

◆ Awarding Body	Ravensbourne
◆ Teaching Institution	Ravensbourne
◆ Final award	Master of Architecture (MArch)
◆ UCAS Code	n/a
◆ Relevant QAA Benchmark Statement	Architecture 2010
◆ Date of production/revision	May 2019

◆ **Programme Aims**

The MArch is the second qualification in the three Part architectural education sequence, as described in the QAA Subject Benchmark Statement for Architecture, and is thus embedded in a specific progression for students aspiring to become architects. The aim of the programme is to continue the education of these students at Part 2.

Of the 240 credits that comprise the MArch, 135 will be design based project work (more than the minimum half, required by the Subject Benchmark), and 105 taught and research* based study. Thus the course will aim to provide for the acquisition of an understanding of both the practical and theoretical aspects of architecture, as described in the ARB/RIBA Criteria for Architecture at Part 2, including the ARB/RIBA Graduate Attributes at Part 2, and including acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of defined aspects of the discipline, to the standards defined in FHEQ Level 7.

Student learning will cover the advanced study and analysis as well as the design of buildings in their contexts, the use of environmental and legal opportunities as well as existing and new technologies as design generators, current aspects of professional practice and the relationship of architecture to people and how they live and interact in work, culturally, socially and commercially in the context of contemporary and future society.

The MArch culminates in an integrated design project (CDT) as a celebration of the Department’s essential academic position – which is about the essence of building in specific physical and cultural settings. The pedagogic model is less about teaching as it is about engagement with specialists from the building professions, through a self-motivated process that prepares the student rigorously for practice.

This final year ‘thesis’ design is preceded by a year that introduces the student to research*-led design, a year of unpacking, rethinking, experimenting and discovering areas of specialised interest which may subsequently become distinctive characters of the student’s thesis. The year is supported by more ambitious skills workshops and is designed to establish a real distance between Part 1 and Part 2 - not based on any one area of specialism - but on a variety of developed approaches to learning and research* that equips the student to explore areas of design pertinent to their own aptitudes and interests. It is this ownership of the discipline, gained through more independent design research* at this level, that will make Part 2 graduates from Ravensbourne robust, reflective designers, adaptable and ready to contribute to the profession and the future challenges it faces.

**‘research’ as in GA2.4 of the ARB/RIBA Criteria for Part 2 and “research or advanced scholarship” in FHEQ Level 7*

Programme Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas:

Knowledge and Understanding

Students will have demonstrated learning outcomes which meet the standards set by the ARB/RIBA General Criteria GC2, GC3, GC4, GC5, GC6, GC7, GC8, GC9 and GC11 in the context of the **ARB/RIBA Graduate Attributes for Part 2 GA2.4 and 2.5 at FHEQ level 7** by showing:

- a deep and systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and new insights within the field of architecture and its interrelationship with other relevant disciplines. They will show knowledge of the different professions and agencies involved in creating sustainable cities, and appreciation the social, economic, environmental and political context, including the architect's role in the processes of procurement and building production, and under legislation.
- a comprehensive understanding of current theoretical and methodological approaches and how these affect the way knowledge is advanced through research to produce clear, logically argued and written work relating to architectural culture, theory and design

Skills

The students will have demonstrated learning outcomes which meet the standards set by the ARB/RIBA General Criteria GC1 and GC10 in the context of the **ARB/RIBA Graduate Attributes for Part 2 GA2.6 at FHEQ level 7** by showing:

- problem solving skills, professional judgment, and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances
- originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in architecture

Abilities

The students will have demonstrated learning outcomes which meet the standards set by the ARB/RIBA General Criteria GC1 to GC11 in the context of the **ARB/RIBA Graduate Attributes for Part 2 GA2.1, 2.2, 2.3 and 2.7 at FHEQ level 7** by showing conceptual understanding that enables them to:

- generate complex design proposals systematically and creatively showing understanding of current architectural issues, originality and sound judgement in the application of subject knowledge and, where appropriate, to propose and test new hypotheses and speculations in the absence of complete data;
- evaluate methodologies critically and apply a comprehensive range of visual, oral and written media including current research to test, analyse, critically appraise and explain design proposals clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act

autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level by evaluating materials, processes and techniques that apply to complex architectural designs and building construction, and to integrate these into practicable design proposals;

- identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required to prepare for qualification as an architect, continuing to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level

Skills (Transferable)

The students will have demonstrated that they can:

FHEQ 6:

- work as part of a team and also demonstrate self direction and originality
- manage independent study and deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, making sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences

FHEQ 7:

- exercise initiative and personal responsibility
- make decisions in complex and unpredictable situations
- learn independently as required for continuing professional development.

