Architectural Technology

The Architectural Technology curriculum prepares individuals to apply architectural design skills and technical knowledge to architecture, construction, construction management, facility management, architectural visualization and other associated professions.

Course work for our programs includes instruction in architectural design and drafting (BIM), construction materials and methods, sustainability, architectural graphics, and other relevant topics within the industry.

Graduates of this pathway should qualify for entry-level jobs in architecture, engineering, construction, and positions in industry and government. Students also have the opportunity to transfer into several undergraduate design and building sciences BA degree programs with advanced standing. Upon successful completion, The Associate of Applied Science Degree - Architectural Technology is awarded by the college.

For specific information about potential positions and wages in architecture, visit the Central Piedmont Career Coach website.

ARC 111. Introduction to Architectural Technology. 3.0 Credits.
Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces basic architectural drafting techniques, lettering, use of architectural and engineer scales, and sketching. Topics include orthographic, axonometric, and oblique drawing techniques using architectural plans, elevations, sections, and details; reprographic techniques; and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare and print scaled drawings within minimum architectural standards.

ARC 112. Construction Materials & Methods. 4.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces construction materials and methodologies. Topics include construction terminology, traditional and alternative materials and their properties, manufacturing processes, construction techniques, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to detail construction assemblies and identify construction materials and properties.

ARC 113. Residential Architectural Technology. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course covers intermediate residential working drawings. Topics include residential plans, elevations, sections, details, schedules, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare a set of residential working drawings that are within accepted architectural standards.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111
Corequisites: Take ARC 112

ARC 114. Architectural CAD. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces basic architectural CAD techniques. Topics include basic commands and system hardware and software. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare and plot architectural drawings to scale within accepted architectural standards.

ARC 116. Architectural Design Studio I. 5.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-9.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces the fundamental aspects of architectural design and documentation. Emphasis is placed on a studio culture experience, prompting completion of precedent analysis and creatively solving challenges within the field of architecture through the act of making; those being executed in both two and three dimensions. Upon completion, students should be able to apply their work to the foundational principles in which architecture is rooted.

ARC 117. Architectural Design Studio II. 5.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-9.0. Work-0.0
This course covers architectural vocabulary and design methods through the creation of a single or multi-family residential design project. Topics include and allow for the opportunity to interrogate cultural and environmental issues currently affecting the built environment humans inhabit while facilitating their graphic and verbal communication skills. Upon completion, students should be able to articulate, digitally and physically, the design of a small-scale building.
Corequisites: Take ARC 116

ARC 120. Interior Design-Residential. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course covers principles of light construction and materials. Topics include terminology, components, and light construction codes. Upon completion, students should be able to understand light construction principles.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111

ARC 131. Building Codes. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0
This course covers the methods of researching building codes for specific projects. Topics include residential and commercial building codes. Upon completion, students should be able to determine the code constraints governing construction projects.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111 or ARC 112

ARC 132. Specifications & Contracts. 2.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course covers the development of written specifications and the implications of different contractual arrangements. Topics include specification development, contracts, bidding material research, and agency responsibilities. Upon completion, students should be able to write a specification section and demonstrate the ability to interpret contractual responsibilities.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 112

ARC 133. Construction Document Analysis. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course covers the analysis of building construction drawings. Emphasis is placed on material identification, understanding construction details, and the relationships of building structural, mechanical, plumbing, and electrical systems. Upon completion, students should be able to analyze a set of construction drawings by identifying building construction materials and understanding construction details and engineering systems.

ARC 141. Elementary Structures for Architecture. 4.0 Credits.
Class-4.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course covers concepts of elementary structures in architecture. Topics include structural form, statics, strength of materials, structural behavior, and the relationship between structures and architectural form. Upon completion, students should be able to size simple structural elements.
Prerequisites: Take One Set: Set 1: ARC 111 and MAT 121; Set 2: ARC 111 and MAT 171

ARC 160. Residential Design. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces the methodology of basic residential design. Topics include residential site design, space organization and layout, residential styles, and the development of schematic design. Upon completion, students should be able to design a residence.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111
Corequisites: Take ARC 112

ARC 197T. Seminar in. 2.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course provides an opportunity for students to analyze current architectural movements, trends, and methodologies. Emphasis is placed on architectural production in various modes, including: writing, reading, thinking, and portfolio development. Students will be allowed to craft and critique their work and the work of their peers. Upon completion, students should be able to successfully analyze architectural concepts and theories through various forms of written and graphical representation.

ARC 210. Intro to Sustain Design. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces concepts and principles related to sustainable site development and architectural design. Topics include low impact and sustainable site development, water efficiency, energy efficiency, material and resource management, indoor environmental quality, and return on investment. Upon completion, students should be able to articulate and integrate sustainable design principles into site and architectural design.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111

ARC 212. Commercial Constr Tech. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces regional construction techniques for commercial plans, elevations, sections, and details. Topics include production of a set of commercial contract documents and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare a set of working drawings in accordance with building codes.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 225
Corequisites: Take ARC 112

ARC 213. Design Project. 4.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course provides the opportunity to design and prepare a set of contract documents within an architectural setting. Topics include schematic design, design development, construction documents, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare a set of commercial contract documents. This course will also introduce plumbing, mechanical (HVAC), and electrical systems for the architectural environment.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 225

