



THE UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND  
AUSTRALIA

CREATE CHANGE

Bachelor of  
**Architectural Design**

First Year Guide 2026



# Welcome

## Welcome to the School of Architecture, Design and Planning



Head of School  
Professor Ali Cheshmehzangi



Program Convenor  
Associate Professor Silvia Micheli



Academic Advisor  
Dr Andrew Wilson (from May)



School Manager  
Olivia Dwyer



Director of Engagement  
Associate Professor Stephanie Wyeth



We're here to help.



Senior Technical Officer  
Sam Butler



Technical Officer  
Sonya Brown



This is a condensed version of the First Year Guide. For the full guide go to: [www.adp.uq.edu.au/study/first-year-student-guide](http://www.adp.uq.edu.au/study/first-year-student-guide)

# How to enrol

## We're so happy you're joining us at UQ!

To enrol in your courses, you'll use a system called **mySI-net**, which is the control centre for student administration at UQ. Among other things, mySI-net lets you:

- enrol in courses
- drop courses
- update personal information

Once you've enrolled, you'll use a system called **My Timetable**. Through My Timetable you can register your preferred class times and swap classes if you need to.

During your time at UQ, you'll always use mySI-net and My Timetable at the beginning of each semester. You can access both from the my.UQ Dashboard, your personalised portal to UQ systems and notifications. Also ensure you check your student email frequently.



### IMPORTANT DATES

For the academic calendar, teaching periods, summer semester dates etc. (relevant to both commencing and continuing students), head to: [about.uq.edu.au/academic-calendar](http://about.uq.edu.au/academic-calendar)

Log in to **Starting at UQ** for a step-by-step guide on how to set up your mySI-net profile, enrol in your courses and register your class preferences.

**General FAQs?** Go to: [adp.uq.edu.au/study/first-year-student-guide/frequently-asked-questions-first-year](http://adp.uq.edu.au/study/first-year-student-guide/frequently-asked-questions-first-year)



Keep 'Starting at UQ' open in a separate window as you work through the 'Enrol' section.



### Semester 1 CRITICAL DATES

<b>23 February</b>	Classes commence – YES, WE START IN WEEK 1 on Monday 23 February 2026
<b>6 March</b>	Last day to add courses
<b>31 March</b>	Last day to drop courses without financial liability
<b>30 April</b>	Last day to drop courses without academic penalty

### UQ BRUCE Architecture Student Society

BRUCE is the Architectural society at UQ. It has been initiating events for architecture and design students while forging connections between year levels at the School of Architecture, Design and Planning for 30+ years. Memberships are on sale now!

[linktr.ee/bruce.uq](http://linktr.ee/bruce.uq)

Visit [adp.uq.edu.au/student-societies](http://adp.uq.edu.au/student-societies) for more details

### Student Organised Network for Architecture (SONA)

SONA represents architecture students from across Australia, organising events that provide opportunities for collaboration with each other as well as registered architects and associated professionals.

[sked.link/sonaqlld](http://sked.link/sonaqlld)

### Follow us on social media

Be part of the UQ Architecture, Design and Planning community, and keep up to date with the latest news and events.

**Instagram:** [@uqadp](https://www.instagram.com/uqadp)

**LinkedIn:** [UQ School of Architecture, Design and Planning](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uq-school-of-architecture-design-and-planning)



# Your first semester in architectural design

**Design studio classes offer a great opportunity** to ask questions and seek feedback from tutors, lecturers and peers.

Your first semester in architectural design will provide you with the foundational knowledge, technical skills and creative imagination to shape our built environment and design the cities and spaces of tomorrow.

Visit <https://www.eait.uq.edu.au/study-plans/architecture-design-and-planning/architectural-design> for detailed study plans. If you have further questions about your study plan, you can request a meeting with an Academic Advisor via [adp@uq.edu.au](mailto:adp@uq.edu.au).

## ADPS1000 Sustainability for Global Citizenship

This first-year interdisciplinary course equips students with knowledge and skills to engage with sustainability as a holistic and interdisciplinary concept. The course explores the evolution of sustainability, integrating environmental, economic, technological, and socio-cultural dimensions to foster an interconnected approach to global challenges.

