

Fall 2026 Elective Courses for Master of Architecture Program

The Master of Architecture degree program requires a total of eight (8) elective courses, distributed across five distinct categories:

- 1x Representational Studies Required Elective: select *any* 65__ level course
- 1x Historical/Cultural Studies Required Elective: select *any* 62__ level course
- 1x Technical Studies Required Elective: select *any* 63__ level course
- 2x OR 3x Architecture Elective: select *any ARCH-designated elective not already used for a different requirement; please check your individual degree sheet to confirm the total required for your plan (depending on the term you were admitted).*
- 2x Open Elective: select any graduate-level (e.g. 5000+) course; see below.

Open Electives: The M. ARCH degree requires the completion of two *Open Elective* classes; this represents the most flexible type of elective in the degree program. An *Open Elective* can be fulfilled by completing any graduate level course of the student's choosing that is not already in use for a different requirement; B- or higher grade required. Please consider searching for other content in CAP programs: Architecture (ARCH), Historic Preservation (HIPR), Interior Design (INTD), Landscape Architecture (LDAR), and Urban and Regional Planning (URPL), or other graduate level coursework at the university.

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- **ARCH 6205-001 Affordable Housing Workshop**
 - This course examines housing trends and patterns; supply and demand factors; housing policies; housing challenges (e.g., inequitable distribution, special needs, segregation/discrimination, and homelessness); sociological, demographic, and economic considerations; and the roles of planners and the public and private sectors. *Recommended for students in Studio III or higher.*
 - In-person: Wednesday, 2:00 pm – 4:45 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category*
- **ARCH 6231-001 Regionalisms & the Vernacular**
 - This course explores the built environment of vernacular architecture and cultural landscapes as a lens for understanding sustainable design practices and the growing tension between human needs and the natural environment. Course content focuses on evolutionary change, meeting utilitarian needs, responding to environmental forces, and aesthetic inspirations in the region's historic architecture and rural landscapes.
 - In-person: Tuesday 9:30 am – 12:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6270-001 City Design Fundamentals**
 - City Design Fundamentals is a core course in the Master of Urban Design program and a recommended elective for all graduate students at CAP. This interdisciplinary course explores the formation and design of cities, the urban form and its transformation over time, and the common perspectives shared by planners and designers in contemporary city-building.
 - In-person: Tuesday, 9:30 am – 12:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6290-001 Special Topics Historical/Cultural: TBD**
 - **TBD**
 - In-person: Wednesday, 12:30 pm – 3:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Cultural Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6370-500/501 Introduction to Design Build**
 - Introduces the student to the project delivery methods and the history of these methods both in the United States and the world.
 - Compares Design-Build and integrated project delivery methods with other traditional delivery methods, including Design-Bid-Build, Construction Manager at Risk, and Owner's Agent as Construction Manager.
 - Examines the traditional and current roles of Owner, Architect, Consultants, General Contractor and Subcontractors.
 - Examines previous Architect/Contractor relations and the code of ethics required for emerging trends in Design-Build and Integrated Project Delivery.
 - Examines successful project management and the qualities of leadership, including confidence, vision, knowledge and empowerment.
 - In-Person: Thursday 9:30 am – 12:15 pm
 - *This course is **required** for the Design Build Certificate; this course is also eligible for use toward the Technological Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6530-001 The Classical Elements**
 - This course covers ancient and contemporary studies in the practice of proportional systems expressed by the timelessness and traditions of Classical Architecture. Students gain an understanding of the Canon of Classical Orders and rules of Architectonic grammar through graphic exercises and compositions.
 - In-person: Friday 12:30 pm – 3:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Representational Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6560-001 Architecture Photography**
 - Architecture elective in photography of space, interior, and exterior with an emphasis on design composition of architecture. The class will travel to multiple sites in Denver, with one longer trip within approximately 30 miles of Denver. Students are responsible for travel to and from class locations. Details and more comprehensive travel plans will be discussed on the first day of class. Please contact the instructor for more information.
 - Hybrid: Tuesday 12:30 pm – 3:15 pm (Zoom) other meetings to be held in the field.
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Representational Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6590-001 Special Topics: Architectural Research Seminar – Methods & Practices**
 - This course will explore various methods for architectural research, developing critical inquiry into forms of pedagogy and practice. The course will follow a seminar format known in Latin as ‘colloquium’ (*to talk together*) – where case studies will be presented, read about, and discussed in class. Through collective and independent forms of research, students will establish a set of ‘values’ to help organize, filter, and expand their own critical practice. Supported by a series of academic skill-building workshops, students will complete a semester long research, writing, and presentation project.
 - In-person: Tuesday, 12:30 pm – 3:15 pm
 - *This course is eligible for use toward the Representational Studies Required Elective OR ARCH Elective OR Open Elective category.*

- **ARCH 6930 / 6931 Internship I / II**
 - Students who have successfully been hired for internships during the academic term may receive academic credit by enrolling in a for-credit internship course. Please reach out to Jen Skidmore (Jen.Skidmore@ucdenver.edu; they/them/theirs pronouns) CAP Director of Professional Development for more information. Please note: regular tuition charges apply for this course.