

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE**  
with Programs in Architecture  
and Interior Architecture  
**SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND ALLIED ARTS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF OREGON**  
Eugene and Portland

**GRADUATE APPLICATION PACKET**

**Professional Degrees**  
**Master of Architecture ( M.Arch. )**  
**and**  
**Master of Interior Architecture ( M.I.Arch. )**

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Forms included in this packet:

- RELATED EXPERIENCE FORM
- LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FORM

Mailing address:

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS ADVISOR  
DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
1206 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
EUGENE, OREGON 97403-1206  
(541) 346-3656 (541) 346-3626 fax

Contact: Helga Wood, Admissions Advisor  
Email: [archadms@uoregon.edu](mailto:archadms@uoregon.edu)  
Website: <http://architecture.uoregon.edu>

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Professional education in architecture has been offered at the University of Oregon since 1914 and includes graduate and undergraduate programs in architecture and interior architecture. Our programs are designed to educate students in the liberal arts tradition of the University of Oregon and in the traditions of our unique School of Architecture and Allied Arts.

In its association with the School of Architecture and Allied Arts, the Department of Architecture offers a broad education in environmental design. Students majoring in the architecture and interior architecture programs can study historic preservation, landscape architecture, planning, fine and applied arts, and arts administration. More than twenty courses in architectural history are offered through the Department of Art History. Studios and course work offered at our Portland site provide a rich laboratory for the study of urban design issues. The Department of Architecture sponsors the Center for Housing Innovation and co-sponsors, with the Department of Physics, the Solar Energy Research Center.

The curriculum is design centered. Requirements include fundamental course work in design and all major subject areas. Design studios provide the opportunity for integration of the various support disciplines.

In addition to the design studio, the department is exceptionally strong in teaching and design research and theory. Areas of inquiry include: housing and urban design; energy conscious design; passive and microclimate principles; siting and physical context; human activity and accessibility; structural theory and systems; building technology; lighting, light and color theory; furniture design; computer applications; urban and vernacular buildings; and historic preservation.

Program and general electives are intended to support and encourage the inquiry which broadens and advances

knowledge in the field. We feel that fundamental course work is enhanced and enlivened by this specialized inquiry. Students may select their elective course work according to their specific interests and career intent.

## II. GRADUATE PROGRAMS

Please refer to the chart below to determine your program option. *The start date for the Option III program is Summer term. The Option II and I programs begin Fall term.*

The professional degree programs in architecture are accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). The professional degree programs in interior architecture are accredited by the Council for Interior Design (CIDA). Students in all Master's degree programs must meet the general Graduate School requirements for the Master degree and the major requirements for the professional degree.

Successful completion of the two and three-year graduate programs in architecture will lead to an NAAB accredited professional degree, the Master of Architecture (M. Arch.). Successful completion of the two and three-year graduate programs in interior architecture will lead to a CIDA accredited professional degree, a Master of Interior Architecture (M. I. Arch.). The Option III programs are for students who have a BA or BS in an unrelated major.

Applicants who meet the criteria for Option II placement (BA or BS from an NAAB or CIDA accredited program)--see chart below-- may need additional time to complete their Option II program. Generally, this is the case for those who enter an Option II program without having completed basic technology coursework in their undergraduate studies. Those with deficient technology coursework admitted to the Option II program in Portland may need to take some technology coursework in Eugene.

International architecture applicants who hold a five-year professional degree in architecture but wish to obtain the professional degree required for licensure in the United States should apply to the Option II rather than the Option I program.

The curricula for the Option II and Option III programs are integrated with the department's five-year professional degree curricula. The professional graduate programs are differentiated from the undergraduate programs primarily by entry studio(s) and support courses, graduate seminars, advanced course requirements, and studio frequency. For a full description of the department's structure and curriculum, consult a current edition of the University of Oregon Catalog (online at <http://creativepubs.uoregon.edu/bulletin/>).

*NAAB accreditation of professional degree programs: The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture, recognizes two types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch.) and the Master of Architecture (M. Arch.). For more information, see the NAAB website at <http://www.naab.org>.*

*The Council for Interior Design (CIDA), formerly the Foundation of Interior Design Education Research (FIDER), founded in 1970, is an international non-profit organization that accredits postsecondary interior design education programs in the United States and Canada. It's primary purpose is to ensure a high level of quality in interior design education to meet the needs of students, the interior design profession, and society. For more information, see the CIDA website at <http://www.accredit-id.org>.*

### DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE GRADUATE PROGRAMS

The chart below outlines the entry degrees required for the Option I, II, III Master's Degree Programs

Post-professional Degrees	Program & Location	Duration	Entry Degree Required
M.Arch.	OPTION I (Eugene or Portland)	4-6 terms	M.Arch. or B.Arch (5yrs)
M.I.Arch.	OPTION I (Eugene)		M.I.Arch. or B.I.Arch (5yrs)
Professional Degrees	Program & Location	Duration	Entry Degree Required
M.Arch	OPTION II (Eugene or Portland)	6 terms	BA or BS in Architecture from an NAAB accredited program
M.I.Arch	OPTION II (Eugene )	6 terms	BA or BS in Interior Architecture or Architecture from a CIDA or NAAB accredited program
M.Arch	OPTION III (Eugene)	10 terms	BA or BS in any major
M.I. Arch	OPTION III (Eugene)	10 terms	BA or BS in any major

### III. ADMISSIONS GOAL

The careful selection of students is central to the educational mission of the Department of Architecture and to the continued quality of the programs in architecture and interior architecture. With respect to both students and faculty, we seek a community of inquiring designers directed toward creative practice and research. Our community is interested in the exploration of the processes that give form to the environment.