ARC 214. Architectural Statics. 3.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course covers the concepts of elementary statics as applied to architecture. Topics include forces, resultants, and types of force system; equations of equilibrium; reactions of simple architectural structures; internal forces in architectural roof trusses; frames and beams; centroids and moments of inertia as applied to architecture. Upon completion, students should be able to solve problems which require the ability to analyze systems of forces in static equilibrium as applied to architectural forms.
Prerequisites: Take all: ARC 111, ARC 112, and MAT 121

ARC 215. Architectural Strength of Materials. 3.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course covers the concepts of elementary strength of materials within architecture. Topics include structural form, architectural strength of materials, structural behavior, and the relationship between structures and architectural form. Upon completion, students should be able to size simple structural elements to specific architectural forms.
Prerequisites: Take all: ARC 111, ARC 112, and MAT 121

ARC 216. Architectural Design Studio III. 5.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-9.0. Work-0.0
This course provides students information on construction topics, building codes and standards, and project logistics for the design of a commercial architectural project. Emphasis is placed on real world constraints and considerations while articulating innovative design strategies through advanced drawing techniques. Upon completion, students should be able to execute a large-scale building design according to industry standards.
Corequisites: Take ARC 117

ARC 217. Architectural Design Studio IV. 5.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-9.0. Work-0.0
This course is designed to allow students to collaborate in a team environment on the design of a conceptual architectural design project. Emphasis is placed on an architectural design challenge taking into considerations key elements like site, program, environment, client, and visual communication and presentation. Upon completion, student should be able to use collaborative BIM technologies, allowing a more focused understanding of professional practice with regard to design, documentation, and communication.
Corequisites: Take all: ARC 216 ARC 225

ARC 220. Advanced Architectural CAD. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course provides file management, productivity, and CAD customization skills. Emphasis is placed on developing advanced proficiency techniques. Upon completion, students should be able to create prototype drawings and symbol libraries, compose sheets with multiple details, and use advanced drawing and editing commands. Civil3D and Microstation CAD applications will be used in this course.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 114

ARC 221. Architectural 3-D CAD. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-4.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces architectural three-dimensional CAD applications. Topics include three-dimensional drawing, coordinate systems, viewing, rendering, modeling, and output options. Upon completion, students should be able to prepare architectural three-dimensional drawings and renderings. SketchUp, Inventor, and Rhino3D are the primary applications used in this course.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 114

ARC 225. Architectural Building Information Modeling I. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course is an introduction to the fundamentals of Building Information Modeling (BIM) as a construction documentation system. Topics include basic parametric modeling, creating new types and families of components, and using 3D models to create design drawings. Upon competition, students should be able to use BIM software to create, edit, and print rudimentary architectural 3D computer models. Focus for this course: AutoDesk Revit Architecture.

ARC 226. Architectural Building Information Modeling II. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course covers advanced concepts of Building Information Modeling (BIM) including complex drawing generation and inter-disciplinary collaboration. Topics include advanced parametric modeling and model analysis, inter-disciplinary coordination, design web format models, material take-off, schedules, and rendering. Upon completion, students should be able to apply BIM software to create full 3D project models and convert them to scaled working or presentation drawings.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 225

ARC 230. Environmental Systems. 4.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces plumbing, mechanical (HVAC), and electrical systems for the architectural environment. Topics include basic plumbing, mechanical, and electrical systems for residential and/or commercial buildings with an introduction to selected code requirements. Upon completion, students should be able to develop schematic drawings for plumbing, mechanical, and electrical systems and perform related calculations.
Prerequisites: Take One Set: Set 1: ARC 111 and MAT 121; Set 2: ARC 111 and MAT 171

ARC 231. Architectural Presentations. 4.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-4.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces architectural presentation techniques. Topics include perspective drawing, shadow projection, texturization, rendered plans, elevations, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to present ideas graphically and do rendered presentation drawings.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111

ARC 235. Architectural Portfolio. 3.0 Credits. Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course covers the methodology for the creation of an architectural portfolio. Topics include preparation of marketing materials and a presentation strategy using conventional and/or digital design media. Upon completion, students should be able to produce an architectural portfolio of selected projects.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111 and ARC 114

ARC 250. Survey of Architecture. 3.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course introduces the historical trends in architectural form. Topics include historical and current trends in architecture. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate an understanding of significant historical and current architectural styles.

ARC 251. Advanced Survey of Architecture. 3.0 Credits. Class-3.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0
This course builds on prior knowledge of historical trends in architectural form, and explores those topics in greater depth. Topics could include historic preservation, the social and political contexts of architectural design, and design theory. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate a deeper understanding of significant historical and current architectural styles and theories.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 250

ARC 262. Architectural Animation & Video. 3.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0
This course covers three-dimensional architectural animation. Topics include storyboarding, rendered animation creation, audio and video input/output, and techniques for camera and object movement in and around buildings. Upon completion, students should be able to produce rendered architectural animations with sound and archive data to selected media. This course will focus on Autodesk 3DS software.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 221

ARC 264. Digital Architecture. 2.0 Credits. Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0
This course covers multiple digital architectural techniques. Topics include spreadsheets and word processing procedures, on-line resources, modems, e-mail, image capture, multimedia, and other related topics. Upon completion, students should be able to transmit/receive electronic data, create multimedia presentations, and produce a desktop publishing document. Focus for this course will be SketchUP and Adobe PhotoShop software.
Prerequisites: Take ARC 111, minimum grade of C