



جامعة أم القرى
UMM AL-QURA UNIVERSITY

College of Engineering and Architecture
Department of Architecture

Plan - 47

Diploma Supplement

Architecture and Planning Programme
(Architecture Track)

DIPLOMA SUPPLEMENT

1 INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE HOLDER OF THE QUALIFICATION

1.1 Family name(s):

1.2 Given Name(s):

1.3 Date of birth (day/month/year):

1.4 Student identification number:

2 INFORMATION IDENTIFYING THE QUALIFICATION

2.1 Name of the qualification and (if applicable) title conferred (in original language):

بكالوريوس العمارة والتخطيط (العمارة)
Bachelor of Architecture and Planning (Architecture) *

2.2 Main field(s) of study for the qualification:

Architecture and planning

2.3 Name and status of awarding institution (in original language):

جامعة أم القرى - كلية الهندسة والعمارة - قسم العمارة
Umm Al-Qura University, College of Engineering and Architecture, Department of Architecture

2.4 Name and status of institution (if different from 2.3) administering studies (in original language):

Same as 2.3

2.5 Language(s) of instruction/examination:

Arabic/ English

3 INFORMATION ON THE LEVEL OF THE QUALIFICATION

3.1 Level of qualification:

Bachelor's Degree

3.2 Official length of programme:

5 years (10 regular semesters) including a cooperative training module which takes place over the summer and continues through the first semester of the 5th year.

3.3 Access requirements(s):

High school certificate or its equivalent, and any other requirements specified by the University Council.

4 INFORMATION ON THE CONTENTS AND RESULTS GAINED

4.1 Mode of study:

Full-time

4.2 Programme requirements:

The Degree is awarded to students who have successfully completed all courses in the curriculum and have obtained cumulative GPA of at least 2.0 on scale 1-4. A description of the academic career, the acquired competences and the achieved learning outcomes are illustrated in page 2 & 3.

4.3 Programme details: Please refer to page 2 -5

4.4 Grading scheme and grade distribution guidance:

Percentage Grade	Grade Meaning	Latter Grade	Grade Points	Percentage Grade	Grade Meaning	Latter Grade	Grade Points
95-100	Excellent+	A+	4.00	60-64	Satisfactory	D	1.00
90-94	Excellent	A	3.75	< 60	Fail	E	0.00
85-89	Very good+	B+	3.50	0.00	Debarred	DE	0.00
80-84	Very good	B	3.00	0.00	Withdrawal	W	0.00
75-79	Good+	C+	2.50	0.00	Incomplete	I	0.00
70-74	Good	C	2.00	0.00	Transferred	TR	0.00
65-69	Satisfactory+	D+	1.50				

4.5 Overall classification of the qual. (in original language):

معدل من أصل 4.00 وتقدير عام
GPA out of 4.00 and overall grade

5 INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTION OF THE QUALIFICATION

5.1 Access to further study:

Degree programme may entitle access to postgraduate study.

5.2 Professional status (if applicable):

The Degree enables the holder to practice the profession.

6 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

6.1 Additional information:

N/A

6.2 Further information sources:

Ministry of education:
<https://www.moe.gov.sa/en/Pages/default.aspx>
Umm Al-qura University: <https://uqu.edu.sa/en>

PROGRAMME DETAILS

Description of the Academic Career

The student successfully completed a five-year Bachelor of Architecture and Planning programme at the Department of Architecture, College of Engineering and Architecture, Umm Al-Qura University (UQU), Makkah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia - a public university under the supervision of the Saudi Ministry of Education. The programme is structured over 10 regular semesters including a cooperative training module which takes place over the summer and continues through the first semester of the 5th year. Starting from the 7th level (first semester of the 4th year), students specialize in one of three tracks: Architecture, Urban Design, or Urban Planning. The total number of credit hours in the programme is 168, and the language of instruction is English, with some Arabic content included in legal and regulatory courses.