Learning and teaching methods

Primarily project based, this is supported by varied learning methods which will include as appropriate; project briefings, studio based lectures (staff and student-led) group seminars, technical or practical workshops, demonstrations, critiques, individual or group tutorials and self-directed study.

Learning is facilitated by appropriately qualified permanent teaching staff, sessional staff and visiting speakers who are practicing professionals and bring an industry perspective to the course. Traditional modes of delivery may be supported where appropriate by an e-learning and or resource based learning.

Contextual and theoretical learning are delivered both as an integral part of the project based units and separately in a progressive series of related theory units.

Assessment and Quality Assurance

Individual and group presentations, reports and essays and through their application in practical projects in a manner appropriate to each unit of delivery. Some units additionally require the submission of rationales, background research, development materials and/or evidence of reflection on the project process. See unit templates for specific assessment requirements.

Portfolio Review

The Portfolio Review takes place in the third term of the academic year after the final submission of work (but before the students are interviewed by the external examiners in the final year), and before the Assessment Board takes place. All the students are required to submit a portfolio containing all their summatively assessed submissions for that year (as well as assessed work submitted in previous years on the course). Each student is individually interviewed by at least two members of internal staff, the portfolio checked for completeness, and that the work has been assessed. Both student and the two staff members then sign a proforma that confirms the state of the portfolio's completeness for that year. In addition, at the end of their final year each individual student is interviewed by an external examiner who also reviews his/her portfolio, which contains all the assessed

submissions for the whole course. The external examiners then confirm the finally agreed assessments as well as compliance with the ARB/RIBA criteria in the terms described below, by signing a document to that effect and confirming this in the formal minuted Assessment Board. Attendance at both portfolio review and external examiner interview is mandatory. Any absences are reported to the Assessment Board, which then records all the absentee's submissions for that year as non-submissions.

Since each unit content itself complies with the ARB/RIBA criteria, as shown on the Compliance Schedule, the work submitted for assessment will be deemed to have complied with the criteria provided the submissions are complete, and have passed at 40% minimum.

The submissions are assessed at their summative deadlines during the academic year. Compliance with the deadlines is mandatory and no improved or enhanced submissions are re-assessed after the deadlines. If for any reason the portfolio is not complete at the portfolio review, the assessment for that part of the portfolio is reviewed and the assessment corrected to reflect the status of the portfolio. These summative assessments are then submitted for confirmation by the Assessment Board.

Quality Assurance

The course is part of the School of Design Assessment Board and Board of Studies, and is subject to normal processes and procedures for maintaining standards. These include the scrutiny of evidence provided in

- External examiner reports
- MIS data
- Staff Student Consultative Committee minutes
- Student evaluation of modules and programmes
- NSS results

This scrutiny includes the preparation of the Annual Course Monitoring and External Examiner Action Plans, which are presented at the Board.

Unit Specific Outcomes

- The learning outcomes cover the **ARB/RIBA Criteria for Part 2**.
- The **ARB/RIBA Criteria for Part 2** comprise the eleven EEC **General Criteria for Parts 1 and 2** plus the seven **Graduate Attributes for Part 2**.
- The **Graduate Attributes for Part 2** define the specific application of **FHEQ level 7** to the academic discipline of architecture at MArch (Part 2) level, and define the level to which the eleven **General Criteria for Parts 1 and 2** should be fulfilled.

These outcomes will be implemented in the units that comprise the programme as follows:

ARB/RIBA GENERAL CRITERIA FOR PARTS 1 AND 2

The general criteria will be studied in the following units:

ARB/RIBA Criterion	Units	Notes
GC1 - <u>Ability</u> to create architectural designs that satisfy both aesthetic and technical requirements.		
The graduate will have the <u>ability</u> to:		
1.1 prepare and present building design projects of diverse scale,	MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places	