Students are selected for their creative ability; their interest in issues of form, content and context; their ability to help advance knowledge of the built environment; and the contribution their presence will make toward a rich, diverse and supportive context for the study of architectural issues.

### IV. APPLICATION PROCESS

*To ensure that you submit all the required parts of the application, please read all instructions below carefully and complete the following steps. Applications must be postmarked no later than the first Monday following January 1st or hand delivered by 5:00 PM to the department office by that date.*

#### STEP 1: UO GRADUATE APPLICATION

There are two ways to submit the UO Graduate application using our website (<http://architecture.uoregon.edu>):

- Apply online using a visa or mastercard
- Downloading two copies of the PDF application; include one copy with your application to the department and send the other to the UO Office of Admissions at the following address:

The Office of Admissions  
1217 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1217 USA

#### STEP 2: DEPT. OF ARCHITECTURE APPLICATION

- Complete the online application on our website at [architecture.uoregon.edu](http://architecture.uoregon.edu) by the first Monday after the holiday.
- Download the *Graduate Application packet* from the architecture website at [architecture.uoregon.edu](http://architecture.uoregon.edu).
- Submit all supporting application materials outlined under Section V, Submission Requirements to this address:

Graduate Program Admissions  
Department of Architecture  
1206 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1206

### V. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

#### OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS

All graduate applicants must submit official transcripts from all previously attended colleges and universities.

Please note: You are required to send transcripts to both the Department of Architecture and the UO Office of Admissions.

Applicants must have earned a Bachelor's degree prior to entry in the program. If you do not now have a Bachelor's degree,

but expect to receive your degree prior to the term you wish to begin your studies, you must submit a statement written by your current major advisor, or other program official, verifying your expected graduation date.

**GRADUATE RECORD EXAM SCORES** - GRE scores are required of all domestic and foreign applicants to graduate programs in the Department of Architecture. Request the reporting of the test scores to be sent to Institution Code #4846, Department Code #4401.

**TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE SCORES** (TOEFL) scores are required of all non-native English speakers. Applicants must meet the minimum TOEFL scores for consideration: paper-based test minimum scores: 575 Total; internet-based test minimum score: 90 Total.

**LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION** - Candidates must have at least three letters of recommendation submitted on their behalf. Two of the three recommendation letters are required from academic sources. If you have been out of school for some time, a professional/ employer source can be used and a resume included with your application.

Provide a copy of the enclosed Letter of Recommendation form to each recommender after you have filled in the applicant information on the form. Recommendations are generally sent by the recommender, but can be submitted with the portfolio. They must be signed, sealed, and signed again over the seal of the envelope by the recommender. Select three recommenders who are able to provide the requested information. You may need to remind your recommenders of the January deadline.

**THE PORTFOLIO** - Submit a portfolio which documents your creative endeavors and includes the Statement of Intent and the Autobiographical Essay. An 8-1/2" x 11" page format is required, bound into a no larger than 9" x 12" inexpensive, non-leather notebook. *The first page must include your name, mailing address, contact information, and instructions for returning the portfolio.*

- **STATEMENT OF INTENT** - Describe your intent with respect to the study/practice of architecture/interior architecture. This statement is of particular importance as an indication of an applicant's interests, perceived abilities, and commitment to goals.

- **AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY** - An outline, in narrative form that documents significant experiences in your life. Include environmental and design interests and opportunities, travel and work. These written pieces should be kept to no more than two single-spaced typed pages each.

- **RELATED EXPERIENCE** - Fill out the enclosed questionnaire included in this package (page 5), using a separate sheet of paper if necessary and include in portfolio.

- **CREATIVE WORK**  
Applicants should include projects or other independent work that demonstrates a potential for visual and spatial thinking and an environmental awareness. A photographic essay, observations and analysis of a place, travel sketches, fine arts or craft studies are some of the possibilities. If group

work is included, clearly explain the nature and extent of your contribution. The applicant should use the portfolio as a visual complement to the Statement of Intent and Autobiographical Essay.

*Do not send slides, disks or CD's, any unbound work, or drawings in tubes. Portfolios not conforming to the size requirements will be returned without review.*

## VI. APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

### Review by Admissions Panel

Admission is by selective review. The review focuses on three attributes:

- I. Creative capability
- II. Academic capability
- III. Potential program contribution through diversity of background, experience, character and demonstrated motivation

**Reviewers will assess the applicant's creative capability by:**

- Reading the letters of recommendation for insight into the applicant's creative and academic potential, character and motivation.
- Reading the Statement of Intent and the Autobiographical Essay for evidence of creative thinking and experience.
- Reviewing the Creative Work for evidence of skill in the visual arts and crafts and the process relevant to the study of design and the physical environment.
- Reviewing the evidence of service to the community and general interest in the physical and social environment. Our programs include extensive studio and group project work. Each student's capabilities and interests provide a significant contribution to the education of others. These contributions are evidenced by previous experience, involvements and commitments.