Goals and Objectives of the Architecture and Planning Programme

The department is committed to achieving a set of strategic goals that reflect its vision for academic excellence, effective governance, research leadership, and community engagement. Under **Goal 1: Academic Excellence**, the department aims to strengthen partnerships with local, regional, and international educational institutions and accreditation bodies. It also focuses on continuously improving study plans and evaluating and enhancing the quality of the educational process. **Goal 2: Resources and Governance** emphasizes the development of the department's physical spaces and the professional growth of its staff. In line with **Goal 3: Research and Innovation**, the department seeks to encourage the formation of research groups and to activate scientific seminars as a platform for scholarly exchange. Finally, **Goal 4: Community Engagement and Social Responsibility** highlights the department's commitment to engaging with the local community through architectural and urban initiatives, as well as promoting voluntary contributions that support societal development.

Competency Profile

In order to meet the requirements of the professional activities as an architect, graduates have acquired the following competencies:

- the ability to create designs that meet both aesthetic and technical requirements,
- adequate knowledge of the history and theory of the built environment and related arts, technologies and humanities,
- knowledge of the visual arts due to their influence on the quality of design,
- adequate knowledge of urban planning and design, planning in general and planning techniques,
- understanding of the relationship between people and buildings and between buildings and their surroundings, and understanding of the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale,
- An understanding of the roles of the architect, urban designer, and urban planner, and their responsibilities in society—particularly in creating designs that respond to social factors,
- knowledge of the methods used to review and develop the design for architectural and urban projects,
- knowledge of the structural and engineering problems associated with building design,
- adequate knowledge of physical problems and technologies related to the function of a building - creating comfort and protection against weather conditions,
- the technical skills required to meet the needs of the users within the constraints imposed by cost factors and regulations,
- Adequate knowledge of the trades, organizations, regulations, and procedures involved in the practical implementation of architectural and urban plans, and their integration into broader planning frameworks.

Career Opportunities

Graduates are well-prepared for careers in both the public and private sectors, locally and internationally. They can work as architectural designers, urban designers, urban planners, and landscape architects. Career opportunities include roles in large enterprises, consulting firms, and governmental or local authorities. Graduates may also engage in construction contracting, project execution, tender evaluation, research, feasibility studies, and project management, as well as the maintenance and restoration of buildings. Additionally, they may pursue academic careers or work independently, with many gaining experience early on before establishing their own professional practices.

Programme Learning Outcomes PLOs

The qualification awarded is a Bachelor of Architecture and Planning, aligned with Level 6 of the Saudi Qualifications Framework (SQF), Specialized Learning Outcomes (SLOs), Level 6 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF). Upon graduation and ASIIN's LOs, students are expected to:

Knowledge

- K1** Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of built environment design and its latest developments.
- K2** Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of built environment technologies.
- K3** Demonstrate an understanding of the profession's ethics, responsibilities, and regulations.
- K4** Demonstrate an understanding of relevant mathematical concepts and scientific theories.
- K5** Demonstrate an understanding of research and inquiry methodologies.

Skills

- S1** Apply diverse knowledge to creatively address complex built environment problems.
- S2** Analyze the Islamic values that shape human and built environments.
- S3** Use scientific research to address complex built environment issues.
- S4** Demonstrate proficiency in creating drawings and craftworks.
- S5** Employ a variety of communication methods to effectively transfer knowledge and skills.
- S6** Effectively use digital skills throughout the design process of the built environment.
- S7** Use mathematical operations and quantitative methods to process data and information.
- S8** Carry out complex practical tasks and procedures related to the professional practice.

Values, Autonomy and Responsibility

- V1** Demonstrate commitment to ethics, and professional and academic values.
- V2** Demonstrate commitment to self-development.
- V3** Demonstrate commitment to society.

Structure and Courses

The curriculum consists of the following components:

1. Essential Knowledge Units: which include Math and Statistics
2. General Knowledge Units: Core Architecture
3. Specialized Knowledge Units: Architecture, Urban Design and Urban Planning
4. Experiential Learning: Cooperative Training takes place over the summer and continues through a semester.

