

Master of Science in Sustainable Building Technology

About This Program

The Master of Science in Sustainable Building Technology is a post-professional degree that answers a need for practitioners in diverse fields to have a comprehensive understanding of sustainable building technology. The program provides a curriculum for the strategic intersection of energy efficient building design and sustainable building technologies. Students in this program will gain expertise in three primary areas:

- Advanced design of building system integration
- Advanced environmental system design
- Advanced performance-based design

Additional courses are available to support areas of advanced study and research.

The program is intended for graduates and practicing professionals with professional degrees in the following fields:

- Architecture
- Landscape architecture
- Interior Design
- Historic preservation
- Urban design
- Environmental planning
- Industrial design
- Civil engineering
- Architectural engineering
- Environmental engineering
- Construction management

The MS in Sustainable Building Technology does not lead to architecture licensure. Students seeking professional licensure should pursue the School of Architecture's accredited Master of Architecture degree.

Competencies

1. Upon completion, students will be capable of advanced design of building system integration.
2. Upon completion, students will be capable of advanced environmental system design.
3. Upon completion, students will be capable of advanced performance-based design.

Admissions Criteria

- Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate School and the College of Architecture Planning and Public Affairs.
- Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited institution in one of the professions or fields of study listed below:
 - A five-year Bachelor of Science in Architecture (BArch)*
 - A five- or six-year National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)-accredited professional degree in architecture (BArch or MArch)
 - A four- or five-year Council for Interior Design Accrediting Board (CIDA)-accredited professional degree in interior Design
 - A four- or five-year Bachelor of Landscape Architecture or Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture degree; or a master's degree in Landscape Architecture. All degrees must be from programs accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board.
 - A Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design
 - A Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Planning
 - A Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering
 - A Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering
 - A Bachelor of Science Construction Management
- A personal interview with the Director, Graduate Advisor or members of the landscape architecture faculty is strongly recommended.
- Three letters of recommendation are required, and it is suggested that at least two of the letters come from former educators or academic contact. Letters of recommendation should be sent directly via email to cappa.advising@uta.edu (%20cappa.advising@uta.edu) or by postal service, to: CAPPA Program – Master of Sustainable Building Technology (MSBT), Box 19108, Arlington TX 76019.

- Applicants also are required to submit scores from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE). Average GRE scores of successful applicants since 1998 have been approximately 550 Verbal and 550 Quantitative.
- Also required is a grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 as calculated by graduate admissions.
- Applicants holding first professional degrees in landscape architecture, or in some cases degrees related to landscape architecture (such as architecture, engineering, environmental design, horticulture, interior design, planning, and the like) are required to submit portfolios reflecting the applicants' professional and/or academic experiences and interests. Portfolios are assessed according to proficiency in design, presentation and layout, technical skills, and content, similar to criteria used in design studios.
- Applicants who have a weakness in one of the criteria for admission can enhance their credentials with strengths in the remaining criteria.

Applicants whose native language is not English who do not meet the program's minimum TOEFL score, may be asked to complete extramural training in English through the Pathways Admission Program described in the Admission section of this Catalog.

UNCONDITIONAL ADMISSION

Applicants meeting all the above mentioned criteria are eligible for unconditional admission.

PROVISIONAL ADMISSION

An applicant unable to supply all required documentation prior to the submission deadline but who otherwise appears to meet admission requirements may be granted provisional admission. All missing documentation must be received before the end of the first semester of study.

PROBATIONARY ADMISSION

Those who have weaknesses with respect to letters of recommendation, GRE scores, and GPA can be admitted on probation, with the condition that they make no less than a B in the first 12 hours of coursework in landscape architecture. Such students must complete no fewer than 9 credits during the semester in which they are on probation.

DEFERRED ADMISSION

Those who have weaknesses with respect to letters of recommendation, GRE scores, and GPA and/or who have not submitted all of the materials required for unconditional admission, may have their applications deferred for one semester, until outstanding requirements and criteria are met. A deferred admission may be granted when a file is incomplete or when a denied decision is not appropriate.

DENIAL OF ADMISSION

Candidates who do not satisfy the requirements for probationary admission will not be admitted.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION

In addition the above-listed requirement, applicants whose native language is not English must have a demonstrated speaking ability in English. They also present a minimum required score of 575 on the paper exam, or an equivalent score on the computer based- or internet-based tests, on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). International applicants who do not meet the Program's minimum TOEFL score, must complete extramural training in English, as approved by the Program and the Office of Graduate Studies.

