INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

AND ASSESSMENT CENTRE (IQAC)

«Approved»

2025 y. «__16__» _____

	Level 5 Extended Diploma in Architecture		
Unit Number/ Unit Title	**Unit 8 Architecture and Society: Cultural and Ethical Contexts**		
Cohort Code:	L05ASC-U8		
Unit Level	Level 5		
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 encourages students to explore the cultural, historical, and ethical dimensions of architecture. It examines how design reflects and shapes society and considers the architect's role in promoting inclusivity, equity, and social responsibility.
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** • Vale, B. & Vale, R. (2000). Architecture and Society. Thames & Hudson. • Pallasmaa, J. (2005). The Eyes of the Skin. Wiley. • Till, J. (2009). Architecture Depends. MIT Press. • Salama, A. M. (2016). Spatial Design Education. Routledge. • Dutton, T. A., & Mann, L. H. (1996). Reconstructing Architecture: Critical Discourses and Social Practices. University of Minnesota Press.

Learning Outcome (The learner will:)	Assessment Criteria (The learner can:)
LO1. Evaluate architecture's role in shaping societal values and cultural identity.	1. Essay: 1.1 Discuss key historical and contemporary case studies. 1.2 Analyse the symbolic and functional roles of buildings in different cultures.
LO2. Examine ethical issues in architectural practice.	2. Group Presentation: 2.1 Debate topics such as gentrification, homelessness, and environmental justice. 2.2 Propose ethical responses to real-world design scenarios.
LO3. Investigate the role of user experience and inclusivity in design.	3. Design Reflection Report: 3.1 Assess how accessibility and diversity are accommodated in the built environment. 3.2 Reflect on design decisions that promote equity and wellbeing.
LO4. Critically analyse the responsibilities of architects as cultural agents.	4. Written Report: 4.1 Explore professional codes of conduct and social impact of design. 4.2 Evaluate the balance between artistic expression and community needs.

Week	Topic	Learning Outcomes for Each Topic	Which assessment criteria does the session relate to?	Day/month/ year/ signature
1	Introduction – Architecture, Society, and Ethics	Understand how architecture reflects societal values and raises ethical questions.	LO1	
2	Cultural Identity and Architectural Expression	Examine how culture influences form, material, and symbolism in design.	LO1	
3	Architecture and Collective Memory	Explore how buildings and spaces become vessels of memory and identity.	LO1	
4	Case Study – Vernacular Architecture and Regionalism	Analyse how local traditions and environments shape built forms.	LO1	
5	Social Justice and Urban Form	Evaluate the spatial impact of segregation, exclusion, and access.	LO1	
6	Ethics in Architectural Practice	Introduce key ethical frameworks in professional design decisions.	LO2	
7	Architecture and Human Rights	Connect shelter, housing, and dignity with design responsibilities.	LO2	
8	Global Perspectives on Architectural Ethics	Compare ethics in different cultural and political contexts.	LO2	
9	Architectural Integrity and Professional Accountability	Review codes of conduct and accountability measures.	LO2	

10	The Politics of Space and Power Structures	Analyse how architecture reinforces or challenges hierarchies.	LO1, LO2	
11	Inclusive Design Principles	Study physical, social, and cognitive inclusivity in architecture.	LO3	
12	Designing for Accessibility	Apply accessibility standards and universal design strategies.	LO3	
13	Participatory Design and Community Engagement	Involve users in shaping design outcomes.	LO3	
14	Designing for Marginalised Populations	Address the needs of underrepresented and vulnerable groups.	LO3	
15	Cultural Pluralism and Representation in Architecture	Ensure representation of diverse cultures in public space.	LO3	
16	Midterm	**Midterm assessment** covering all learning outcomes (theory and practical elements)	LO1, LO2, LO3	
17	Architects as Cultural Mediators	Reflect on the role of designers in cross-cultural settings.	LO4	
18	Heritage, Conservation, and Cultural Values	Balance historic preservation with contemporary needs.	LO4	
19	Colonial Legacies and Decolonising Architecture	Critique power dynamics in architectural narratives.	LO4	
20	Design Ethics in Conflict Zones and Displacement	Explore dilemmas of building in humanitarian crises.	LO2 – LO4	
21	Gender and Space	Investigate how design reflects or challenges gender roles.	LO3	

22	Religious and Sacred Architecture	Analyse spiritual meaning in form and experience.	LO1 – LO4	
23	Ethical Consumption – Materials and Labour in Architecture	Examine sourcing, fairness, and environmental impact.	LO2	
24	Globalisation and Cultural Homogenisation	Debate global trends vs. local identity in design.	LO1	
25	Architecture for Climate and Social Resilience	Merge ethical and sustainable strategies in urban design.	LO3	
26	Ethics of Emerging Technologies in Architecture	Assess AI, surveillance, and data ethics in design.	LO2	
27	Film and Literature as Architectural Critique	Use media to reflect on cultural interpretation of space.	LO4	
28	Public Interest Design Projects – Studio Integration	Apply social research and design collaboration.	LO3	
29	Final Project – Ethical and Cultural Analysis of a Built Work	Present an in-depth analysis linking theory and practice.	LO1 – LO4	
30	Reflective Essay and Peer Review Workshop	Articulate personal position and lessons learned.	LO1 – LO4	
31	Final Exam			