The curriculum distribution of general knowledge and specialized knowledge includes:

- **Architectural Design** The programme fosters an understanding of the design process and its impact on the built environment, emphasizing the integration of multiple factors across different scales. Students develop skills to explore and represent architectural ideas through various media while tackling design challenges in architecture, technology, urbanism, and landscape. They present their work using diverse methods such as sketches, architectural and technical drawings, scale models, digital models, and simulations.
- **History and Theories** The programme offers a structured understanding of the history and theories of the built environment. Students study key buildings, architectural philosophies, and influential architects' approaches. It also introduces historical and theoretical frameworks and research methods, enabling students to critically engage with architectural and urban issues.
- **Construction and Building Systems** The programme covers construction and building systems, including technologies, details, insulation, setups, and assembly methods. It emphasizes understanding building materials and their use in line with codes, regulations, project requirements, and environmental and contextual considerations.
- **Urban Planning and Design** The programme introduces key theories of urban planning and design, with a focus on the relationship between buildings and public spaces. It emphasizes understanding core urban planning principles, including land use, spatial organization, and compliance with local planning codes and regulations.
- **Professional Practice** The programme introduces the diverse professional roles within the built environment, both locally and internationally. It highlights the importance of professional ethics, legal frameworks, and regulations, while also focusing on essential aspects of project management in architectural and urban practice.

COURSES, AND THE INDIVIDUAL GRADES/MARKS/CREDITS OBTAINED

General Architecture

No	Course Code	Course Title	Level	Credit Hours	* ECTS	Grade
1	ARC 1101	Architectural Formation Principles Studio	1	0	9.0	
2	ARC 1102	Architectural Drawing	1	2	4.0	
3	ARC 1000	Design Process and Methods	1	2	2.5	
4	ARC 1201	Ancient Civilizations and Medieval Architecture	1	2	2.5	
5	IND1101	Design Thinking	1	2	2.0	
6	ELIN1301	English Language 1	1	3	6.0	
7	QR1101	The Holy Quran Tajweed	1	2	2.0	
1	ARC 1001	Fundamental Design Principles Studio	2	5	9.0	
2	ARC 1103	Visual Studies	2	3	4.5	
3	ARC 1104	Vector-based Drawing	2	2	3.5	
4	ARC 1105	Architectural Models Studio	2	3	5.0	
5	ELIN1302	English Language 2	2	3	6.0	
6	CUR1101	University Skills	2	0	2.0	
7	QR2102	The Holy Quran Memorization 1	2	2	2.0	
1	ARC 2002	Small Public Buildings Design Studio	3	5	12.0	
2	ARC 2301	Building Construction Studio 1	3	2	4.5	
3	ARC 2106	3D Modeling	3	3	4.5	
4	ARC 2010	Buildings Design Standards 1	3	2	2.5	
5	ARC 2307	Environmental Control Systems	3	2	2.5	
6	AI2001	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	3	2	2.0	
7	QR2103	The Holy Quran Memorization 2	3	2	2.0	
1	ARC 2003	Vernacular Architecture Design Studio	4	5	12.0	
2	ARC 2302	Building Construction Studio 2	4	2	4.5	
3	ARC 2401	Principles of Urban Design	4	2	2.5	
4	ARC 2202	Architecture of Islamic Civilization	4	2	2.5	
5	ARC 2402	Principles of Landscape Architecture	4	3	4.5	
6	ICC1201	Values and Ethics	4	2	2.0	
7	QR3104	Completion of the Holy Quran	4	2	2.0	
1	ARC 3004	Sustainable Design Studio	5	5	11.0	
2	ARC 3303	Building Construction Studio 3	5	2	4.0	
3	ARC 3403	Introduction to Urban Design Studio	5	3	5.5	
4	ARC 3203	Renaissance and Pre-modern Architecture	5	2	2.5	
5	ARC 3404	Principles of Urban Planning	5	2	2.5	
6	ARC 3405	Housing	5	2	2.5	
7	x	General Elective	5	2	2.0	
1	ARC 3005	Long-Span Buildings Design Studio	6	5	11.0	
2	ARC 3304	Building Construction Studio 4	6	2	4.0	
3	ARC 3206	Architectural Research Methods	6	2	2.5	
4	ARC 3204	20th Century and Contemporary Architecture	6	2	2.5	
5	ARC 3406	Introduction to Urban Planning Studio	6	3	5.5	
6	ARC 3305	Advanced Technologies in Building Construction	6	2	2.5	
7	MTH1183	Mathematics for Architects	6	2	2.0	

