

Direct Admissions Policy for the Graduate Programs in the School of Architecture

Every UVA School of Architecture undergraduate student who graduates with a strong academic record, above a 3.3 cumulative GPA, (and a 3.5 GPA in design studios for architecture, or landscape architecture) is insured direct admission into the corresponding graduate program. Students wishing to enroll in a graduate degree in a different discipline may do so upon successful review of a portfolio (Architecture and Landscape Architecture) or research writing sample (Architectural History). Those students who have completed the required prerequisites will be given advanced standing into their corresponding graduate program in addition to direct admission. Any student with a GPA below 3.3 is still free to apply through the normal admissions process. And, of course, students who meet the guaranteed admission criteria are free to apply to other programs; they are just insured a spot in the UVA graduate class.

- 1) **Direct Admissions Policy:** All undergraduate students who complete their 7th semester with a 3.3 GPA or higher are guaranteed direct admission into the corresponding graduate program after successful portfolio or writing sample review. **see Grandfather Clause*
 - a. Students are required to submit a streamlined, UVA School of Architecture graduate application, but their acceptance would not be in question.
 - b. Admission into the Architecture or Landscape Architecture programs also requires a 3.5 cumulative GPA in studios.
 - c. Additionally, portfolios and writing samples will be part of the candidate's evaluation for merit-based departmental scholarships.
 - d. The portfolio or writing sample review will take place in the January of the student's final year of undergraduate study, after their 7th semester GPA has been confirmed. **see Grandfather Clause*
- 2) **Advanced Standing Policy:** Students who graduate with above a 3.3 GPA and who complete the required curricular pre-requisites in their undergraduate major are guaranteed both direct admission and advanced standing.
 - a. BA_{ArH} and BU_{EP} graduates with advanced standing can complete the corresponding graduate degree in one year through a 4+1 track.
 - b. BS_{Arch} graduates with advanced standing can complete the M_{Arch} or M_{LA} graduate degree through a 4+2 track to obtain their professional degree.
- 3) **Deferred Enrollment Option:** The offer of direct admission will include the option of deferred enrollment for up to two years allowing a student up to two years of work experience before returning to graduate school. For example, this would allow a Spring 2017 graduate direct admissions into the entering classes of Fall 2017, 2018, or 2019.
- 4) **Grandfather Clause:** As implemented in the Fall of 2016, this new policy will include a grandfather clause extended to Spring 2015 and 2016 graduates giving 2015 graduates guaranteed admission into the 2017 class and the 2016 graduates direct admission into the 2017 or 2018 classes. Additionally, the classes of 2015, 2016 and 2017 are waived from the portfolio or writing review requirement for admission purposes to their corresponding degree. However students interested in pursuing a different Master's degree than their Bachelor's degree are required to submit either a portfolio (for M_{Arch} and M_{LA}) or a research writing sample (for History). Additionally, all students are encouraged to submit a portfolio or statement of intent [plus research sample and essay for History] to be considered for merit-based department scholarships.