INTERNATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

AND ASSESSMENT CENTRE (IQAC)

Approved

2025 y. «___» _____

Programme	**Level 7 Diploma in Architecture**		
Unit Number/ Unit Title	**Unit 6 THESIS**		
Cohort Code:	L07RTA-U6		
Unit Level	7		
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 final module provides learners the opportunity to independently conduct a comprehensive research project in architecture. It synthesizes theoretical knowledge, critical analysis, and professional practice to address a self-defined topic of inquiry, which may take the form of a written thesis, design research, or hybrid investigation.
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** • Groat, L. & Wang, D. (2013). Architectural Research Methods. Wiley. • Till, J. (2009). Architecture Depends. MIT Press. • Jencks, C. (2005). The Iconic Building. Rizzoli. • Mallgrave, H. F. (2010). The Architect's Brain: Neuroscience, Creativity and Architecture. Wiley-Blackwell. • Borden, I. & Ruedi Ray, K. (2006). The Dissertation: An Architecture Student's Handbook. Routledge.

Learning Outcome (The learner will:)	Assessment Criteria (The learner can:)
LO1. Plan and conduct an independent architectural research project.	Project Output: 1.1 Implement a coherent research strategy with defined milestones. 1.2 Demonstrate rigorous data collection and synthesis.
LO2. Present original findings through written and/or design-based formats.	Final Thesis or Design Report: 2.1 Communicate results using critical reasoning and clarity. 2.2 Support conclusions with appropriate visual or empirical evidence.
LO3. Critically evaluate the research process and outcomes.	Reflective Commentary: 3.1 Identify limitations, challenges, and future directions. 3.2 Assess the impact and contribution of the research to the field.
LO4. Demonstrate autonomy, time management, and academic integrity.	Supervisor Assessment & Viva: 4.1 Meet deadlines and submit work adhering to academic standards. 4.2 Defend the research in an oral presentation.

No	Topic	Learning Outcomes for Each Topic	Which assessment criteria does the session relate to?	Day/month/ year/ signature
1	Introduction to the Thesis Module	Understand expectations, formats, timelines, and output options (written, design-based, or hybrid).	LO1	
2	Identifying a Research Interest	Reflect on personal and professional areas of inquiry in architecture.	LO1	
3	Defining a Research Question and Objectives	Formulate a precise and researchable problem statement.	LO1	
4	Conducting a Literature and Precedent Review	Identify key theories, concepts, and case studies relevant to your topic.	LO1, LO2	
5	Choosing an Appropriate Methodology	Select research strategies and tools suited to the type of investigation.	LO1	
6	Developing a Research Proposal	Draft the rationale, aims, scope, and methodology for approval.	LO1	

7	Research Ethics and Data Collection Planning	Prepare consent forms, ethical protocols, and data handling strategies.	LO1, LO4	
8	Site or Contextual Research	Conduct site visits or contextual analysis if applicable to your study.	LO1, LO2	
9	Initial Data Collection or Design Exploration	Begin fieldwork, interviews, surveys, or initial design iterations.	LO1, LO2	
10	Organising Research Materials	Manage data and references using structured digital systems.	LO1, LO4	
11	Visualising the Research Process	Map the research journey with diagrams, timelines, or conceptual models.	LO2	
12	Synthesising Preliminary Findings	Identify patterns, insights, and directions emerging from early data/design work.	LO2	
13	Feedback and Mid-Term Review	Present interim findings to supervisors or peers for feedback.	LO1, LO3	
14	Refining Research Focus	Adjust scope, method, or design approach based on feedback.	LO1	

15	Deepening Theoretical or Design Investigation	Integrate advanced theory or design refinement into your research.	LO2	
16	Midterm	**Midterm assessment** covering all learning outcomes (theory and practical elements)	LO1, LO2, LO3	
17	Drafting Thesis Chapters or Design Narratives	Begin writing introduction, methodology, or design rationale.	LO2	
18	Visual and Graphic Communication	Prepare drawings, diagrams, or models that express your research clearly.	LO2	
19	Writing and Structuring the Argument	Build logical progression from research aims to outcomes.	LO2, LO3	
20	Comparative Analysis or Testing	Compare findings with precedent or alternative approaches.	LO1, LO3	
21	Finalising Design Proposals or Thesis Drafts	Consolidate written and visual outputs for initial submission.	LO2	
22	Peer Critique and Refinement	Share draft work for critique and make responsive revisions.	LO3	

23	Reflection on Process and Learning	Analyse decisions made, challenges faced, and how they were addressed.	LO3, LO4	
24	Final Editing and Visual Consistency	Ensure academic standards and visual quality in final submission.	LO2, LO4	
25	Preparing the Final Presentation	Develop content and visuals for an engaging thesis defence or exhibition.	LO2	
26	Rehearsing the Thesis Presentation	Practise delivery, anticipate questions, and refine visuals.	LO2, LO4	
27	Thesis Submission	Submit completed written/design work according to institutional guidelines.	LO2, LO4	
28	Formal Thesis Defence or Jury Review	Present and defend your work before a panel or audience.	LO2, LO3	
29	Post-Submission Reflection	Write a reflective commentary or process journal on the thesis journey.	LO3, LO4	
30	Future Applications and Publication	Explore publishing opportunities or extending your thesis to professional work.	LO4	

31	Module Wrap-Up and Celebrating Completion	Acknowledge achievements, receive feedback, and discuss next steps.	LO4	