The department seeks a student body that is culturally and geographically diverse. The University of Oregon is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. We look forward to your application.

### Notification

Applicants are notified of the committee's decision by mid-March. Those applicants not selected for admission to the architecture or interior architecture program may choose to re-apply in a following year.

### Portfolio Return

For your portfolio to be returned by mail you must include a self-addressed, stamped mailer. To be returned to a U.S. address, the necessary U.S. postage must be affixed to the mailer. Do not send checks or cash. Use UPS, Fed Ex, or USPS. To be returned to a foreign address, a money order covering the estimated cost may be used.

Postage rate increases often occur during the admissions months, so include extra postage over and above the current rate to cover this additional charge.

## VII. COMPUTER REQUIREMENT

All entering students are required to achieve computer literacy by the end of their first year in the program. Computer literacy requires proficiency with general office software and specific graphic tools: three-dimensional modeling; two-dimensional drawing; and image processing. All students are required to have a high-speed personal computer and a specified complement of software. Each summer, the department updates its recommendations with respect to hardware and software. The most current information is available on our web site.

Contact information:

Helga Wood, Admissions Advisor

Phone: (541) 346-1433

email: archadms@darkwing.uoregon.edu

<http://architecture.uoregon.edu>

## VIII. UNIVERSITY OF OREGON CATALOG

The *University of Oregon Catalog* provides complete information about all academic programs including degrees, majors, courses and descriptions and the faculty. The *University of Oregon Catalog* is now available online at <http://www.uoregon.edu>.

**RELATED EXPERIENCE**

Include this sheet with your portfolio. Use a separate page if necessary.

Check appropriate boxes:

Briefly indicate the nature of that activity:

Visual Art training or coursework

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

\_\_\_\_\_

Community Service.....

\_\_\_\_\_

Previous coursework related to  
architecture/interior architecture

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

\_\_\_\_\_

Previous architecture or interior  
work experience.....

\_\_\_\_\_

Previous construction experience

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

\_\_\_\_\_

Travel experience

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

\_\_\_\_\_

Independent Research

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

\_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICANT CHECKLIST**

PLEASE CHECK THE REQUIRED ITEMS COMPLETED AT THE TIME OF THIS SUBMISSION:

ONLINE DEPARTMENT APPLICATION

STATEMENT OF INTENT

AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL ESSAY

PORTFOLIO OF CREATIVE WORK (DID YOU SUBMIT RETURN POSTAGE?) \_\_\_\_\_

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS (PLEASE LIST SCHOOLS)

\_\_\_\_\_

GRE SCORES - Date test taken \_\_\_\_\_

TOEFL (TEST OF ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE) -- IF APPLICABLE

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION (PLEASE LIST RECOMMENDERS)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

All of the information presented in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate. All of the creative work submitted as a part of this application has been completed by myself, unless otherwise designated.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

DATE

PRINT NAME

8/08

**LETTER  
OF  
RECOMMENDATION**

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE**  
School of Architecture and Allied Arts  
1206 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1206

**Application deadline: January 8**

<b>APPLICANT</b>	(applicant completes this section) Mr _____ Ms _____ last name first middle		
<b>DEGREE PROGRAM</b>	[ ] Master of Architecture	[ ] Master of Interior Architecture	
<b>RECOMMENDER</b>	_____ name of person requested to provide recommendation		

**TO  
THE  
RECOMMENDER:**

The person named above is applying to a professional Masters degree program of the Department of Architecture at the University of Oregon. Please provide a candid evaluation of the applicant's past performance and promise for the future. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 gives students, once admitted and enrolled, right of access to records, including letters of reference. The applicant will be able to review your letter if admitted and enrolled.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what connection?

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2. Please rate the applicant in terms of potential for high achievement in a professional degree program. Mark the appropriate box

	unable to judge	poor	below average	average	above average	excellent	truly exceptional
Intellectual Capability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Analytical Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Express Self Orally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Express Self in Writing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability with Visual or Graphic Expression	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational Ability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Work with Others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ability to Follow Through/Perseverance	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotional Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Imagination and Creative Potential	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breadth of General Knowledge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Promise of Productive Scholarship	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(over)

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3. What are your impressions of the applicant's preparation for: (a) graduate study; (b) the study of architecture or interior architecture? (use a separate sheet if necessary)

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4. **RECOMMENDER:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

School / business \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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The Admissions Committee of the Department of Architecture appreciates your assistance in helping to identify our next generation of design professionals. Thank you.

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DO NOT RETURN TO APPLICANT. Please mail directly to:

GRADUATE ARCHITECTURE ADMISSIONS  
1206 UNIVERSITY OF OREGON  
EUGENE, OR 97403-1206