It is crucial that the applicants have to input accurate information on their online application form. Any inaccurate information may cause email delivery failures and unavailable access to online submission systems.**

7.   Applicants shall be notified of their application results no later than August 15, 2019. If after this date, notification has not been received, please contact the Faculty Office at 2219 4923.

8.   Further information on the above programme can be viewed at: http://www.arch.hku.hk/.

18 October 2018

The following are some frequently asked questions raised by potential applicants:

1. What are the basic requirements for admission?

To be eligible for admission to the programme, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admission Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements as listed below:
(a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
(b) shall possess a **bachelor's degree** with honours of this University; or another equivalent qualification from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
(c) for a candidate who is seeking admission on the basis of a qualification from a university or comparable institution outside Hong Kong of which the language of teaching and/or examination is not English, shall satisfy the University English language requirement applicable to high degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b);
(d) shall satisfy the examiners in qualifying examination if required;
(e) submit all the required documents in forms of soft-copy and/or hard-copy before the application deadline.

2. How can I fulfill the University's English Language Proficiency requirement if the medium of instruction in my University is not English?

An applicant is required to obtain:
(a) a score of 550 or above (paper-based test) or 80 or above (internet-based test) in the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL; University TOEFL code: 9671) ; or
(b) a minimum overall band of 6 with no subtest lower than 5.5 in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

The score report of TOEFL/IELTS should be sent to our Faculty Office directly by the Educational Testing Service before the specified application deadline. Test scores obtained more than 2 years will not be accepted.

3. Is there any GPA requirement of my Bachelor degree?

There is no absolute GPA requirement set for the admission of our MArch programme. However, an applicant with good academic results will be more favorable to his/her application.

4. Is practical work experience essential for my application?

Practical work experience is not an essential requirement for admission.   However, preference will be given to those applicants with professional experience that has shaped their practical and intellectual capacity in a positive manner.

5. Will my application be rejected if the supporting documents can't be submitted before the application deadline?

Our admissions review panel will start to review the applications shortly after the application deadline. In addition, our submission systems will be closed immediately soon after the application deadline. Applicants are highly advised to submit all the supporting documents on time according to our instructions. Otherwise, the chance for admission will be definitely slim due to incomplete supporting documents.

6. Is there any interview required for the programme?

Starting from 2019 intake, shortlisted applicants may be invited for the admission face-to-face interview between February to July. For those applicants who are not residing in Hong Kong would be invited for skype/phone interview instead. The detailed interview arrangement would be sent to the shortlisted applicants via email.

7. What is the fee structure of the programme?

The exact composition fee for 2019-20 intake is yet to be confirmed. Below is the table for the estimated composition fee for 2019-20 intake:

UGC-funded places (fees paid in 4 installments during 2-year of study)	Local Students:	HK$84,550 inclusive of the caution money (HK$350)
	Non-local Students:	HK$322,350 inclusive of the caution money (HK$350)
Self-funded places (fees paid in 6 installments during 3-year of study)	Local & Non-local Students:	HK$600,350 inclusive of the caution money (HK$350)

Remarks: a) Non-local students are those that: Students holding –
    (a) student visa / entry permit;
    (b) visa / entry permit under the Immigration Arrangements for Non-local Graduates; or
     (c) dependent visa / entry permit who were 18 years old or above when they were issued with such visa / entry permit by the Director of Immigration.
 b) The composition fee is pending on the UGC's final decision and the University's announcement.		

8. What are the requirements to be accepted under UGC-funded places?

Applicants will be accepted under UGC-funded places with the below requirements:
a) who must hold a Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies degree at this University; or a qualification of equivalent standard from this University or another comparable institution accepted for this purpose;
b) who are approved by the Board of the Faculty for an advanced standing of 60 credits and allowed to complete the programme in 2 years.

9. Are there any scholarships available?

Those candidates who are successfully admitted to our MArch programme will have opportunities to be nominated to award the following scholarships/prizes:

HKIA Students Medal
Jardine / Henry Lo Scholarship
P & T Travel Scholarship
Professor KC Lye Design Prizes in Architecture
Rev. Fr.E Bruzzone Memorial Travelling Scholarship
Szeto Wai Architecture Scholarship
Wong Tung & Partners Scholarship

More details regarding the scholarship opportunities are available at http://www.scholarships.hku.hk/.

15 November 2018