Welcome!

University of Belgrade
Faculty of Architecture

This is the place you want to be if you are striving for a professional career in architecture and urbanism.

The Faculty of Architecture of the University of Belgrade is the leading higher education institution for architecture and urban studies in the Balkan region. As an institution with a long tradition, the Faculty takes stock of historical achievements while striving to train professionals whose ideas and innovations forge new paths of advancement in architecture, arts and design, humanities and urban sciences.
The school’s strengths come from transformational achievements over the last decade, which have included the development of academic and performance spaces, programmes, policies and collaboration across academic programs.

The most prominent of these developments are the national accreditation of Faculty’s programmes, diploma equivalent to a French national diploma in architecture (enabling professional practice and license acquisition in France), and validated Course Status for RIBA Part 1 and 2, as well as a regional and international high ranking (one of Europe’s Top 100 Schools of Architecture and Design by DOMUS Magazine, one of the oldest and most esteemed architecture magazines in the world).

The school’s coherent academic mission and vision is to act with integrity and to place efforts to engage in education, student services and admission, teaching and research practices, and to create more integrated leadership and governance structures.

A number of challenges facing the school as it moves forward in pursuit of its goals and objectives result in maintaining and enhancing academic quality and distinctiveness, and in fostering more collaboration across the departments to create new programmes and synergies seen as key to realizing an academic mission focused on constant innovation to develop programmes that attract the types and numbers of students that best fit the Faculty and its mission.

Celebrating 170 years

Photo: Maja Bulatović
Since 1846

As one of the oldest faculties within University of Belgrade (the first architecture study programme was introduced in 1846), we are the leading school for studies in architecture and urbanism in the region for 170 years running.

Today the Faculty of Architecture has a great tradition and reputation, and its presence gives an unusual mix of strengths from which to incubate new programmes that bring architecture and urbanism together with arts and humanities. The school is divided into three departments: Architecture, Urbanism and Architectural Technology with a large full-time faculty and general staff supporting professional growth and progress.
The earliest steps in the history of teaching architecture in Serbia can be traced back to the first half of the 19th century. Among many other courses in the curriculum, the Department of Philosophy of the Lyceum offered a single course in this field, titled Civil Architecture, which was of a general educational nature.

Along with the Lyceum, the Engineering School was founded in Belgrade in 1846 (July 1st). The Engineering School indicated by its name a clear orientation towards the architectural profession and the programme has followed a course of study still used to educate architects. Of the five courses initially offered, one was Architecture.

An 1863 law made the highest educational institution the Higher School, which included Faculties of Law, Philosophy and Engineering. The Faculty of Engineering lasted for four years, but architecture still had to fight for its place among a range of courses. A crucial moment was the establishment of the Office for Architecture at the Faculty of Engineering. The Office became the Architecture Department in 1905 when a University act divided the Faculty of Engineering into departments. After WWII, the Faculty of Engineering transformed into the Technical School with six independent faculties, one of which was the Faculty of Architecture.

When the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Belgrade moved into a new building in 1932, it situated the Faculty of Architecture in an iconic Belgrade building. One of the last classicist buildings constructed in Europe in the 20th century with the express design of hosting technical schools, a purpose it has retained for nearly a century. The building was designed by two renowned Serbian architects, Nikola Nestorović and Branko Tanazović, and was erected in 1925-1931.

The Technical School was abolished in 1954 and the Faculty of Architecture as an autonomous institution became part of the University of Belgrade. Since then it has undergone numerous internal changes and teaching reforms, but the integrity of the only educational institution in the field of architecture in Belgrade has been preserved.
Design based curriculums, increasing yearly in complexity, comprise the majority of study programmes. Through practical experience and a project-based learning system linked with a wide variety of theoretical and research oriented modules, students are prepared for contemporary professional practice. Study programmes are delivered by a pool of teachers with backgrounds in both practice and research, to ensure the balance between theoretical and practical aspects of the education. Some of the leading positions at the Faculty of Architecture are held by teachers with a proven professional record of built projects in the region. Their experience and understanding of the building industry and legislation is an important aspect connecting study programmes with the modern professional practice. At the same time, the Faculty of Architecture actively participates in scientific research projects enabling the continuous opportunity for new knowledge, offered through study programmes and introduced into professional practice by future graduates. With a one hundred and seventy year tradition, the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Architecture has been the focal point of development, promotion and dissemination of architectural knowledge in the region.
Graduates are thus prepared equally well for the professional practice in the region and in other parts of the world. The education they receive at the Faculty of Architecture in Belgrade provides them with an excellent foundation for further education abroad and a launching pad for a successful career the world over.

