Architectural Technology

Official Program Checksheet

Why Choose Architectural Technology?

The two-year Architectural Technology curriculum provides a comprehensive framework of technical abilities and conceptual knowledge that form the foundation of the architecture profession. Specifically, the curriculum is designed with an emphasis on visual communication, building materials, building systems and digital technology, combined with architectural history, sustainability and design principles.

Under the guidance of the faculty of professional, licensed architects, the program mission is to prepare students to continue education for a baccalaureate degree in professions related to the built environment.

Taught by practitioners, the Architectural Technology curriculum is unique in its emphasis on the practice of the profession. Studio classes provide students with experience in the areas of building materials and construction methods, architectural documentation including CAD and BIM (Building Information Modeling), building codes, presentation techniques, architectural history, and architectural design. The curriculum provides skills, knowledge, and the preparation necessary for success in further educational opportunities after graduation.

Many associate degree graduates take advantage of a double degree path that includes two of the following baccalaureate degrees: a BS in Architecture and Sustainability, a BS in Facility Management, or a BS in Construction Management. These paths consist of a structured, organized curriculum that allows students to complete the associate degree and two baccalaureate degrees in five years. (Further preparation may be required for entry into the Construction Management program.)

Career Opportunities

The ongoing expansion and specialization in technological applications of building systems and environmental issues, as well as the growth in architectural services, has greatly increased the need for skilled architectural technicians to function in a support role with architects and other professionals related to the built environment.

A beginning technician works closely with a team to produce design development drawings, construction documents and specifications. With experience, the architectural technician becomes involved in other phases of work such as project field observation, preparation of written specifications, building code analysis, CAD, BIM (Building Information Modeling), and presentation of designs.
There is no geographic limitation on employment opportunities, and advancement in the profession depends on the development of technical expertise.

**Admission Requirements**

Admission to the College of Engineering Technology is open to high school graduates who demonstrate academic preparedness, maturity and seriousness of purpose with backgrounds appropriate to their chosen program of study. Among first-time students in our technical programs, the average high school GPA is 3.2, and the average ACT composite score is 21.

Students entering the Architectural Technology program must have a high school diploma with a minimum 2.75 GPA or equivalent, a minimum ACT composite of 19 or a minimum SAT composite of 990, a minimum ACT Math subscore of 19 or a minimum SAT MATH of 550, and an ACT reading subscore of 17.

**General Education Requirements**

All University General Education requirements can be found here: http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/general-education/requirements/AAS.htm

Please consult this link for a complete listing of General Education Electives: http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/academics/general-education/courses/index.htm

Consult the official checksheet or program advisor for program specific General Education requirements.

**Graduation Requirements**

The Architectural Technology program at Ferris leads to an Associate in Applied Science degree. Graduation requires a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0. Students must complete all general education requirements as outlined on the General Education website.

**More Information**

Architecture and Facility Management
Ferris State University
915 Campus Drive/SWN 314
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone 231-591-3100
e-mail: atfm@ferris.edu