GRADUATE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

DEGREE: Ph.D in Planning, Design and Construction

Total Hours Required: 90

Architecture Concentration

- Core PDC Courses
  PDC 6013: History and Theory of Planning, Design, and Construction
  PDC 6023: Research Methods

- Core- Guided Architecture Concentration
  * With assumption that Ph.D. students will enter with a masters in architecture, a selection of three of the following courses.
    - ARCH 5083: Advanced Architectural Computer Application
    - ARCH 6013: Advanced Seminar in the History and Theory of Urban Design
    - ARCH 6133: Sustainable Design Analytics
    - ARCH 6143: Theory of Sustainability
    - RCPL 5463: Computer Mapping and GIS
    - GEOG 6953: Research and Writing in Geography

- Concentration- Guided
  (Includes dissertation credits)

Total Required Hours: 58 hours

* A maximum of 44 Hours from a previously earned Master’s Degree may be applied subject to approval by the Graduate Program Coordinator and Graduate College.

Core Courses-Required for all PhD students

These courses are designed to be completed by all candidates in their first two years of study and prior to the General Examination.

PDC 6013: History and Theories of Planning, Design and Construction
Prerequisite: graduate standing and permission. A team-taught course that involves an exploration of the events, phases and evolution of planning, design and construction; review of historical developers, city planners, designers and contractors and the contributions/impacts they have had on the professions and marketplace; and an exploration of the future based on the past.

PDC 6023: Research Methods
Prerequisite: graduate standing and permission. An exploration of discipline-based qualitative and quantitative research methods; development of the dissertation research plan and support documentation; application for funding for the dissertation project where possible.

Admission

Students will be admitted annually in the Fall semester. The College of Architecture admission criteria are as follows:

- Completion of a Master’s degree in a related field is normally required, but outstanding candidates with Bachelor’s degrees may be admitted into a program that incorporates the required credit hours for the Master’s degree before proceeding into the Ph.D. Program.
- Official transcripts of previous degrees.
- A cumulative grade point average for the last degree earned of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- A minimum TOEFL/IELTS score of 90/7.0 respectively for candidates whose first language is not English.
- A minimum score of 155 on both the verbal and quantitative components of the GRE
- A curriculum vitae.
- A letter of intent describing the proposed area of study.
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Academic writing samples. For students considering design-based studies, in addition to academic writing samples we strongly recommend submission of a portfolio illustrating academic or professional design works.
Candidates will be evaluated based on stated research interests, availability of faculty to guide the candidate’s research and the potential value of the research. Once admitted to the program, the student’s progress towards the degree will be evaluated annually under the existing Graduate College and College of Architecture guidelines for graduate students. In addition to their coursework, after their first year students will be expected to present at least one paper each year related to their research interests at a national or regional conference.

**Admission, Advising and the Advisory Committee**

All admission materials are to be directed to the Program Coordinator. They are responsible for communicating with the Graduate College on Admission, Student Progress, and ordering of required paperwork, e.g. General Exam Defense Forms, Dissertation Defense Forms, etc.

The Coordinator will work with Division Graduate Liaison’s on admission decisions, as the students will be "housed" with one division. Each Division will have to create a system for making decisions on admissions. The Coordinators role is to make sure applications are complete and meet Graduate College requirements.

The Program Coordinator will act as Advisor during the student’s first semester on campus with a formal advisory committee consisting of the Program Coordinator, Graduate Liaison of the unit the student is assigned and one other College of Architecture faculty member chosen by the Coordinator and Graduate Liaison. Note that this is not the final Advisory Committee or dissertation committee, merely a committee to advise students prior to completing their Advisory Conference Reports, which requires the student to formally identify their dissertation committee members.

**Residency**

The minimum residency requirement is four semesters, not including summer semesters.

**Milestones**

Receipt of a Ph.D. requires the following:

- Completion of the University Library’s Academic Tutorial on Plagiarism with results on file with Program Coordinator within two weeks of initial enrollment
- Successful completion of all coursework including the six credit core requirements and concentration requirements as listed above while maintaining an overall 3.0 GPA

  * Upon completion of 18 credit hours (end of first year) a Program Statement detailing preliminary research areas and how the student’s planned courses allow for mastery of subject area
  * Upon completion of 36 credit hours (end of second year) prepare and defend a research paper which the Advisory Conference Committee considers suitable for a journal submission

- Completion of Advisory Conference Report
- Successful Defense of a General Exam (Three sections including Research Methods, History and Theory of PDC and a Topical area exam representing the primary research area(s) of the student including an oral defense of all written material)
- Preparation and defense of dissertation proposal prior to enrollment in dissertation hours
- Requirement of one research-based submission to a journal considered appropriate by the Advisory Conference Committee
- Completion of dissertation

**Timeline**

Year One-Two: Completion of core and concentration coursework as well as any prerequisites (masters level courses), Completion of Program Statement and Advisory Conference Report, Prepare research paper which the Advisory Conference Committee considers suitable for a journal submission

Year Three: Complete coursework, Prepare for and defend General Exams, Develop and defend Dissertation proposal

Year Four: Enroll in dissertation hours and defend dissertation

**Dissertation Committee and Chair**

The Dissertation committee must consist of five members, with at least one member from outside of the Unit. The Chairperson of the Committee must have M3 status as granted by the Graduate College.