



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

# COURSE SPECIFICATION

## *Final Examination in Professional Practice (Part 3) Architecture*

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships  
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

**July 2021**

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# COURSE SPECIFICATION

<b>Course Title</b>	<b><i>Final Examination in Professional Practice (Part 3) Architecture</i></b>
Final Award	<i>School award - RIBA Part 3</i>
Exit Awards	<i>RIBA Part 3</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	<i>P1590PTC, C1590P</i>
Mode of study	<i>Part time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Block Teaching and Distance Learning</i>
Normal length of course	<i>1 year with full time work placement</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>September 2019 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Faculty	<i>Creative and Cultural Industries</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>School of Architecture</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	<a href="#"><u>Portsmouth School of Architecture</u></a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="#"><u>Final Examination in Professional Practice (Part 3) Architecture</u></a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	<i>This award is prescribed by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and accredited by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA).</i>
<a href="#"><u>Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</u></a>	<i>Level 7</i>

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

### *General Aims:*

The Part 3 Programme aims to:

- To enable candidates to address the legal, procedural, professional and managerial competencies needed to engage in architectural practice as an independent and reflective practitioner.
- Foster an enquiring spirit, intellectual curiosity, and a level of critical reflection and appropriate professional judgement in students; these coupled with the development of their own learning skills will enable students to reflect on and affect the direction of their future creative lives and their own development needs.
- Equip graduates with transferable skills such as problem solving, decision-making, communication, and teamwork, necessary for lifelong learning and flexibility in the context of changing labour markets.

### *Particular Aims:*

The Part 3 Programme aims to:

- Provide a professional examination, in accordance with Professional Body requirements, to allow students to gain the award of “Final examination in Professional Studies” which has exemption from RIBA Part 3 and on successful completion of which, and holding both parts 1 and 2, they may register as an architect.
- Provide a coherent and integrated series of lectures and seminars in the area of professional practice in relation to current architectural practice in the UK enabling students to enter and contribute to architectural practice.
- Provide knowledge of the extensive subject area of Architectural management practice and the law relating to this subject.
- Develop the transferable skills necessary to demonstrate self-direction and originality in problem solving, to be able to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional level.
- Develop the students ability to reflect on own and others functioning in order to improve practice.
- Develop the confidence of the students to enable them to operate in complex and unpredictable situations whilst having an overview of good practice, with due regard to the ethical, social and managerial demands of current practice.

## Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

The Learning Outcomes for Part 3 are derived from the above Benchmark Statement for Architecture which specifically sets out the QAA/ARB/RIBA Professional Criteria at Part 3. These will be achieved in the Final Examination in Professional Practice (Part 3) Architecture course through undertaking relevant modules.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the following tables.

**A. Knowledge and understanding of:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	<p>Professionalism (PC1) -  A successful candidate will demonstrate overall competence and the ability to behave with integrity, in the ethical and professional manner appropriate to the role of architect. The candidate will have the skills necessary to undertake effective communication and presentation, organisation, self-management and autonomous working. The candidate will have a clear understanding of the architect's obligation to society and the profession, and a sufficient awareness of the limits of their competence and professional experience to ensure they are unlikely to bring the profession into disrepute.</p>	Lectures, seminars, workshops, external expert input, group work, independent research	Coursework , formal written examinations and oral examination
A2	<p>Clients, Users and delivery of services (PC2) -  A successful candidate will be able to demonstrate understanding of the range of services offered by architects and delivering those services in a manner prioritising the interests of the client and other stakeholders. The candidate will have the skills necessary to provide a competent service, both singly and as part of a team, including understanding of client needs, appropriate communication, programming, coordination and competent delivery. This will be supported by knowledge of the briefing process, forms and terms of appointment, the means of professional remuneration, relevant legislation, and the execution of appropriate programmed and coordinated project tasks.</p>		
A3	<p>Legal Framework and processes (PC3) -  A successful candidate will be able to demonstrate understanding of the legal context within which an architect must operate, and the processes undertaken to ensure compliance with legal requirements or standards. The candidate will have the skills necessary to positively interact with statutory and private bodies or individuals, and competently deliver projects within diverse legislative frameworks. This will be supported by knowledge of the relevant law, legislation, guidance and controls relevant to architectural design and construction.</p>		

A4	<p>Practice and Management (PC4) -</p> <p>A successful candidate will be able to demonstrate understanding of the business priorities, required management processes and risks of running an architectural practice, and the relationship between the practice of architecture and the UK construction industry. The candidate will have the skills necessary to engage in business administration and ability to resource, plan, implement and record project tasks to achieve stated goals, either individually or within a team. This will be supported by knowledge of the nature of legal business entities, office systems, administration procedures and the relevant legislation.</p>		
A5	<p>Building Procurement (PC5) -</p> <p>A successful candidate will be able to demonstrate understanding of UK construction and contract law, construction procurement processes and the roles of built environment professionals. The candidate will have the skills necessary to plan project-related tasks, coordinate and engage in design team interaction, execute effective contract communication and resolve construction-related challenges and disputes. This will be supported by an understanding of contractual relationships, the obligations upon an architect acting as contract administrator, job-related administrative systems and the management of projects in the context of the candidate's professional experience</p>		

**B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:**

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	Evaluate information, opinion and evidence critically and draw conclusions that display methodological and theoretical rigour.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, external expert input, group work, independent research, daily practice during employment	Coursework , formal written examinations and oral examination, formative feedback
B2	Apply strategies of selection for dealing with information.		
B3	Plan, implement and report on a programme of original research.		

### C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	Communication - Produce documentation and reports which are clear, analytical and logical covering a range of issues of culture, theory and design, executed to a professional standard.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, external expert input, group work, independent research	Coursework , formal written examinations and oral examination
C2	Professional Studies - Identify and manage individual learning needs so as to prepare for and maintain professional standards commensurate with qualification.		

### D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	Work autonomously in a self-directed manner, managing and appraising their own working practices thereby developing as a reflective practitioner and an independent learner.	Lectures, seminars, workshops, external expert input, group work, independent research, daily practice during employment	Coursework , formal written examinations and oral examination
D2	Work as part of a team.		
D3	Manage independent study.		

## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal.

In addition to these University support services this course also provides the following:

In the School of Architecture, each student is assigned a Professional Studies Advisor to coordinate professional experience and professional training aspects of architectural education and provide guidance and advice in relation to the compilation of the RIBA Professional Experience and Development Records. In addition a Case Study tutor will provide guidance on the Documentary Submission

CCI Creative Skills: One to one support sessions and group tutorials in creative software and skills relevant to CCI courses and future careers.

CCI Academic Skills: Access to resources to support learning strategies and techniques through one to one tutorials or group workshops.

CCI Student Support Advisor: Help to find appropriate academic, pastoral or practical support.  
Specialist equipment and facilities relevant to the course.

## Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

### Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Strategy](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement: Architecture 2020](#) [Key: (PC1)=Professional Criteria].
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **The European Union (EU) Directive, The Architects Registration Board (ARB) Criteria and The Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Criteria. In particular, the Professional Criteria at Part 3 apply.**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

### Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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