The Faculty’s good organization, tradition, and keeping-up with trends make it a driver leading to yet more experimental and innovative ways for the students and teachers at the Faculty to think, envision, and design the built environment.

The Faculty is strongly devoted to establishing an academic and creative working environment which encourages professionalism and intellectual exchange and demonstrates the breadth, depth, and quality of our educational offerings. Confirmation comes from numerous successful students and graduates, often achieving enviable results domestically and abroad. Our graduates are known for their general and professionally profiled knowledge enabling successful employment in various fields of architectural practice.
Integrated Education

The Faculty of Architecture is a distinguished, broad-minded school offering comprehensive degree studies in architecture and urbanism addressing various thematic areas and promote a distinct focus on creativity, innovation and academic research. A distinctive feature of the Study Programme at the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Architecture, is based on the integrated approach to education, with equal emphasis on Architecture, Urbanism and Architectural Technology in three distinct Departments. The Study Programme is composed of social sciences, humanities, technical, technological, artistic and philosophical aspects represented differently in each of the Departments with view to helping students develop sound professional knowledge, as well as the capacity to innovatively engage with current problems of our society.

Electivity

Study programmes at the Faculty of Architecture allow the student to come up with their own course selection, thus tailoring the education to their particular needs. All three departments offer a number of elective modules, open to all students. The number of electives increases and diversifies over the course of a study programme. At the Bachelor’s level, the choice is limited, while at the Master’s level, students are given greater freedom and encouraged to attend electives from all Departments and explore specific areas according to their individual interests and aspirations. The list of topics offered through electives ranges from theoretical discourses, through applied and performing arts related themes, to those related to better understanding of the design media and building technologies.

Photo: Maja Bulatović
Belgrade
Local and Global Outlook

Studying at the University of Belgrade – Faculty of Architecture means being deeply embedded in the fabric of the surrounding city. The city of Belgrade, in addition to being a vibrant and continually changing capital of the country, is an important node in Southeast Europe, and provides a rich contextual framework for teaching and learning at the Faculty of Architecture.

The city offers itself as an opportunity to study contemporary change of the built environment, including cultural, social and economic conditions leading to this change. The current methods of work at the Faculty, for both staff and students, include the use of small scale workshops found in the city, some even in the immediate vicinity of the school. The collaboration with artists and craftsmen, who traditionally thrive in the metropolitan culture of Belgrade, has always been an important part of studying at the Faculty and a specific way of developing a better understanding of the material aspects of the profession.
Study Programmes

The Faculty of Architecture offers a comprehensive education, including a wide range of studies and related educational activities, which enable the sharing of knowledge and development of skills required for practicing architecture and urbanism within an interdisciplinary environment.

The studies offer practice-based courses that aim to prepare students for future careers in architecture and urbanism. The students are taught by academics and professional practitioners and supported to develop the practical and specialist technical, conceptual and professional skills required for future practice in a chosen subject, by getting involved and participating in studio-based practice and school projects – public screenings and exhibitions offer valuable opportunities for students to engage with professional contexts and receive feedback on their work.

The Faculty currently offers the following programmes:
- Undergraduate study programme
- Master’s Study programmes: Architecture, Integral Urbanism, Interior Architecture
- Single-cycle 5-year study programme
- Doctoral Studies

Undergraduate Study Programme

Undergraduate studies represent the first-degree studies and are conceived as a comprehensive education including a broad set of subjects related to technical, technological and social sciences, arts and humanities, providing students with the foundation for further professional and scientific development.

The study programme is organized around study units and courses. Study units are packages of one or more courses, grouped according to content and teaching method. Studies include both theoretical and practical education, with greater focus on instruction within the studio (‘studio driven’ method), where students gain the required knowledge, skills or competences via individual or group work on a particular (design) project in the field of architecture, urbanism and architectural technologies. In the field of fundamental sciences, theoretical education is separated into academic and general education, while the field of architecture, urbanism and architectural technologies is divided into the theoretical and methodological.

Studies last 3 years / 6 semesters, amounting to 180 ECTS, and are offered in Serbian and English. Upon completion of the programme, students are awarded the title of Bachelor of Architecture. Undergraduate studies are validated for RIBA Part 1 Status.
Master’s Study Programmes

Master’s studies are offered in several scientific and artistic fields, providing a multidisciplinary education and opportunities for future architects to create their own educational curriculums.