7 CERTIFICATION OF THE SUPPLEMENT

7.1 Date:

7.2 Name and signature:

7.3 Capacity:

7.4 Official stamp or seal:

Architecture Track

No	Course Code	Course Title	Level	Credit Hours	* ECTS	Grade
1	ARC 4006	Heritage Buildings Conservation Studio	7	5	11.0	
2	ARC 4306	Working Drawings Studio 1	7	3	5.5	
3	ARC 4107	Creative Generative-Design	7	2	3.5	
4	ARC 4011	Buildings Design Standards 2	7	2	2.5	
5	ARC 421#	Elective Course 1	7	2	2.0	
6	ICC4202	The Family in Islam	7	2	2.0	
7	MTH1681	Principles of Statistics for Architects	7	2	2.0	
1	ARC 4007	Professional Practice Studio	8	5	11.0	
2	ARC 4307	Working Drawings Studio 2	8	3	5.5	
3	ARC 4008	Integrated Architectural Design Studio 1	8	2	5.0	
4	ARC 4503	Architectural Project Management 1	8	2	2.5	
5	ARC 411#	Elective Course 2	8	2	3.0	
6	ARC 4309	Applications of Building Code in Architecture	8	2	2.5	
7	BUS1099	Professional Development Skills	8	2	2.0	
1	ARC 4500	Cooperative Training	9	6	28.0	
1	ARC 4009	Integrated Architectural Design Studio 2	10	5	11.5	
2	ARC 4505	Economics of Architectural Projects	10	2	2.5	
3	ARC 4501	Professional Practice for Architects	10	2	2.5	
4	ARC 4504	Architectural Project Management 2	10	2	2.5	
5	ARC 441#	Elective Course 3	10	2	2.0	
6	ARC 4310	Universal Design Code	10	2	2.5	
7	ARC 4208	Graduation Project	10	3	8.5	

Architecture Track (Electives)

** Elective Course 1

ARC 4211	Islamic Values in Architecture
ARC 4212	Saudi Regional Architectural Identity
ARC 4213	Architecture of the Two Holy Mosques
ARC 4214	Islamic Identity in Contemporary Architecture

** Elective Course 2

ARC 4111	Photorealistic Rendering Techniques
ARC 4112	Computer Modeling in Building Construction
ARC 4113	AI Applications in Architecture
ARC 4114	Environmental Simulation

** Elective Course 3

ARC 4411	Resilient Urban Design
ARC 4412	Sustainable Landscape Architecture
ARC 4413	Human and Urban Environment
ARC 4414	Urban Wayfinding

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8. INFORMATION ON THE NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM IN KSA

Introduction

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's education system has gone through an astonishing transformation. When the Kingdom was established in 1932, education was available to very few people, mostly the children of wealthy families living in the major cities. Today, Saudi Arabia's education system includes over fifty public and private universities, with more planned; some 30,000 schools; and a large number of colleges and other institutions. The system is open to all citizens, and provides students with free education, books and health services. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has developed an ambitious and rapidly expanding higher education system designed to offer maximum flexibility and responsiveness to the evolving needs of students, as well as to broader social and economic demands. The system comprises a wide range of institutions offering academic programs at undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels. With over 30 public universities and numerous private institutions, students have extensive options for pursuing higher education. While Arabic is the primary language of instruction, English is used as the medium of instruction in some institutions and is also a compulsory subject during the first year of study.