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<p>complexity, and type in a variety of contexts, using a range of media, and in response to a brief;</p>	<p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>1.2 understand the constructional and structural systems, the environmental strategies and the regulatory requirements that apply to the design an construction of a comprehensive design project;</p>	<p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p> <p>MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology</p> <p>MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law</p>	
<p>1.3 develop 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</p>	<p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>GC2 - Adequate knowledge of the histories and theories of architecture and the related arts, technologies and human sciences. The graduate will have <u>knowledge</u> of:</p>		
<p>2.1 the cultural, social and intellectual histories, theories and technologies that influence the design of buildings.</p>	<p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice (FT)</p> <p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p> <p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p>	
<p>2.2 the influence of history and theory on the spatial, social, and technological aspects of architecture.</p>	<p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice(FT)</p> <p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p> <p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p>	

<p>2.3 the application of appropriate theoretical concepts to studio design projects, demonstrating a reflective and critical approach.</p>	<p>MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>GC3 - <u>Knowledge</u> of the fine arts as an influence on the quality of architectural design. The graduate will have <u>knowledge</u> of:</p>		
<p>3.1 how the theories, practices and technologies of the arts influence architectural design</p>	<p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice(FT)</p> <p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p> <p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p>	
<p>3.2 the creative application of the fine arts and their relevance and impact on architecture.</p>	<p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice(FT)</p> <p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p> <p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p>	
<p>3.3 the creative application of such work to studio design projects, in terms of their conceptualization and representation.</p>	<p>MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive design Thesis</p>	
<p>GC4 - <u>Adequate knowledge</u> of urban design, planning and the skills involved in the planning process The graduate will have <u>knowledge</u> of:</p>		
<p>4.1 theories of urban design and the planning of communities.</p>	<p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice(FT)</p> <p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p>	

	<p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>4.2 the influence of the design and development of cities, past and present, on the contemporary built environment.</p>	<p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice(FT)</p> <p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p> <p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p>	
<p>4.3 current planning policy and development control legislation, including social, environmental and economic aspects, and the relevance of these to design development.</p>	<p>MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>GC5 - <u>Understanding</u> of 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.</p> <p>The graduate will have an <u>understanding</u> of:</p>		
<p>5.1 the needs and aspiration of building users.</p>	<p>MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>5.2 the impact of buildings on the environment, and the precepts of sustainable design.</p>	<p>MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>5.3 the way in which buildings fit into their local context.</p>	<p>STUDIO: Making Places</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	

<p>GC6 - <u>Understanding</u> of the profession of architecture and the role of the architect in society, in particular in preparing briefs that take account of social factors. The graduate will have an <u>understanding</u> of:</p>		
6.1 the nature of professionalism and the duties and responsibilities of architects to clients, building users, constructors, co-professionals and the wider society;	MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
6.2 the role of the architect within the design team and construction industry, recognizing the importance of current methods and trends in the construction of the built environment;	MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
6.3 the potential impact of building projects on existing and proposed communities.	MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation	
<p>GC7 - <u>Understanding</u> of the methods of investigation and preparation of the brief for a design project. The graduate will have an <u>understanding</u> of:</p>		
7.1 the need to critically review precedents relevant to the function, organization and technological strategy of design proposals;	MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
7.2 the need to appraise and prepare building briefs of diverse scales and types, to define client and user requirements and their appropriateness to site and context;	MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
7.3 the contributions of architects and co-professionals to the	MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design	

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formulation of the brief, and methods of investigation used in its preparation.	Thesis MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
<p>GC8 - <u>Understanding</u> of the structural design, constructional and engineering problems associated with building design. The graduate will have an <u>understanding</u> of:</p>		
8.1 the investigation, critical appraisal and selection of alternative structural constructional and material systems relevant to architectural design;	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
8.2 strategies for building construction, and ability to integrate knowledge of structural principles and construction techniques;	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
8.3 the physical properties and characteristics of building materials, components and systems, and the environmental impact of specification choices.	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
<p>GC9 - <u>Adequate knowledge</u> of physical problems and technologies and the function of buildings so as to provide them with internal conditions of comfort and protection against the climate. The graduate will have <u>knowledge</u> of:</p>		
9.1 principles associated with designing optimum visual, thermal and acoustic environments;	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
9.2 systems for environmental comfort realized within relevant precepts of sustainable design;	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
9.3 strategies for building services, and ability to integrate these in a design project.	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology	