The programmes are based on the studio-driven method which emphasises teaching in a studio where students gain the necessary knowledge, skills and competences by working on a comprehensive project individually or in a group. Studio design consists of two parts: 1) the practical part, which includes work on a defined brief, and 2) the theoretical part, which consists of seminars and lectures related to topics complementing the studio work. At the moment, the Faculty offers three Master’s programmes:

– Master’s study programme in Architecture,
– Master’s study programme in Integral Urbanism, and
– Master’s study programme in Interior Architecture.

Master’s Study Programme In Architecture

120ECTS | ENG | RIBA

Master’s study programme in Architecture is conceived to integrate the fields of history and theory of architecture, architectural and urban design, urban planning, implementation of architectural structures, architectural technologies and structural engineering.

The studies are academic in nature and are structured as modular starting from the first semester. The modules include A (Architecture), U (Urbanism), AT (Architectural Technologies) and AE (Architectural Engineering). The modules are linked by common courses (both required and elective) in the first 3 semesters. Curriculums include carefully selected tasks and topics with practical relevance, so as to ensure a link to real practice. Teaching of this study programme is studio-driven, which means that the focus is on teaching in the studio, allowing students to work individually or in groups on specific designs to acquire the necessary knowledge, skills and competences in the fields of architecture, urbanism, architectural technologies and architectural engineering. Instruction comprises two elements: practical learning, which involves hands-on experience working on a design task, and theoretical learning, which includes seminars offering insight into specific theoretical elements that are necessary for developing a design. The unity of practice and theory is reflected in the structure of the Master’s Diploma project, which includes a theoretical part – Master’s Thesis, a practical part – Master’s Design and Master’s Final project. The study programme also includes internships, which are aimed at providing students with the opportunity to apply acquired knowledge and to acquire direct practical knowledge and experience in architectural offices, and/or other public institutions.

Studies last 2 years / 4 semesters, amounting to 120 ECTS and are offered in Serbian and English. Upon completion of the programme, students are awarded the title of Master of Architecture, with reference to the selected major – Module – A, U, AT, AE. Master’s studies are validated for RIBA Part 2 Status.
Master's Study Programme In Integral Urbanism
120ECTS

Master’s study programme in Integral Urbanism is an interdisciplinary study programme encompassing learning and research on spatial, technical, social and other issues relating to urban and regional planning and urban design, especially developed for students who want to pursue a career in these fields.

The purpose of understanding the magnitude and complexity of professional field with which urban planners are dealing, is to prepare students for work and further education and to provide support in identifying personal affinity and recognising professional and vocational interests. Therefore, the curriculum is developed according to the new role experts of urban planning and design face in the changing urban environment of countries in transition, as well as the new institutional and cultural context of contemporary cities. This study programme aims to provide future planners and urban designers with skills to create new solutions for effective, efficient and aesthetically satisfying organization of the urban environment, given the socio-economic and cultural particularities of any urbanization process. In other words, the programme provides socially justified competences. Connected to the European Master’s in Planning & Policies for Cities, Environment and Landscape, and in cooperation with universities from Venice, Alghero, Barcelona, Girona and Lisbon, the programme further enables students to exchange ideas and experiences with their colleagues from other countries.

Studies last 2 years / 4 semesters, amounting to 120 ECTS. Upon completion of the programme, students are awarded the title of Master of Urbanism and Regional Development.

Master’s Study Programme In Interior Architecture
120ECTS

Master’s study programme in Interior Architecture is a programme introducing a broad range of design skills and techniques and outlining ways of thinking about design and interior architecture.

This programme was inaugurated in 2014 and positioned to lead the discourse and address the practice of interior architecture and design in the 21st century. The studies are studio-driven, with a focus on the teaching providing scientific, technical and artistic skills aimed at performing professional activities in the field of architectural design of interior spaces. Theoretical learning includes seminars offering insight into architecture and built interior, design as social practice and culture, etc. The unity of practice and theory is reflected in the structure of the Master’s Diploma project. The study programme also includes internships, which are aimed at providing students with the opportunity to apply the acquired knowledge and to procure direct practical knowledge and experience.

Studies last 2 years / 4 semesters, amounting to 120 ECTS. Upon completion of the programme, students are awarded the title of Master Engineer of Interior Architecture.
Single-Cycle 5-Year Study Programme
In Architecture
300ECTS

The single-cycle, integrated studies represent a linear continuous five-year education made by combining Undergraduate and Master’s studies in Architecture. The single-cycle studies are offered in order to adapt the education of architects to current trends and professional demands both in our country and globally.

Therefore, this programme fits the requirements of the complexity and particularities of the profession and the content of contemporary study programmes since it is derived from currently active programmes.