In 1950, King Abdulaziz bin Abdulrahman Al Saud (may he rest in peace) ordered the establishment of the College of Sharia in Makkah, making it the first higher education institution in the Kingdom. In 1981, Umm Al-Qura University was established, which has since become one of the largest universities in Saudi Arabia in terms of student population and one of the most comprehensive and distinguished due to its location and historical significance.

The academic year

The academic year refers to the approved time that the learner spends studying during the year. It can be divided into two or three semesters (excluding the summer semester), or into quarter system (four semesters). In some cases, the academic year is offered through educational and training units' system, or their equivalent, as part of flexible systems in accordance with the regulations and guidelines of the relevant education or training institution.

Credit and Contact Hours

Based on contact hours, the Saudi credit system suggests 15 credit hours per semester as a full-time undergraduate load, and 30 credit hours in an academic year. A maximum of 18 credit hours can be recognized for studies in any one semester.

The contact hour refers to the amount of actual time spent by the learner/trainee in the different learning/ training activities in higher education. It refers to the actual contact hours. The contact theoretical or clinical hour is not less than (50) minutes, whereas the contact practical or field hour is not less than (100) minute.

Gender Segregation

At the university level, segregation is prevalent, with male and female students typically attending separate campuses or different areas of the same campus. However, recent reforms under Vision 2030 have introduced some mixed-gender initiatives, particularly in private universities and research settings, where collaboration between male and female students is increasingly encouraged.

Administration & Funding

The policy, funding, administration, and regulation of the tertiary education sector in Saudi Arabia are overseen by the Ministry of Education, which is responsible for developing policies and allocating funding for higher education. At the university level, the Kingdom is placing growing emphasis on international collaboration.

Government-sponsored scholarships support Saudi students in pursuing studies abroad, while exchange programs with universities worldwide offer enriched educational experiences. In addition, Saudi universities host international students, fostering cultural exchange and promoting academic diversity. Saudi students also have the opportunity to pursue specialized graduate and postgraduate degrees abroad. Supported by government scholarships, thousands of Saudi students enroll in universities outside the Kingdom.

Requirements for Admission to Higher Education

Broadly speaking, applicants for admission to higher education are required to have completed secondary education and hold a General Secondary Education Certificate (GSEC). Entry to specific programs is based on the secondary stream completed, scores acquired in the GSEC, and performance on aptitude (qudrat) and proficiency (tahseeli) tests. Satisfactory completion of studies at any level does not necessarily qualify a person to enter studies at the next level. Entry requirements may be set based on grades or other criteria to ensure that applicants have a reasonable chance of success. Entry to Higher Diploma programs requires a minimum Bachelor GPA of 2.00 out of 4.00, while Master's programs typically require a GPA of 3.00. Entry to Doctoral programs requires a Master's GPA of 3.00.

International students looking to study in Saudi universities must satisfy two prerequisites: Hold a valid residency or study visa; and have an attested certificate. All academic documents must be certified by the educational authority in the country of origin, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Saudi Embassy, or the Cultural Attaché.

However, admission procedures vary among universities in Saudi Arabia based on their individual policies. Many universities will require additional documents, and some have a minimum general cumulative average score requirement.

Qualifications Framework & Quality Assurance

A National Qualifications Framework (NQF) for Higher Education was established in 2009 by Saudi Arabia's National Commission for Academic Accreditation and Assessment (NCAAA), the nation's main higher education regulatory and quality assurance agency. The NQF is intended to ensure consistency within the Kingdom in the standards of student learning outcomes regardless of institution attended, and also for the purposes of international equivalencies.

The framework is based on credit requirements and the learning outcomes that each programme is expected to develop. The NQF is also designed to provide appropriate points of reference in academic standards for institutions in their planning and self-review process, and also for external reviewers from the NCAAA performing programme accreditation and institutional reviews. Positive institutional and programme accreditation decisions from the NCAAA are valid for seven years. All qualifications awarded must comply with the National Qualifications Framework.

