

ARCHITECTURE

Is Architecture for me?

The field is for you if you ...

- Like problem-solving.
- Are visually oriented.
- Are comfortable with mathematical concepts.
- Are interested in technology and its implications.
- Are creative.
- Like to draw.
- Are detail-oriented.
- Have the ability to work with a team.

What skills will I need for this field?

You will need to ...

- Have problem-solving skills.
- Be proficient at three-dimensional visualization.
- Have an artistic awareness and creativity.
- Have specific graphic communication skills.
- Understand fundamental principles of construction.
- Be comfortable working with numbers and mathematical functions.
- Be knowledgeable of construction materials.
- Be familiar with building codes and zoning ordinances.
- Be able to stay current with changing technologies.

What is the work atmosphere like?

Architectural and engineering firms are small to medium sized offices. Construction management may be part of an architectural or construction firm, or an independent company. Firms may be small and local or very large, international companies. The various aspects of building design and construction always involves teamwork and collaboration. The process requires use of computers and advanced technology. The work involves: problem identification, analysis and solution, graphic organization and communication, researching technical and legal documents. You may continue your education to become an architect.

What are my degree options?

Certificates

Architectural Rendering
Architectural Technology

Associate's Degree

Associate in Applied Science (AAS)
Pre-Architecture
Architectural Technology
Construction Management Technology

Bachelor's Degree

Bachelor's and professional degrees are available by transferring to four-year colleges and universities. For example: University of Illinois-Chicago, Illinois Institute of Technology, University of Illinois, Illinois State University, Purdue, or Southern Illinois University.

Professional Certification

There is no certification required for a drafter. If you continue your education to become an architect you will need to complete a combination of education, experience and testing to receive your architectural license. Licensing requirements vary by state.

What are my career opportunities?

Experienced drafters can advance to a mid-level of responsibility within the production team. Architectural technology training can also allow you to enter the construction industry, in many other capacities including estimating, specifying, sales and marketing. This training can lead you into government roles within code and zoning agencies or historic preservation activities.

Students who transfer and complete their architectural education can become licensed architects. Architects are the leaders and creative inspiration of construction projects.

Construction management is a broad and growing field. It ranges from financial planning to on-site construction supervision. Graduates are qualified for entry-level positions including assistant project manager and assistant cost estimator. Students can also transfer to prepare for higher-level positions.

What can I do with these degrees?

If you have completed ...

High School Diploma

Architectural Clerk, Construction Laborer, Delivery Person

Associate in Applied Science

CADD Drafter (Engineering or Architectural), Construction Estimator, Construction Materials Sales Representative, Materials Detainer (Hollow Metal, Mechanical or Steel), Municipal Plan Checker or Inspector, Project Superintendent, Assistant Project Manager

Certificate

CADD Drafter (Engineering or Architectural), Construction Office Staff, Shop Drawing Drafter (Hollow Metal, Mechanical or Steel)

Bachelor's Degree

Building Official, Estimator, General Contractor, Industry Liaison, Job Captain/Developer, Project Manager, Superintendent

Master's Degree

Architect, Principal or Partner in Firm, Project Manager

How can I prepare now?

Recommended courses ...

Math

Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry

Science

Physics

Communications

Writing, Speech

Occupational Electives

Drafting, CADD, Construction Trades

Recommended Supporting Electives

Art, History, Humanities

What should I take in my first semester at C.O.D.?

Pre-Architecture

ARCH 1100: Introduction to Architecture
ARCH 1121: Architectural Design Communication

Architectural Technology

ARCH 1100: Introduction to Architecture
ARCH 1101: Basic Architectural Drafting

Construction Management

ARCH 1100: Introduction to Architecture
ARCH 1130: Blueprint Reading
ARCH elective

What about my articulated credit?

Check with your high school coordinator to see if you are eligible for articulated credit at College of DuPage.

Whom can I talk to for more information?

Business and Technology Division
(630) 942-2592

For further information on the Associate in Applied Science Degree curriculum see your program coordinator, or go to www.cod.edu.