Through active learning and cross-cultural inquiry, students will reflect on personal and collective assumptions, developing an appreciation for diverse worldviews and the role of architecture, design, and planning in shaping sustainable futures.

The course prepares students as global citizens to actively participate in a professional community, fostering a sense of responsibility, adaptability, and leadership in addressing sustainability challenges.

### Class contact:

- 1 hour lecture per week
- 2 hour tutorial per week

### Coordinators:

Dr Ray Maher  
[r.maher@uq.edu.au](mailto:r.maher@uq.edu.au)

Dr Catherine Keys  
[c.keys@uq.edu.au](mailto:c.keys@uq.edu.au)

### Required materials

Notebook / laptop for note taking

Refer to the current [ADPS1000 Sustainability for Global Citizenship electronic course profile](#) for the most up to date list of required materials

## ARCH1001 Foundation Studio: Space and Experience

This architectural design studio explores foundational principles of architectural design with focus on the relationship between built forms and human experience.

It offers introduction to design process, critical problem solving, and techniques to create, scale and order architectural spaces.

Students will undertake learning in a studio setting to develop collaboration and team building skills and effective communication of architectural ideas through drawings, model making and verbal presentation.

### Class contact:

- 4 studio hours per week

### Coordinators:

Professor Antony Moulis  
[a.moulis@uq.edu.au](mailto:a.moulis@uq.edu.au)

Dr Natalie Lis  
[n.lis@uq.edu.au](mailto:n.lis@uq.edu.au)

### Required materials

Hat and sunscreen  
Water bottle/ food  
Notebook and A4 sketch book  
Scale ruler  
Tape measure  
Translink GO Card (recommended).  
Eraser; sketching pencils HB, 2B, 4B, 6B  
Any other favourite drawing item  
A few Artline (or similar) black felt tip pens 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, or mix of colours

Refer to the current [ARCH1001 Foundation Studio: Space and Experience electronic course profile](#) for the most up to date list of required materials

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**Design studio classes offer a great opportunity** to ask questions and seek feedback from tutors, lecturers and peers.

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## ARCH1010 Architectural Visual Communications

This course introduces principles and practices of architectural visual communication, emphasizing the interplay between visual communication theory, technical representation, and creative expression. Students investigate how spatial concepts, form, and scale translate into visual language through analogue and digital mediums.

The curriculum integrates foundational design thinking and communication with exploration of tools ranging from sketching to digital drawing and AI-assisted visualization platforms.

This course fosters a critical understanding of visual communication as a bridge between conceptual ideas and built environments, preparing students to engage with evolving tools and methodologies in architectural practice.

**Class contact:**

- 4 studio hours per week

**Coordinator:**

Associate Professor Fred Fialho Teixeira  
[f.frederico@uq.edu.au](mailto:f.frederico@uq.edu.au)

**Required materials**

- Hat and sunscreen
- Water bottle/ food
- Notebook and A4 sketch book
- Scale ruler
- Tape measure
- Translink GO Card (recommended).
- Eraser; sketching pencils HB, 2B, 4B, 6B
- Any other favourite drawing item
- A few Artline (or similar) black felt tip pens 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, or mix of colours

Refer to the current [ARCH1010 Architectural Visual Communications electronic course profile](#) for the most up to date list of required materials

## ARCH1111 Building Structures

Building Structures introduces the fundamental structural forces and principles that architects and structural engineers work with and how they apply to simple and small scale buildings.

Students examine the properties of common structural materials, how they respond to structural forces and how they are used on construction elements.

Building codes and standards and examples of construction documentation are used to show how structural elements and building materials are represented by architects and structural engineers.

**Class contact:**

- 2 hour lecture per week
- 1 hour tutorial per week

**Coordinator:**

Dr Kristina Knox  
[k.boychenko@uq.edu.au](mailto:k.boychenko@uq.edu.au)

**Required materials**

- Notebook / laptop for note taking
- Refer to the current [ARCH1111 Building Structures electronic course profile](#) for the most up to date list of required materials



# Studio culture and First Year Learning Studio

The studios and First Year Learning Studio are vibrant and creative spaces for collaboration, project work, study and discussion among peers. UQ's **studio culture** will help you establish the rhythms and processes of design, and gain essential skills needed to succeed in a professional design environment.