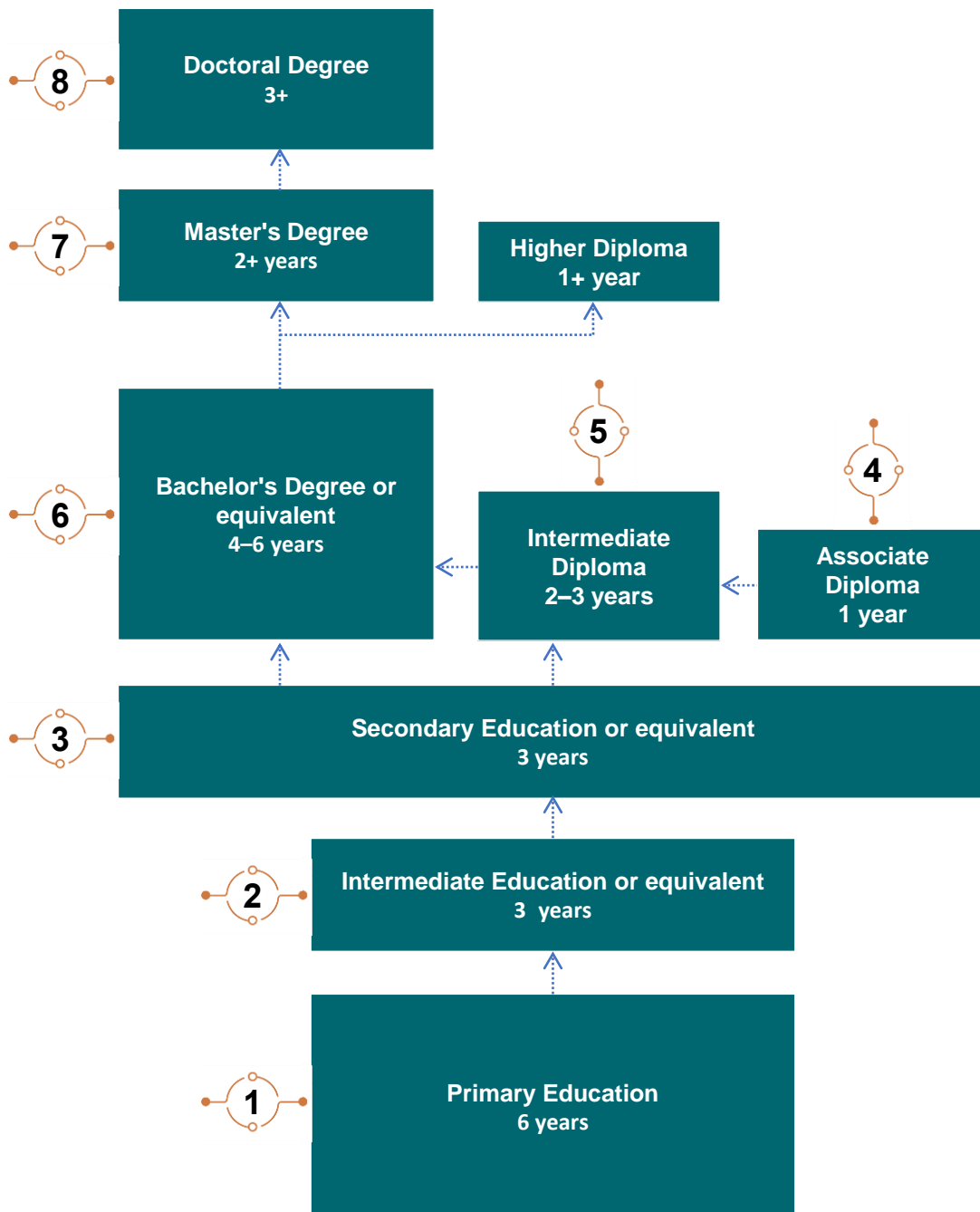


DIAGRAM OF EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN KSA

Note: Not all awards or study patterns are included.