This study programme is based on the tradition and evolution of academic education of architects which has been implemented at the Faculty of Architecture for more than 150 years, and in demand for a wide range of opportunities for professional architects. The greatest quality is continuity and uninterrupted flow of the study programme, consistent methodology and a focused articulation of education.

Studies last 5 years / 10 semesters, amounting to 300 ECTS and are offered in Serbian. Upon completion of the programme, students are awarded the title of Master of Architecture.

Doctoral Study Programme
180ECTS | ENG

The doctoral study programme combines advanced research in both scientific and artistic studies with a broader educational agenda, preparing graduates for practice in global academic, research and professional environments.

Doctoral studies aim at training candidates for the independent and critically-oriented research encouraging and supporting connections between architecture and other fields of knowledge and practice. It is a relatively autonomous educational unit based on studies of architecture and urbanism, but also on other related disciplines.

PhD studies offer a solid foundation in theoretical and methodological discourse, with sufficient flexibility to allow development of individual research agendas. The programme itself is very dynamic with active series of talks, seminars and conferences which students are expected to attend. In the first three semesters of a three year course of studies, candidates attend required and elective courses; in their fourth semester, candidates decide upon the specific area of scientific or artistic research. The third academic year is dedicated exclusively to independent research: the fifth semester is focused on thematic research related to the doctoral thesis, while the sixth semester is for the completion of the doctoral dissertation. The actuality of PhD studies is of high importance. The goal is their uniqueness, therefore the curriculum is constantly shaped according to the ongoing needs and position of the discipline.

Upon completion, students are awarded the professional title of Doctor of Technical Sciences in Architecture and Urbanism. Studies last 3 years / 6 semesters, amount to 180 ECTS, and are offered in Serbian and English. To be eligible for admission, students need to have completed at least 300 ECTS.
Our ambition is to keep our research field growing and we invite you to contact us and present your ideas for collaboration.

The Faculty runs projects aimed at development of research capacities, addressing challenges in global and local society, and an international positioning of the school and its researches. These are accomplished through contemporary architectural education, promotion and implementation of the highest standards in architectural production, and formulation of consistent policies in architecture and urbanism in Serbia and abroad. To be able to achieve established goals and to improve professional and research standards, we collaborate with and use the resources provided by the local government and international funding bodies. Currently there are about 20 projects implemented under national and international programmes that explore topics related to innovative concepts and advanced architectural technology, green architecture concepts, urban/spatial planning and smart cities, housing and housing models, relevance and application of climate change and environmental protection, new technologies and the like.
As part of our conferences and lecture series, we have hosted Peter Eisenman, Juhani Pallasmaa, Bernard Tschumi, Rem Koolhaas, Kengo Kuma, Thom Mayne, Daniel Libeskind, Johan Bettum, Reinhold Martin, Mark Wigley, Mark Cousins, Mario Carpo, Jeffrey Kipnis, Anne Lacaton, Christoph Gantenbein, Betti Marenko, Nanne de Ru and Charles Bessard, Cristina Diaz Moreno and Efren Garcia, Patrik Schumacher, Karin Šerman, Nathalie Blanc, Marco Brizzi, Murray Fraser, etc. We were proud to welcome renowned architects, philosophers, designers and artists who have selflessly shared their thoughts and invaluable experience with the student and professional audience here in Belgrade.

The Faculty of Architecture is a vibrant place, pulsing with a variety of on-site and off-site events that engage not only a vast number of students and teaching staff, but local and international partners and the public at large.

Each year we organize exhibitions, conferences, workshops and other events to complement the existing study programmes. We promote new ideas and innovative practices, and establish institutional and professional links with the international community.
We encourage creativity, innovation, dialogue.

Day after day we continue in our pursuit of excellence in teaching, promoting fundamental and practical research, instilling students with a sense of ethics and social responsibility and sharing the enthusiasm for research and an awareness of the scientific challenges of the present and the future.
We teach architecture since 1846. I invite you to join thousands of successful professionals in architecture and urban planning who began their career in our school.

Prof. Vladan Djokić, PhD
Dean

Admission requirements

Standard procedure involves an application, an entrance examination and enrolment. Admission requirements vary depending on the type of studies. They are defined for each study programme and available at the office of admission, as well as on the official website of the Faculty.

The Faculty of Architecture also organises student exchanges, whether on a basis of a call for exchange or as part of international exchange programmes. All applicants have equal rights which shall not be limited on grounds of gender, race, marital status, skin colour, language, religion, political belief, national, social or ethnic origin, disability or any other similar ground, position or circumstance.

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