## What is "studio culture"?

- Establishing a vibrant "studio culture" and facilitating active involvement in design studios is a focus of the UQ School of Architecture, Design and Planning. We encourage a studio culture where you **work iteratively and collaboratively** – to learn from interaction with your peers and teaching staff in both contact and non-contact hours.
- Participating in studio culture allows you to **learn the necessary rhythms and processes of design**, through a repetitive cycle of thinking, doing and reflecting. You will be actively guided and trained on how to work in design studios, gaining essential skills that will carry forward through the remainder of your studies and into your professional career as an architect or designer.
- All students will have the opportunity to **work in hand-drawn and digital media** for work-in-progress and final drawings, as well as multiple physical models at varied scales and stages, as foundations to developing design thinking.
- Studio culture at UQ provides students with **key foundational knowledge and modes of operating** in a design environment. It's also a lot of fun!

## What can I do in the First Year Learning Studio?

Location: Zelman Cowen Building, Level 2, Room 223.

- Work collaboratively with your peers and learn from teaching staff
- Use the space for both structured activities and self-directed learning / study
- Learn and practice the rhythms and processes of iterative design:
  - **Think:** Observe, listen, see, feel, absorb, evaluate
  - **Do:** Test your observations and creative thoughts through physical doing, measuring, drawing, model-making and creative experimentation
  - **Reflect:** Self-directed and collaborative reflection and discussion on your 'doing'. What is working? What needs more testing?
- Use the computers available
- Use the materials space to assemble your architectural models
- Hang out with your mates IRL!
- Refill your water bottle
- Find out about the latest architectural design events

## What is the Collaborative Workshop (COLAB)?

Location: Zelman Cowen Building, Ground Level.

- All Architecture, Design and Planning students have access to the [Collaborative Workshop \(COLAB\)](#), which provides facilities and equipment for model making and 1:1 scale prototyping. Students are welcome to explore the equipment and materials available. To use the specialised equipment, you are required to undertake relevant online training and attend induction sessions. These can be accessed through UQ Blackboard > COLAB.

## How should I manage my time?

- Read dates carefully as not all classes are weekly
- Put together weekly and semester schedule
- Attend all required design studios, lectures, tutorials and field trips
- When possible, embrace opportunities for optional fieldwork
- Start each course by understanding how the course is structured, the requirements, learning resources and when the assessments are due. Course profiles: [my.UQ](#)
- BE ACTIVE! Attend all lectures, studios and tutorials; checkout Facebook groups for your courses; participate in learning activities; practice problems; revise and review your work; and if in doubt, ask!
- Utilise all of the learning resources available to you, such as:
  - Course tutors and studio assists
  - [Learning workshops: https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/workshops](https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/workshops)





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*"I have discovered the importance of actively contributing to the ways of where and how we live. Through the promotion of social and environmental wellness, I also realise that there is an opportunity of being a global citizen through the practice and education of sustainable, creative architectural design."*

*"I have been fortunate to collaborate with the tutors and academics in the School of Architecture, Design and Urban Planning to guide me in a direction where my contribution can prosper in the built environment."*

**Josh Goddard**

Bachelor of Architectural Design Graduate

**Need help?**

**Student Central**

Prentice Building (42)

**p** 1300 275 870 (Option 1)

**w** [my.uq.edu.au/contact/  
student-central](http://my.uq.edu.au/contact/student-central)

**Student Services**

**w** [my.uq.edu.au/information-and-  
services/student-support](http://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support)

**Student Advocacy and Support**

**w** [uqu.com.au/student-advoca-  
cy-and-support/](http://uqu.com.au/student-advocacy-and-support/)

**School of Architecture, Design  
and Planning Reception**

Level 3, Zelman Cowen Building (51)

**p** +61 7 3365 3537

**e** [adp@uq.edu.au](mailto:adp@uq.edu.au)

**w** [adp.uq.edu.au](http://adp.uq.edu.au)

**Faculty of Engineering,  
Architecture and Information  
Technology**

Hawken Engineering Building (50),  
Level 2

**p** +61 7 3365 4666

**e** [enquiries@eait.uq.edu.au](mailto:enquiries@eait.uq.edu.au)

**w** [eait.uq.edu.au](http://eait.uq.edu.au)