WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN... ARCHITECTURE

Architects are licensed professionals educated in the art and science of building design. Architects work collaboratively with a wide range of design professionals. They may be involved in designing the total built environment, such as large-scale masterplans integrating buildings with their surrounding landscape, to the design of architectural interiors, construction details and furniture design. Architects' skills are both broad and specific—idea creation, designing, engineering, managing, supervising, and communicating with clients and builders. Architects develop a thorough knowledge of the history, place and culture that buildings reside in. They also develop a thorough knowledge of the art of building construction, with an ability to design, collaborate and communicate their ideas effectively.*

*Taken from Becoming an Architect by National Council of Architectural Registration Boards

TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

Architecture Firms
Design Firms
Real Estate Developers
Builders & Contractors
Local Government Agencies

Educational Institutions
Non-profit Organizations
Building Suppliers
Preservation Firms
Construction Firms

SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS

Architect
Interior Designer
Landscape Designer
Urban Designer
Computational Designer
Artist/Designer
City & Regional Planner
Drafter
Furniture Designer
Project Manager

Renovator
Construction Manager
Surveyor
Real Estate Appraiser
Real Estate Developer
Historic Preservationist
Curator
Historic Interior Designer
Architectural Conservator
Historian

PREPARING FOR YOUR CAREER IN

There are four main steps to becoming an architect:

Education, Internship, Examination, and Licensure

One must earn a professional degree in architecture from a NAAB-accredited institution such as UNC Charlotte. They must also complete a comprehensive training program, called the Intern Development Program (IDP), to gain real-world experience and training necessary for professional development. During the IDP process, interns complete six Architectu-

tural Record Exams (ARE) for their state. Upon successful completion of the Professional Degree, Internship, and Examination, one can obtain their license to practice architecture. Architects must be licensed before they can legally call themselves an Architect.

For additional information, go to www.ncarb.org.

RELATED WEBSITES

The American Institute of Architects
www.aia.org

The American Institute of Architecture Students
www.aias.org

American Planning Association
www.planning.org

Association of Licensed Architects
alatoday.org

National Organization of Minority Architects
www.noma.net

HOW DO I KNOW IF IT'S RIGHT FOR ME?

ASSESS: Take a career assessment, such as the Strong Interest Inventory or MBTI, to see how your interests, values, and personality fit with majors and careers.

RESEARCH: Research the careers on this WCIDWAMI and thousands of other careers using these top career websites:


EXPLORE: Learn more about a career field of interest by job shadowing, attending a career panel, or participating in a Company Trek. Further your exploration while gaining valuable skills by completing an internship, co-op, volunteer, or research experience.

For the expanded version of this WCIDWAMI, visit career.uncc.edu/majors/architecture