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Institutions offering architectural qualifications:

Cape Peninsula University of Technology,

Durban University of Technology,

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University,

Tswane University of Technology,

University of Capetown,

University of the Free State,

University of Johannesburg,

University of Kwa-Zulu Natal,

University of Pretoria +

University of Witswatersrand.

BECOME
become an
ARCHITECT



WHAT IS ARCHITECTURE?

- The design of buildings;
- The design of groups of buildings;
- Often the design of the space between buildings.
- Considering the impact that buildings have on their surrounding areas;
- The impact a building has on its users and the general public;
- Using three-dimensional imagination;
- Using clarity of communication;
- Developing the mental ability to juggle and solve different problems simultaneously;
- Creative thinking (not necessarily artistic ability);
- A keen interest in behavior, habitat and the natural environment.

WHAT DO ARCHITECTS DO?

- Discussions with clients;
- Research on the site;
- Research of project requirements;
- Explore different design solutions;
- Refine final design decisions;
- Keep constant contact with the many disciplines involved in the building process;
- Communicate with the team;
- Motivate and co-ordinate the team;
- Managing contractual processes;
- Site visits and inspections;
- Employ good time management skills in addition to design ability.

ARCHITECTURE

as a career

HOW TO BECOME AN ARCHITECT.

- Grade 12 Bachelor's degree exemption with good passes in English and Mathematics (not maths lit);
- Physics is recommended;
- Apply to either a university or a university of technology;
- Attend to any additional selection processes;
- Follow a three year design-based degree such as a Bachelor of Architectural Studies (BAS) or BSc (Architecture), or a design-based BTech (Architecture) degree;
- (A three year national diploma on architecture can be converted to a Bachelor of Technology (in architecture) degree by doing an additional year);
- A period of practical experience in an architect's office may be required;
- After two more academic years one can leave with a professional masters' degree in Architecture as a candidate professional architect. An MTech degree after a BTech allows one to specialise in a construction-related direction rather than as a designer;
- Write the professional practice exams after a further two years of supervised professional experience to register with the South African Council for the Architectural Professions (SACAP) as a professional architect

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- Bursaries are offered by government and several public institutions, including SAIA;
- The Construction Education and Training Authority (CETA) make bursaries available annually (www.ceta.org.za);
- Banks offer special facilities for funding higher education;
- Some firms of architects assist aspiring architects;
- Applications can also be made to the universities for help in funding your studies.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Professional Architects design and manage projects with the assistance of technologists and draughts persons;
- Lecturers at universities are often registered architects and may also be in private practice;
- Developers often include registered architects in their in-house professional teams;
- Work ranges from massive complexes for public bodies to say, a meticulous restoration of a historic building;
- Architects often specialise in a particular field of expertise such as: hospitals, shopping centres, or heritage buildings;
- Architects in South Africa, through the SA Institute of Architects, benefit through relations with international bodies such as the International Union of Architects (UIA), the Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA), the Africa Union of Architects (AUA) and other international organisations.

"This course will help you understand what spatial design professionals really do, so you can decide if this is the right profession for you."

What do Architects and Urban Planners do?

<https://www.edx.org/course/what-do-architects-and-urban-planners-do>