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	MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
<p>GC10 - <u>The necessary design skills to meet the building users' requirements within the constraints imposed by cost factors and building regulations.</u> The graduate will have the <u>skills</u> to:</p>		
10.1 critically examine the financial factors implied in varying building types, constructional systems, and specification choices, and the impact of those on architectural design;	MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
10.2 understand the cost control mechanisms which operate during the development of a project;	MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
10.3 prepare designs that will meet building users' requirements and comply with UK legislation, appropriate performance standards and health and safety requirements.	MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	
<p>GC11 - <u>Adequate knowledge of the industries, organizations, regulations and procedures involved in translating design concepts into buildings and integrating plans into overall planning.</u> The graduate will have <u>knowledge</u> of:</p>		
11.1 the fundamental legal, professional and statutory responsibilities of the architect, and the organizations, regulations and procedures involved in the negotiation and approval of architectural designs, including land law, development control, building regulations and health and safety legislation;	MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	
11.2 the professional inter-relationships of individuals and organizations involved in procuring and delivering architectural projects, and how these are defined through contractual and organizational structures;	MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	

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<p>11.3 the basic management theories and business principles related to running both an architect’s practice and architectural projects, recognizing current and emerging trends in the construction industry.</p>	<p>MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law</p>	
<p>ARB/RIBA GRADUATE ATTRIBUTES FOR PART 2 GA2 - With regard to meeting the eleven General Criteria at Parts 1 and 2 above, the Part 2 will be awarded to students who have:</p>		
<p>FHEQ Level 7 Master’s degrees are awarded to students who have demonstrated:</p>		
<p>GA2.1 ability to 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</p>	<p>MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	<p>Taught and tested in the design units that comprise the MArch. MP introduces advanced approaches and encourages the testing of new hypotheses and speculations, the CDT encourages their development and application to the architectural environment.</p>
<p>FHEQ 7 - a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice. - originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline - conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.</p>		

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<p>GA2.2 ability to evaluate and apply a comprehensive range of visual, oral and written media to test, analyse, critically appraise and explain design proposals</p>	<p>MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	<p>Taught and tested in the design units that comprise the MArch. MP introduces and encourages the use and trial of advanced communication and appraisal techniques, the CDT their application. All design projects are exhibited and verbally presented by the students to their assessors.</p>
<p>FHEQ 7 - conceptual understanding that enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline</p>		
<p>GA2.3 ability to evaluate materials, processes and techniques that apply to complex architectural designs and building construction, and to integrate these into practicable design proposals</p>	<p>MAR17704 STUDIO: Design Technology</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	<p>Taught in DT and tested in the final design unit of the MArch, the CDT. This is an integrated design unit, which requires a complex practicable design proposal, including the processes and technical aspects that lead to it.</p>
<p>FHEQ 7 - ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences - originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline</p>		
<p>GA2.4 critical understanding of how knowledge is advanced through research to produce clear, logically argued and written work relating to architectural culture, theory and design</p>	<p>MAR17701 STUDIO & THEORY: Research and Communications</p> <p>MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice(FT)</p>	<p>Taught, applied and tested in CP, RC, D and the CDT. In all methodologies of research and analysis are taught and practiced in set essays, the dissertation and the reflective report that accompanies the CDT.</p>
<p>FHEQ 7 - a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship - conceptual understanding that</p>	<p>MAR17707 HISTORY + THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice (PT)</p> <p>MAR17705 HISTORY &</p>	

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<p>enables the student to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline and to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.</p>	<p>THEORY: Dissertation MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	
<p>GA2.5 understanding the context of the architect and the construction industry, including the architect's role in the processes of procurement and building production, and under legislation</p>	<p>MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	<p>Taught in PML and applied in the final year design unit CDT. The two are synchronized so that the role of building procurement, practice management and law can be seen in relation to the design process.</p>
<p>FHEQ 7 - a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems, much of which is at the forefront of professional practice, - the ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences, - the ability to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level. - have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</p>		
<p>GA2.6 problem solving skills, professional judgment, and ability to take the initiative and make appropriate decisions in complex and unpredictable circumstances</p>	<p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	<p>Developed in the final design unit of the MArch. These skills are honed as a result of the onus placed on students to create their own</p>

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		design exercise and its parameters (to guidelines), and then to achieve it, overcoming difficulties on the way.
<p>FHEQ 7 - ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences; demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level - and will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility and decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations</p>		
<p>GA2.7 ability to identify individual learning needs and understand the personal responsibility required to prepare for qualification as an architect.</p>	<p>MAR17701 STUDIO & THEORY: Research and Communications</p> <p>MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis</p>	<p>Taught in R+C tested in the final design unit of the MArch, and in the Dissertation. In both the student chooses subject area, site and building type(s), and refines this with appropriate research.</p>
<p>FHEQ 7 - ability to demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level, and continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level - and will have the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</p>	<p>MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation</p>	<p>These units also represent the culmination of the Part 2 education process and require a clear understanding of the criteria required to achieve Part 2 and how those criteria contribute to qualification as an architect.</p>

