

Aptitude Exercise for Admission to the BA(AS) Program

Department of Architecture, The University of Hong Kong

Timeframe

From December 15th 2022 (available 12:00 noon, Hong Kong Time)
Until December 31st 2022 (upload deadline 12:00 noon, Hong Kong Time)

Introduction

The Aptitude Exercise is intended to register your ability to think conceptually, analytically, and creatively. We expect candidates to be able to communicate with precision, clarity and originality through writing, imagery and making. Note that there is no correct or incorrect way to complete the exercise. You are encouraged to respond to the problem in a personal and creative way. You are equally encouraged to respond thoughtfully, with clarity and precision.

Submission Requirements

The Aptitude Exercise will be structured as two questions, each requiring its own page in the submission. Each page will require three responses in the form of a description. The submission must be uploaded by 12:00 noon, December 31st 2022, using the uploading tool found on this page. Please be aware of the below requirements:

- the PDF should be no larger than 100MB
- the submission must be a two page PDF (one file, two pages)
- you must indicate your application number at the top right corner of the first page
- the work included in the Aptitude Exercise must be conceived by the applicant alone

Applicants do not need to post a hardcopy of their work to the Faculty of Architecture but you will be asked to bring a hardcopy of the submission for discussion if selected for an interview.

Media and Format

You may use any media and work in any format. However, we recommend that you choose your media and format based on your ability and interest. The Aptitude Exercise is an opportunity to exhibit your ability to make and to visualize as a way to respond to questions. You may resort to illustration, painting, collage, montage, photography, diagramming, measured drawing, physical models, paper folding, sculpting, etc. Your responses may also include some supporting text.

First Question (Page 1)

This year, the Aptitude Exercise asks you to reflect on an event which, in your opinion, negatively impacted the built environment in your city. It can be a current event or one in the recent past, for which you have a personal recollection. The event can be considered large or small, global or local and its impact individual or collective. Through your selected media and format please describe:

1. the scope and quality of the built environment **before** the event
2. how the event unfolded and began affecting the built environment **during** the event
3. how the built environment was changed or transformed **after** the event reached a resolution

Second Question (Page 2)

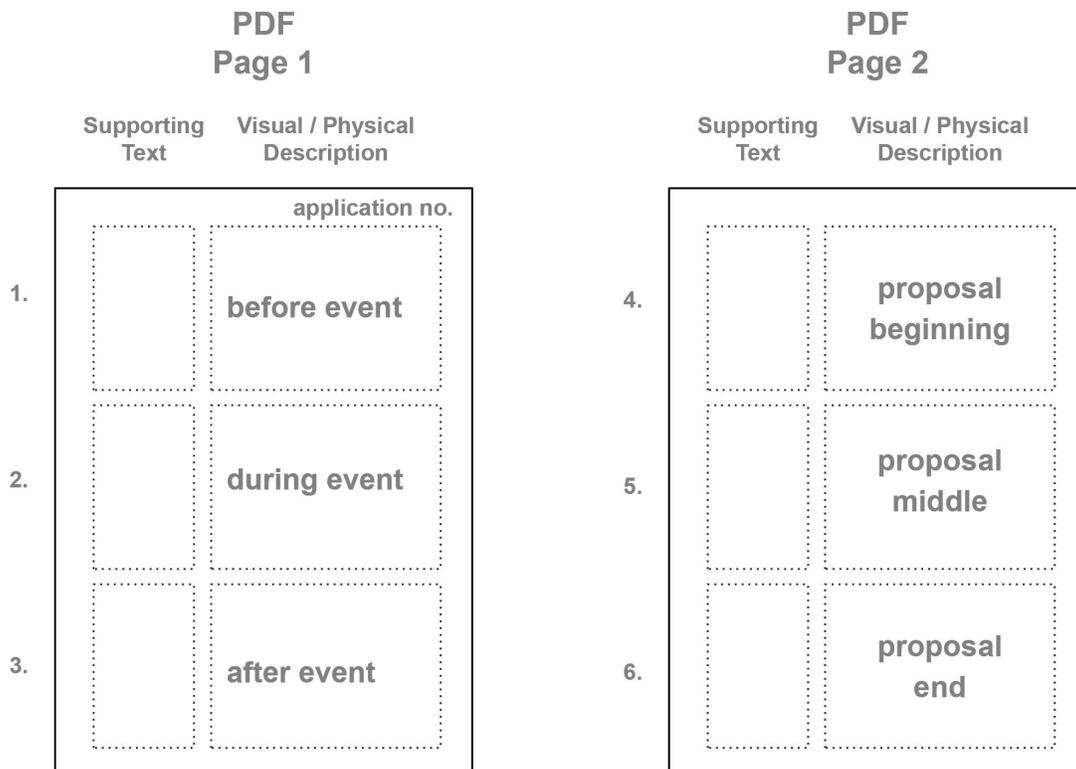
We will work with the assumption that we can create positive change by acting on our built environment. We will also work under the assumption that any resources needed to implement a proposal are at our disposal. The assignment asks you to think critically about how you would transform your built

environment to either solve the problems the aforementioned event created or prevent the event from happening again. You are free to propose something large (urban) or small (installation). You are free to consider a short (weeks) or long term (years) response. Through your selected media and format please describe how the proposal would be phased and implemented through time (at three different stages).

4. proposal **beginning**
5. proposal **middle**
6. proposal **end**

Submission Layout

The submission is structured as a two page A4 portrait PDF, each page intended to contain three descriptions (from top to bottom) in response to the questions outlined above. The format allows you to create a sequence, make an argument and/or create relationships using the six descriptions available to you. The pages together should create a coherent argument starting with your observations and concluding with your proposal.



Notes

- when submitting physically constructed outputs (like models) as descriptions, please take a photograph (with adequate lighting) and insert into the appropriate window on the sheet.
- hand-made drawings, paintings and collages may be scanned.
- you may add supporting text (20 words per description max.) to the left of the image / photo.
- you are free to rework the proportions of the layout as long as you are able to include the required six descriptions into two portrait A4 sheets

Queries

If you have questions these can be addressed by email at baasadmi@hku.hk