

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE (DESIGN)
[MArch (Design)]**

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

(These regulations are applicable to candidates admitted in the 2019-20 academic year and thereafter)

Any publication based on work approved for a higher degree should contain a reference to the effect that the work was submitted to the University of Hong Kong for the award of the degree.

Admission requirements

MAR1

To be eligible for admission to the degree of Master of Architecture (Design), candidates

- (a) shall comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- (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 higher degrees as prescribed under General Regulation G2(b); and
- (d) shall satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

Qualifying examination

MAR2

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test candidates' formal academic abilities or their abilities to follow the prescribed courses. It may consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a project report.
- (b) Candidates who are required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until they have satisfied the examiners in the examination.

Period of study

MAR3

The curriculum shall normally extend over three academic years of full-time study with summer semesters after the Second Year. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of five academic years of full-time study, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of the Faculty.

Completion of curriculum

MAR4

To complete the curriculum, candidates

- (a) shall satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG 6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- (b) shall enrol for courses of not less than 204 credits (the normal load per semester being 30-36 credits and the normal load of the Second-Year summer semester being 12 credits) in the manner

specified in these regulations and the syllabus;

- (c) shall follow instruction in the courses prescribed and complete satisfactorily all coursework set either as assessment tasks or practical work;
- (d) shall satisfy the examiners in all assessment tasks as may be required;
- (e) shall pass all core courses; and
- (f) shall pass nine elective courses with at least one elective course under the History and Theory category and enrol in no more than two elective courses in any of the categories:

- I: History and Theory
- II: Urbanisation and Habitation
- III: Technology and Sustainability
- IV: Digital Media and Fabrication
- V: Practice and Management

Subject to approval by the Head of Department, candidates may take courses offered by other taught postgraduate curricula in the Faculty of Architecture to fulfil the elective course requirements.

Assessment

MAR5 Candidates shall be assessed for each of the courses for which they have registered, and assessment may be conducted in any one or any combination of the following manners: written examinations or tests, written assignments or exercises, continuous assessment of performance, laboratory work, field work, research, practical work or project reports, or any other manner as determined by the examiners.

Grading system

MAR6

Individual courses shall be graded according to the following grading system as determined by the Board of Examiners:

‘Distinction’, ‘Pass’ or ‘Fail’.

Failure in assessment

MAR7

The following clauses apply to candidates of all years:

- (a) Candidates who have received a passing grade in a core design course (i.e. Design 9-14) in any semester:
 - (i) but who fail on the first attempt in not more than one other core course in any semester may be permitted to present themselves for re-assessment in the same course before the commencement of the next academic year. Those who fail in the second attempt shall be permitted to proceed to the subsequent semester of the curriculum and to present themselves for re-assessment in the same course only once more in the following academic year;
 - (ii) but who fail in more than one other core course in any semester on first attempt shall not be permitted to proceed to the subsequent semester and shall be required to repeat all or part of that year’s curriculum and to present themselves for re-assessment in the following academic year. If they fail again on second attempt, they may be permitted to present themselves for re-assessment only once more before the commencement of the following academic year.
- (b) Candidates who have received a failing grade in a core design course (i.e. Design 9-14) in any

semester shall not be permitted to continue to the next semester and must be required to repeat the course and not be allowed to take any other courses, exclusive of elective course(s).

- (c) Candidates who have failed one or more elective course(s) in their first attempt may be required to enrol in the same or an alternate elective course(s) in the following year to make up for the failed course(s). Candidates failing in elective course(s) will not normally be offered an opportunity for re-assessment without re-enrolment in the same or an alternate elective.
- (d) Candidates who have failed in any course at the third attempt shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies under the provisions of General Regulation G12.
- (e) Candidates who have exceeded the maximum registration period shall be recommended for discontinuation of studies.

Assessment results

MAR8

On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded in the candidates' degree diploma.

(Revised on 20 October 2020)