Diploma of Architect-Engineer

A graduate student is awarded by the Department of Architecture the Diploma of Architect-Engineer degree after successfully completing the required course of study, as described in detail below.

The minimum duration of the Diploma of Architect-Engineer program for full-time students is 2 semesters. The maximum duration allowed for completion of the graduate Diploma degree is set by the university regulations.

Admission to the Program of Studies

Applicants to the program of studies leading to the Diploma of Architect-Engineer must possess the equivalent of a Bachelors degree (B.Sc.) in Architecture from the University of Cyprus or an accredited University.

The candidates must submit a formal application to the Department of Architecture, completed with information about the applicant and other documentation as evidence of the applicant’s academic qualifications. The application must be submitted within the announced time limits by the University.

The applications of candidates that have already acquired the Bachelors degree (B.Sc.) in Architecture from the University of Cyprus, no longer than one year before, are approved without evaluation. In all other cases the applications are evaluated by the graduate admissions committee of the Department of Architecture which makes suggestions to the Council of the Department for final approval of the selected candidates. The applicants to the Diploma of Architect-Engineer program are selected according to the following criteria:

- Quality of the applicant’s background in breadth and depth, and past performance in his/her undergraduate studies.
- Portfolio of architectural projects, accomplished inside or outside the University.
- Practical experience in an office or at the construction site.
- Availability of graduate positions in the program following the aforementioned distribution of positions for candidates with Bachelors degree (B.Sc.) in Architecture from the University of Cyprus, acquired no longer than one year before.

The Department of Architecture reserves its right to fill less than the announced graduate student positions for the Diploma of Architect-Engineer.

Academic Advising

Upon admission to the program of studies for acquisition of the Diploma of Architect-Engineer and before the first day of registration, each graduate student is assigned or may select a temporary advisor among the faculty of the Department of Architecture to arrange an academic plan covering the first semester of study.

Upon initiation of the course ARH 501 Introduction to Diploma Thesis (Research), the student must identify, according to the area of concentration, a diploma advisor who agrees to assume the role of academic advisor, and with whom a suitable dissertation topic and the remaining plan of study are arranged. The academic advisor proposes to the Council of the Department of Architecture the diploma committee. The diploma committee consists of the diploma advisor as the head of the committee; at least one other faculty member from the Department of Architecture; and at least one other faculty member from inside or outside the University. Outside members can be faculty members from other accredited institutions, or other qualified experts holding a Ph.D. degree or equivalent. The committee members should be selected according to their abilities to assist in the student’s diploma thesis.
Course of Study

The program of studies at the University of Cyprus is based on the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS). The ECTS is a student-centered system based on the student workload required to achieve the objectives of a program by attaching credits to its components.

The course of study leading to the Diploma of Architect-Engineer degree requires the completion of at least 60 ECTS units in graduate courses and design diploma thesis, beyond the ECTS units acquired from a four years Bachelor degree (B.Sc.) in Architecture. In this frame the student should select from at least two different areas of studies, i.e. Architectural Theory and History, Architectural Communication Media, Architectural Technology, or Urban Design, one graduate course respectively. The in total 60 ECTS units should then be distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1st semester (fall)</th>
<th>2nd semester (spring)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARH 501 Advanced Studio Design 1 (Research) 14 ECTS</td>
<td>ARH 503 Advanced Studio Design 30 ECTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 courses ARH 5XX 16 ECTS</td>
<td>Sum: 30 ECTS</td>
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<td>Sum: 30 ECTS</td>
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Students should select, in consultation with their advisors, the courses that will help them in the completion of their Diploma thesis. Any courses that are not included in the graduate program of studies in Architecture should be approved by the Committee of Graduate Studies of the Department of Architecture, following a justified petition by the student, signed by his/her academic advisor. In order to count towards the graduate program requirements, the graduate committee of the Program of Architecture must approve the petition before the student registers for the respective courses.

Diploma Thesis

For acquisition of the Diploma of Architect-Engineer a final architectural design as the diploma thesis is required. The subject of the diploma thesis is selected by the student in mutual agreement with his/her academic advisor. The diploma thesis has a minimum duration of two semesters, whereas the initial semester comprises a research introduction to the subject. The subject of the diploma is defined according to the interests of the faculty and the available infrastructure and means for its support.

The student must prepare a brief written proposal of his/her intended diploma thesis at least one year before the intended date of graduation. Following the written approval of the proposal by the academic advisor, the Department of Architecture approves the diploma committee that consists of the diploma advisor as the head of the committee, and at least two other faculty members with relevant design-research interests. The defense of the diploma thesis is open to public participation and consists of a 30 minutes presentation by the candidate, which could include visual material, followed by a 30 minutes open discussion, including a concluding closed session of the examining committee for making a decision on the diploma work. If the defense is satisfactory, the candidate must submit two original hard copies, one to the university library and one for the Department records, as well as an electronic version of the dissertation in PDF format to the Department of Architecture for documentation and dissemination. If the diploma thesis is rejected, the candidate is entitled to request a repetition of the defense one more time. In this case, the timing and terms of the resubmission of the diploma thesis must be set out in writing by the examining committee, in the frame of the regulations on postgraduate studies of the University.
GRADUATE LEVEL COURSES

I. CONSTRAINED ELECTIVE COURSES

ARH 501-503 Advanced Studio Design

ARH 501-503 Advanced Studio Design
Specialized architectural design studio including site selection, consideration of architectural context and environmental impacts, development of user function and space programs and architectural planning issues. The project is approached through intellectual and historical foundations, aesthetic and visual qualities, selection and integration of structural and environmental systems, and urban and rural contexts. The student selects the area of design emphasis depending on his/her interests.

(ECTS units assigned by the thesis advisor)