◆ Reference Points - The following reference points were used in designing the programme;

FHEQ levels 6 and 7 Prescription of Qualifications: RIBA/ARB Criteria at Part 2 QAA Subject Benchmark Statement Architecture 2010

♦ Programme Summary

Code	Unit	Credit Value
MAR17707 (PT)	HISTORY & THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice	30
MAR17603 (FT)	HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice	30
MAR17701	STUDIO & THEORY: Research and Communications	15
MAR17702	STUDIO: Making Places	30
MAR17703	PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law	30
MAR17704	STUDIO: Design & Technology	15
MAR17705	HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation	30
MAR17706	STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis	90

The course will be structured using a modular system (known as ‘units’ at Ravensbourne). The MArch is an integrated masters course, as all ‘Part 2’ architecture courses, i.e. one 30 credit unit is at FHEQ level 6 and the other 210 credits are at level 7. Each unit will be separately assessed. As all units align with ARB Criteria (see above), all must be taken and passed before progression to the following year or completion of the course. The assessments of the final year units (MAR17706 Comprehensive Design Thesis and MAR17703 Practice Management and Law) will contribute to the final degree classification (pass, merit, distinction).

Progress through the course can be summarised as follows (please refer to the course diagrams):

Year 1 FT
Year 1 PT:

- MAR17701 (Level 7) STUDIO & THEORY: Research and Communications 15c
- Educates students at the start of the course in advanced academic investigative and communication methodologies, for use in the Contemporary Practice Essays/Studies, the Dissertation and the Reflective Report of the Comprehensive Design Thesis (CDT). Teaching delivery is mainly in lecture format
 - Assists students to plan the detailed curriculum at the start of the course – e.g. the essays/studies undertaken in the Contemporary Practice unit, subject for study in the Dissertation, the buildings to be designed in both the Making Places and CDT. Teaching delivery is in seminar format; this will give the learner a clear plan of how their study will progress over the whole course as well as a sense of ownership of its content and therefore confidence in the independence of self directed study
 - Additionally as part of the development of communication skills, new students will be oriented to their local context and each other by undertaking a group project; this is exploratory and experimental in nature, about ‘making’ with a view to understanding the relationship between design and realisation, and investigating contemporary

prototyping methods. It will make extensive use of the workshops to introduce a culture of physical model-making. It will set the character of the course in the light of its principal aim of educating its students to be designers of real artefacts.

MAR17702 (Level 7) DESIGN STUDIO: Making Places 30c

- Students explore innovative design approaches in complex unfamiliar contexts using new and contemporary construction technologies. Having completed Part 1, which for the most part is about learning the basics of spatial building design and the skills involved, students are given a research element in which they are invited to investigate, through design, how architectural design might address certain factors in certain urban contexts. Students are assigned an 'anchor' tutor who gives the principal design guidance.

MAR17704 (Level 7) DESIGN STUDIO: Design & Technology 15c

- This Unit will focus on construction technology in relation to the design project undertaken in the Making Places unit.

Year 1 FT

Year 2 PT:

MAR17603 (Level 6 (FT)) HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice 30c

- Students learn about contemporary approaches to architectural design, including consideration of the wider field of contemporary art and urban design, in order to familiarise students with the current culture of the profession in relation to the needs, legalities, and morals of the society it serves. Interventions from industry, mainly in the form of architectural practices explicating their work and how their designs are influenced by client and user typologies as well as contextual economic, legal, technological and sociological opportunities and constraints, would play a major role here. This is placed at the start of the course so that students can use this knowledge to inform their design projects in year 1, and mainly in year 2, as well as the Dissertation in the second half of year 1. Teaching delivery is lecture and seminar formats.

MAR17707 (Level 7 (PT)) HISTORY & THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice 30c

- Students learn about contemporary approaches to architectural design, including consideration of the wider field of contemporary art and urban design, in order to familiarise students with the current culture of the profession in relation to the needs, legalities, and morals of the society it serves. Interventions from industry, mainly in the form of architectural practices explicating their work and how their designs are influenced by client and user typologies as well as contextual economic, legal, technological and sociological opportunities and constraints, would play a major role here. Students can use this knowledge to inform their design project in year 3, as well as the Dissertation in the second half of year 2. Teaching delivery is lecture and seminar formats.