WAIVER OF GRADUATE RECORD EXAM (GRE)

A waiver of the Graduate Record Exam may be considered for a UT Arlington undergraduate who has completed an undergraduate degree in Architecture or Interior Design; the student's GPA must equal or exceed 3.50 in all undergraduate coursework completed at UT Arlington. The GRE waiver may also be extended to other UT Arlington undergraduates who have completed an undergraduate degree at UT Arlington; the student's GPA must equal or exceed a 3.50 in all undergraduate coursework completed at UT Arlington. The final decision to waive the GRE also requires a positive review of completed coursework by the graduate advisor to determine the applicant's readiness to study Architecture.

GRADUATE TEACHING/RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

To be considered for a Graduate Teaching or Research Assistantship, the candidate must be admitted unconditionally. In order to be eligible for teaching assistantships, students whose native language is not English, must complete extramural training in English as approved by the Program and the Office of Graduate Studies, score of 23 on the TOEFL-iBT Speaking subtest or score a 7.0 on the Speaking portion of the IELTS.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

To be considered for fellowships or scholarship (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/cappa/admissions/scholarships/>) the candidate must be admitted without provisional conditions and have a favorable review in most of the evaluation criteria. Fellowships and scholarships in architecture are limited and very competitive. Generally, candidates must be new students coming to UT Arlington, must have a GPA of 3.0 in their last 60 undergraduate credit hours and any graduate hours, and must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 hours in both long semesters to retain their fellowships or scholarships.

Curriculum

Foundations

ARCH 5320	PERFORMANCE-BASED DESIGN IN ARCHITECTURE	3
ARCH 5326	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL SYSTEMS II	3
ARCH 5332	ENERGY USE AND CONSERVATION IN ARCHITECTURE	3
ARCH 5357	BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING & VISUALIZATION	3
ARCH 5368	GREEN DESIGN + CONSTRUCTION	3
ARCH 5695	TOPICS IN ARCHITECTURE	6

Elective Courses

Select 3 from the following: 9

Architecture Options

ARCH 5321	ADVANCED COMPUTER APPLICATIONS
ARCH 5323	CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS AND METHODS
ARCH 5338	CODES AND REGULATIONS
ARCH 5339	DIGITAL FABRICATION METHODOLOGY
ARCH 5347	DIGITAL TECTONICS & PROTOTYPING
ARCH 5367	HIGH PERFORMANCE FACADE SYSTEMS
ARCH 5395	TOPICS IN ARCHITECTURE

Engineering Options

CM 3331	MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS
CM 3337	CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND ECONOMICS
CM 5355	CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS
CM 5378	CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS, SPECIFICATIONS, & ADMINISTRATION
CM 5382	CONSTRUCTION SUSTAINABILITY

Total Hours 30

SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

First Year

Fall Semester	Hours	Spring Semester	Hours
ARCH 5332		3 ARCH 5326	3
ARCH 5357		3 ARCH 5368 (Green Design + Construction)	3
ARCH 5320		3 ARCH 53xx (Elective)	3
		9	9

Second Year

Fall Semester	Hours	Spring Semester	Hours
ARCH 53xx (Elective)		3 ARCH 5695 (topic specific)	6
ARCH 53xx (Elective)		3	
		6	6

Total Hours: 30

Program Completion

A student may be subject to dismissal from the program if they accumulate 4 deficiency points during their program of graduate study. Students who complete a Master's degree at CAPPA will not carry deficiency points into their PhD work. Deficiency points may not be removed from a student's record by repeating a course or additional coursework.

D = 2 deficiency points

F = 3 deficiency points

I = 1 deficiency point

W = 0.5 deficiency point

A student whose cumulative GPA falls below a 3.0 in courses taken while enrolled as a UT Arlington graduate student may be subject to dismissal from the program (<https://catalog.uta.edu/archives/2025-2026/academicregulations/academicstanding/#graduatetext>).

Advising Resources

The College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs (CAPPA) at UT Arlington equips students with skills and knowledge to address real-world challenges in design, public policy, and research. Our Advising Office supports academic and career success. Explore our Future Students page to connect with an Academic Advisor and shape your future.

Location:

203 CAPPA Building

Email:

cappa.advising@uta.edu

Phone:

817-272-2801

Web:

General advising (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/cappa/general-advising/>)

Future students (<https://www.uta.edu/academics/schools-colleges/cappa/admissions/>)