



COLLEGE OF
**Architecture &
Urban Studies**

WHETHER you want to design buildings, industrial products, or interiors; explore studio and graphic arts; plan parks and pedestrian-friendly streetscapes; manage construction projects; direct public or non-profit organization programs; or manage cities, the College of Architecture and Urban Studies (CAUS) challenges you with a broad range of educational experiences that will help you develop into a highly sought-after professional.

The School of Architecture + Design has been recognized as one of America's World-Class Schools of Architecture with highest distinction, tied with Harvard, Yale, and Columbia Universities. The multidimensional ranking by Design Intelligence, the only national college ranking survey focused exclusively on design, is based on five criteria: current rankings by professional practices; historic 10-year rankings by professional practices; rankings by academic department deans and chairs; overall campus environment and student evaluations; and program accreditation. The individual programs within the School of Architecture + Design were also nationally ranked by Design Intelligence: undergraduate architecture, #2 (#4 for analysis and planning, #2 for communication skills; #2 for computer applications, #3 for construction methods and materials and #2 for design); graduate architecture, #6; undergraduate industrial design, #13 of 47 programs; undergraduate interior design, #9 of 148 programs; and graduate interior design, #6. In the School of Public and International Affairs, U.S. News and World Report ranks undergraduate public affairs #27 in the nation.

The programs within the college are diverse, yet they share a common goal—to prepare students to engage in and manage the human environment through the processes of art, design, construction, policy-making, planning, and management.

Students who wish to combine degree options within the college, or with related disciplines in the university, are encouraged to create a program of study best suited to their individual interests.

Majors:

- architecture
- art history
- building construction
- environmental policy and planning
- industrial design
- interior design
- landscape architecture
- public and urban affairs
- studio art
- visual communication
(graphic) design

HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION & ADMISSION TO THE COLLEGE

A challenging college preparatory curriculum is your foundation for success in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. Specifically, you must present a minimum of 18 units, and the breakdown of preferred courses depends on the individual program. Four units of English is a standard requirement. The university requires three units of math (including algebra II and geometry), but CAUS strongly recommends an additional unit of higher math. For building construction students, four units of math are required. Two units of social sciences (including history) are required, and

additional units are preferred for students majoring in public and urban affairs. Two units of lab science (chosen from biology, chemistry, or physics) are sufficient for most majors, but additional natural science courses, particularly in biology, are recommended for landscape architecture. The completion of two or three units in a foreign or classical language is recommended.

Architecture, interior design, industrial design, and landscape architecture (known as School of Architecture + Design majors) are highly competitive, restricted majors, and admission into the programs

is a demanding process, both at entrance from high school and as a transfer student.

Freshman applicants enrolled in a rigorous high school academic curriculum with a solid A average and a combined SAT (critical reading and math) score of 1200 or better or an ACT score of 26 or higher will be given preference in the admissions review process.

Transfer applicants have limited space in the School of Architecture + Design majors. Competitive transfer applicants will present A averages on all college-level work to be considered.

CURRICULUM & OPPORTUNITIES

The College of Architecture and Urban Studies offers ten undergraduate degrees: architecture, industrial design, interior design, studio art, art history, visual communication (graphic) design, building construction, landscape architecture, public and urban affairs, and environmental policy and planning. Both architecture and landscape architecture

are five-year professional programs.

In addition to on-campus programs, the college also provides opportunities for students to study in urban and foreign settings. The National Capital Region facilities in Alexandria, Va., including the Washington-Alexandria Center for Architecture, are ideal for students interested in urban issues.

The Center for European Studies and Architecture, located in the village of Riva San Vitale in southern Switzerland, provides perspective on culture and its influence on the way we plan, design, and build. Many other international travel programs also exist for students.



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Programs of Study



ARCHITECTURE

Architecture is a combination of artistic ideals, cultural forces, and physical facts. Our studio-based curriculum provides a learning environment that cultivates vigorous dialogue and debate, intellectual discipline, and a self-motivated search for architectural values.

The pedagogical goal of the architecture program is to develop students who are creatively independent, enterprising, and inventive, who have the ability to or-

der and structure intellectual difficulties, and the skills, judgment, and desire to make lasting contributions to society.

The five-year, professional degree program in architecture is accredited by the National Architectural Accreditation Board. Upon completion of degree requirements, the student receives a bachelor of architecture degree and is prepared to enroll in the Intern Development Program (IDP) while employed by

a licensed architect. Upon completion of the IDP, an intern architect is eligible to take the Architectural Registration Exam for licensure.

The architecture program is enriched by its relationship with industrial design, interior design, and landscape architecture. Together the four programs compose the School of Architecture + Design.

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MORE INFO

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Accredited by the American Council for Construction Education, this program combines the technical and managerial aspects of the construction industry. The required courses focus on construction, technical competency, and business. Students are also involved in team mentoring and leadership exercises. Upon completion of the four-year,

134-credit-hour curriculum, students receive a bachelor of science in building construction.

The program offers two track options wherein students take classes in structural, mechanical/electrical systems, engineering design, construction means, methods, building materials, real estate, and land development. Required courses

also cover topics in estimating and bidding strategies, planning and scheduling, construction procedures, financing, contracts, economics, company operations, and project management.

Graduates are prepared to pursue management, supervisory, and leadership positions in construction, development, homebuilding, and facilities professions.

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MORE INFO

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY & PLANNING

The bachelor of science in environmental policy and planning is a university-wide interdisciplinary degree focusing on one of the critical challenges facing society, managing human interaction with the natural environment while

protecting important natural systems.

Majors learn to apply the social sciences, planning, policy, the natural and physical sciences, ethics, and the humanities to environmental problem solving. In addition to receiving this grounding

in the liberal arts tradition, the curriculum provides pre-professional skills in oral and written communications, computer applications, planning and policy analysis, and problem solving to prepare students for meaningful employment.

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MORE INFO

INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

As described by the Industrial Designers Society of America, "Industrial Design (ID) is the professional service of creating and developing concepts and specifications that optimize the function, value and appearance of products and systems for the mutual benefit of both user and manufacturer.

Industrial designers develop these concepts and specifications through collection, analysis, and synthesis of data guided by the special requirements of the user, client, and manufacturer. They are trained to prepare clear and concise recommendations through drawings,

models, and verbal descriptions.

Industrial design services are often provided within the context of cooperative working relationships with other members of a development group. Typical groups include management, marketing, engineering, and manufacturing specialists. The industrial designer expresses concepts that embody all relevant design criteria determined by the group.

The industrial designer's unique contribution places emphasis on those aspects of the product or system that relate most directly to human characteristics, needs and interests. This contribu-

tion requires specialized understanding of visual, tactile, safety, and convenience criteria, with concern for the user. Education and experience in anticipating psychological, physiological, and sociological factors that influence and are perceived by the user are essential industrial design resources."

The internationally recognized program at Virginia Tech, fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design, prepares individuals to enter this dynamic field through a rigorous curriculum and interaction with an experienced, dedicated faculty.

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MORE INFO

INTERIOR DESIGN

The interior design program offers a four-year professional degree program in interior design accredited by the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ). Students receive a bachelor of science in interior design, which is the first step in preparation for taking the NCIDQ exam and membership in professional organizations.

Practical studio experience builds competencies in fundamental design, materials, finishes, lighting, computer-aided design, historical interiors, professional practice, interior construction, space planning, programming, and communication skills. Most students also take field study in interior design to acquire work experience before graduation. The

program requires students to maintain a minimum grade point average to continue in the program.

Graduates obtain employment in architectural and design firms, corporations, and institutions as interior designers, space planners, and in other related design positions.

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