MAR17705 (Level 7) HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation 30c

- A 10,000 (+/- 10%) word essay on a subject of the student's choice, to approval. Using material learned in the Contemporary Practice unit as well as the Making Places and Design and Technology units, students plan what they will do for the CDT in FT Year 2 and PT Year 3, and choose a relevant aspect of it to research and write about using methodologies learned in the Communications unit. For teaching delivery students are assigned a tutor with appropriate knowledge of the chosen subject; seminars in which students present their topic to other students; and overall coordination and teaching of methodology continuing from the Communications unit.

Year 2 FT

Year 2 PT:

MAR17703 (Level 7) PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law 30c

- As well as the CDT, students are prepared for the business of the industry through the PML unit. It complements the CDT, and clarifies the relevance of PML to the design process, and prepares students for what they will encounter in practice as soon as they graduate. Teaching will be delivered mainly by lectures both by internal staff and appropriate professionals active in industry. This is a lecture and seminar based unit with input from built environment consultants, which will be synchronized with the Comprehensive Design Thesis, and will anticipate Part 3. It will cover aspects of contemporary practice in architecture, including: RIBA Plan of Work, RIBA Code of Professional Conduct, International Ethics Standards, Building Information Management (BIM), technical drawing layer conventions, professional contracts and frameworks, Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII), the economics and businesses of development practices and entrepreneurship, project procurement, office organisation, consultants and constructors, planning and building control, rights of light, building contract types, and business management.
- The unit concludes with students undertaking a substantial investigation to address current and near future issues concerning methodologies of project development and procurement within the systems of appointment in relation to demand and resource and skill availability.

Thus Year 1 FT and Years 1 + 2 PT prepare students in a variety of advanced and interconnected ways to undertake the complex CDT in year 2 and imbue it with knowledge and awareness of the theories behind it as well as the methodologies and needs of the profession.

Year 2 FT:

Year 3 PT:

MAR17706 (Level 7) DESIGN STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis (CDT) 90c

- Gives students the opportunity to prove that they can coordinate and integrate the multi-stranded factors and skills learned to date and required to produce the design of a building or group of buildings of medium complexity. This is the final academic design project architecture students do before registering as architects (after a final year of practice) and is regarded as a 'gateway' project. It is therefore student-led in the sense that students choose a building type(s) and site to approval, and procure a detailed building brief through research and feasibility studies using material learned in the Contemporary Practices unit. A theoretical theme, related to the Dissertation in year 1, forms part of this brief, and students are expected to explore how the building type might develop in the near future. The design process itself is complex, and so the project brief is carefully structured and split into Elements in relation to the RIBA plan of work to teach students the timing of prioritisations in that process. As well as spatially designing the building, students must demonstrate the ability to incorporate legal and technological factors, both strategically and in detail, using information from the Practice, Management and Law (PML) unit. Also, at this level, more intervention from industry occurs in the form of structural, environmental and constructional consultants, reflecting the real-world design process, as well as further talks from practices about how the detailed design of their buildings came about. Students are assigned an 'anchor' tutor who gives the principal design guidance, but further teaching delivery is by tutorial, seminar, critiques and lecture

by relevant internal and external staff as appropriate.

Thus the MArch as a whole will educate students to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences (**FHEQ 7**). It will enable them to demonstrate self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level. It will encourage them to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level. MArch holders will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility, decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations and the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development (**FHEQ 7**).

Modes

Offered in full time mode over two years and part time mode over three years.

Ravensbourne reserves the right not to offer, and to withdraw, a mode where a student cohort is of insufficient number to sustain a viable student experience and when other modes are available for completion.

◆ Distinctive features

Profession orientated

The MArch is an “integrated masters degree” containing both level 6 (30 credits) and level 7 (210 credits) units, as described in the Benchmark Statement, with learning outcomes aligned with the ARB Criteria for Part 2, as required for ARB prescription. The course is profession-orientated and will be taught by architects in professional practice alongside academic staff, and aimed at students who wish to qualify and practice as architects.

