

Archi Schola a



Archi-Schola: Classes in Architecture

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Course C: ***Studio Ready (International)***

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OVERVIEW

This course is designed for international students new to architecture programmes in the UK/EU. You must have at least 1 year of architecture studies completed at your home university.

If you are a UK/EU student enrolled in an earlier year (Y1–3), please refer to ***Course A: Studio Fundamentals***.

If you are a UK/EU student enrolled in a senior year (Y4–6), please refer to ***Course B: Studio Accelerator***.

The main objective of *Course C: Studio Ready (International)* is to help you start the new semester with confidence, making an effective transition to a UK/EU institution.

We will discuss particulars of studying architecture in the UK/EU; critical approaches to site; development of one's own design brief; formulation of an architectural design thesis; and presentation of your thesis project at critical reviews.

COURSE CONTENT

The course consists of five online sessions:

Session 1 – Studying Architecture in the UK/EU

- Expectations and opportunities. How to start without stalling at a UK/EU architecture course
- Mapping context(s): how to show the relevance of your proposal
- Materiality matters: practical methods & techniques for surveys

Session 2 – Working with the Brief

- Design briefs by others: what to expect at UK/EU schools
- Critical Practice: on reflexive ways through design
- The Tightrope and the Safety Net: writing your own brief
- [Practice Exercise 1]: Draft a short design brief for a thesis/studio project

Session 3 – Drawing Out the Invisible: Design as Research

- Reframing: design-as-object vs. design-as-process
- Hands-on: hybrid techniques (hand/digital), layering, critical montage
- [Practice Exercise 2]: Find an example of a research drawing you find interesting and discuss it (sample web sources will be provided)
- [Homework 1]: Develop a series of drawings that apply the techniques and approaches discussed during the session

Session 4 – Critique Lab: Work-in-Progress Reviews

- Homework 1 review and discussion
- Review of past or ongoing projects: studio-style reviews with structured feedback

Session 5 – Outlook: Towards Portfolio & Career

- Editing and reframing academic work for UK/EU portfolio
- Writing reflective project descriptions
- How to demonstrate growth, criticality, and design thinking in a professional context in the UK/EU

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Through engagement with the course, you are expected to meet the following learning outcomes:

- **CLO1: International Context** – Demonstrate basic awareness of expectations and opportunities characteristic for architecture courses in the UK/EU.
- **CLO2: Design Brief** – Demonstrate techniques for interpreting design briefs by others and the ability to write an outline design brief for a new design project
- **CLO3: Design Research** – Understand the role of design as a process that can form new knowledge

SESSION FORMAT

Sessions are designed to last **90 minutes**.

A 5-minute break is included in this time.

The maximum number of participants is 8.

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