INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

AND ASSESSMENT CENTRE (IQAC)

«Approved»

2025 y. «16» 10

Programme	Level 4 Extended Diploma in Architecture		
Unit Number/ Unit Title	**Unit 4 Architectural Design Studio**		
Cohort Code:	L04ADS-U4		
Unit Level	4-Level		
Total Credits/Hours	Total qualification time 200/ Total Guided learning hours 90/ Self-guided learning hours 110		
Credits	20 CATS/ 10 ECTS		
Lecturer			
Start Date		**End Date**	

Unit Aims	This unit provides students with fundamental design skills and conceptual thinking for architecture. Through a studio-based approach, learners will explore design processes, spatial composition, and visual representation techniques. Emphasis is placed on creative experimentation, model-making, and iterative development from brief to proposal.
Differentiation Strategies *(e.g. planned activities or support for individual learners according to their needs)*	Various approaches to addressing the various identified students' needs will be adopted throughout the lesson. Such will include: 1. Progressive tasks 2. Digital resources 3. Verbal support 4. Variable outcomes 5. Collaborative learning 6. Ongoing assessment 7. Flexible-pace learning

Equality & Diversity	Variety of teaching techniques will be employed to ensure that the needs of each individual learner are met.
Safeguarding & Prevent	Safeguarding policies and the Prevent duty are strictly observed to ensure the safety, well-being, and inclusivity of all students and staff.
Health & Safety	SIRM H&S policies will be maintained.
Learning Resources	**Teaching and Learning Materials** • Ching, F. D. K. (2014). Architecture: Form, Space, and Order. Wiley. • Unwin, S. (2014). Analysing Architecture. Routledge. • Pallasmaa, J. (2005). The Eyes of the Skin: Architecture and the Senses. Wiley. • Plowright, P. (2014). Revealing Architectural Design: Methods, Frameworks and Tools. Routledge. • Lupton, E., & Phillips, J. C. (2014). Graphic Design: The New Basics. Princeton Architectural Press.

Learning Outcome (The learner will:)	Assessment Criteria (The learner can:)
LO1. Develop and communicate architectural concepts from a design brief.	1. Studio Project Submission: 1.1 Generate spatial concepts through sketches, diagrams, and models. 1.2 Respond creatively to functional and contextual constraints in a given brief.
LO2. Apply design principles to spatial organisation and form.	2. Portfolio Submission: 2.1 Demonstrate effective use of scale, proportion, circulation, and light. 2.2 Explore design iterations that reflect user needs and site influences.
LO3. Use manual and digital tools to produce architectural drawings and models.	3. Practical Lab Work: 3.1 Produce floor plans, elevations, and sections to architectural standards. 3.2 Develop physical and digital models to communicate design intent.
LO4. Reflect on design decisions and critique architectural outcomes.	4. Written Report: 4.1 Critically evaluate design evolution with reference to feedback and theory. 4.2 Reflect on strengths and limitations of final proposals.

No	Topic	Learning Outcomes for Each Topic	Which assessment criteria does the session relate to?	Day/month/ year/ signature
1	Introduction to the Design Studio and Creative Process	Understand the studio environment and begin developing creative thinking and ideation strategies.	LO1	
2	Understanding and Interpreting the Architectural Design Brief	Learn to extract key requirements and objectives from a client or tutor-issued design brief.	LO1	
3	Site Analysis and Contextual Research	Conduct contextual research to inform concept development by studying site constraints and opportunities.	LO1	
4	Conceptual Thinking in Architecture: From Idea to Form	Translate abstract ideas into preliminary spatial concepts.	LO1	
5	Sketching and Ideation Techniques	Use freehand sketching to explore design ideas and communicate early-stage concepts.	LO1, LO3	

6	Principles of Spatial Composition: Balance, Rhythm, Hierarchy	Apply compositional principles to organize space aesthetically and functionally.	LO2	
7	Circulation and Functional Zoning in Spatial Layouts	Understand flow and movement within a space to inform planning decisions.	LO2	
8	Scale, Proportion, and Human-Centered Design	Design spatial forms responsive to human dimensions and ergonomic needs.	LO2	
9	Exploring Volume, Light, and Shadow in Space	Experiment with form-making that considers natural light and shadow effects.	LO2	
10	Diagramming Concepts and Spatial Strategies	Communicate spatial strategies and core ideas through architectural diagrams.	LO1, LO2	
11	Manual Drawing Techniques: Plan, Section, Elevation	Develop technical drafting skills to produce architectural orthographic drawings.	LO3	
12	Perspective and Axonometric Drawings	Use representational drawing to illustrate three-dimensional forms.	LO3	
13	Physical Model-Making Materials and Techniques	Construct scale models using various materials to test spatial ideas.	LO3	

14	Introduction to Digital Drawing Tools: AutoCAD, Rhino, or SketchUp	Learn the fundamentals of 2D and 3D digital design tools for architectural workflows.	LO3	
15	Integrating Manual and Digital Representation	Combine analogue and digital methods to enhance the clarity of visual presentations.	LO3	
16	Midterm	**Midterm assessment** covering all learning outcomes (theory and practical elements)	LO1, LO2, LO3	
17	Mid-Semester Project: Concept Proposal Presentation	Synthesize research, concepts, and visualisation into a coherent design proposal.	LO1 – LO3	
18	Understanding Feedback and Self-Reflection in Studio Practice	Learn techniques for receiving feedback constructively and self-assessing one's work.	LO4	
19	Design Iteration: Revising Based on Critique	Use feedback to revise and refine design proposals effectively.	LO4	
20	Precedent Studies: Learning from Architectural Case Studies	Analyze examples of built work to inform design thinking and critique.	LO4	
21	Sustainability and Site Responsiveness in Design Concepts	Integrate environmental responsiveness into concept and spatial design.	LO1, LO2	

22	Material Expression and Structure in Early-Stage Design	Consider how materials and structure influence form and spatial quality.	LO2	
23	Sectional Thinking: Designing from Inside Out	Use sectional drawings to explore interior volumes and vertical relationships.	LO2, LO3	
24	Finalising Design Proposals: Refinement and Detailing	Apply advanced techniques to finalize plans, sections, elevations, and models.	LO1 – LO3	
25	Portfolio Development: Visual Narrative and Layout	Curate and present work using graphic layout and storytelling.	LO3	
26	Verbal and Visual Communication for Architectural Presentation	Develop public speaking and presentation skills relevant to studio critique.	LO3, LO4	
27	Group Crit Sessions: Peer Review and Constructive Dialogue	Participate in and contribute to peer critiques constructively.	LO4	
28	Studio Work-in-Progress: Supervised Development	Apply tutor feedback while progressing toward final submission.	LO1 – LO4	
29	Preparing for Final Reviews: Presentation Boards and Models	Prepare high-quality visual outputs for final review.	LO3	

30	Final Design Presentation and Critique	Present and defend design ideas in a formal review.	LO1 – LO4	
31	Final Exam			