Interdisciplinary

The Department of Architecture at Ravensbourne takes a multidisciplinary approach to the design of the environment that positions Landscape and Interior Design alongside architecture in an innovative educational context that belongs both to the world of contemporary visual culture and design and the academic rigour of traditional professions. Two parallel MA courses, Interiors and Housing Design, are planned to complement the MArch and the current undergraduate provision.

Student Centred

This course combines art, philosophy, technology and ecology with an experimental approach to solve problems connected to the places where we live, work and relax. Its central interest is the design of buildings in their contexts. It equips the student to explore areas of design pertinent to the development their own aptitudes and interests.

◆ Recruitment and Admissions

Admission Policy/Selection Criteria

Entry Qualifications

Applicants to this graduate programme at Ravensbourne will

	<p>normally be expected to have achieved or be about to achieve either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a degree in a related discipline at lower second class honours or above <p>or:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an equivalent recognised international qualification in a related discipline <p><u>Portfolio</u></p> <p>Applicants may be asked to submit or bring to interview a portfolio of creative work or exemplars of professional work to demonstrate that they meet the entry criteria.</p>
<p>Accreditation of Prior Learning</p>	<p>Applications are welcomed from those who may not possess formal entry qualifications, mature students, those with work experience or with qualifications other than those listed above. Such applicants should demonstrate sufficient aptitude and potential to complete the course successfully. Applicants will be assessed at interview in accordance with Ravensbourne’s Accreditation of Prior Learning Policy and Procedure.</p> <p>It should be noted, however, that in order to eventually become an architect registered in the UK, candidates should have either a qualification from an ARB prescribed course at Parts 1, 2 and 3 as defined by the RIBA, or a letter from ARB confirming equivalent qualification at each Part.</p> <p>Where an applicant’s first language is not English, proof of competence in English will be required. This will normally take the form of an IELTS score of a minimum of 6.5 or equivalent (with a minimum of IELTS 6.0 in reading, writing, listening and speaking) which has been achieved within the last 18 months prior to commencement of the course.</p>
<p>Entry Requirements</p>	<p>Evidence by portfolio of student ability to minimum equivalent of a lower second RIBA/ARB Part 1 degree classification with 50% average minimum in final year design units/modules/projects. Equivalent undergraduate qualifications from related subject areas and from EU and overseas courses could also be considered. Completing 9 minimum - 12 maximum of the 24 months logged pre-Part 2 placement experience, as defined by the RIBA, required to register as an architect, is encouraged before starting the course for full time applicants. Entry is normally conditional, at the discretion of the admissions tutor, on having done this placement experience, but other experiential learning could also be acceptable.</p>

◆ MArch FT Course Diagram

Year 1		
Term 1	Term 2	Term 3
MAR17701 STUDIO & THEORY: Research & Communications 15c (wks 1 – 8)	MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places 30c (wks 9 – 30)	
	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design & Technology 15c (wks 9 – 30)	
MAR17603 HISTORY & THEORY: Contemporary Practice 30c (wks 1-15)	MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation 30c (wks 16-30)	

Year 2				
Term 1	Term 2		Term 3	
MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis 90c (wks 1 – 30)				
Element 1 10c	Element 2 15c	Element 3 15c		
MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law 30c (wks 1-15)			Element 4 35c	Element 5 15c

◆ **MARch PT Course Diagram**

Year 1	
Term 1	Term 2
MAR17701 STUDIO & THEORY: Research & Communications 15c (wks 1 – 8)	MAR17702 STUDIO: Making Places 30c (wks 9 – 30)
	MAR17704 STUDIO: Design & Technology 15c (wks 9 – 30)
MAR17707 HISTORY & THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice 30c (wks 1-15)	MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation 30c (wks 16-30)

Year 2	
Term 1	Term 2
MAR17707 HISTORY & THEORY: Advanced Contemporary Practice 30c (wks 1-15)	MAR17705 HISTORY & THEORY: Dissertation 30c (wks 16-30)
MAR17703 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES: Practice, Management & Law 30c (wks 1-30)	
<i>Attend lectures</i>	<i>Complete assignments</i>

Year 3				
Term 1		Term 2		Term 3
MAR17706 STUDIO: Comprehensive Design Thesis 90c (wks 1 – 30)				
Element 1 10c	Element 2 15c	Element 3 15c	Element 4 35c	Element 5 15c

Please note, this specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each unit can be found in the Course Handbook, Unit Descriptors and Project Briefs. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed by Ravensbourne and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.