



Budapest University of Technology and Economics
Faculty of Architecture

Doctoral School of Architecture
Course Program_2022

Approved by the UHCDC_20220428

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Appendices

The appendices to the Course Program may be found in the document store marked DSA-K

- DSA_K01 Subject descriptions
- DSA_K02 Publication scoring
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1. The basis of operation

The Doctoral School of Architecture (hereinafter: DSA) operates within the framework of the BME, in the discipline of architectural arts; the diploma it issues certifies the DLA (Doctor of Liberal Arts) degree.

The basic documents of its operation are Act CCIV of 2011 on National Higher Education as well as the legislation based on this, particularly Government Decree 387/2012. (XII.19.) on Doctoral Schools, the Doctoral Procedure and Habilitation. Important guidelines are also set down by the Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (ESG 2015), and by the resolutions of the Hungarian Accreditation Committee.

The DSA regulations based on the regulations of the BME represent the framework of School's operation:

- BME Doctoral and Habilitation Regulations (BME DHR)
- BME Academic and Examination Regulations (BME AER)
- DSA Course program
- DSA Operation Regulations
- DSA Quality Assurance Plan

The following presents the regulations containing the requirements specific for the discipline covered by the DSA, without generally repeating the prescriptions of the BME DHR and the BME AER.

2. The goal of the course, the professional competencies to be learnt

On the basis of the requirements in connection with HuQF level 8 art courses, the Doctoral School of Architecture has set the achievement of the following main study results as its objective:

- _ students graduating from the course are active participants in the community of those dealing with architectural art
- _ their topics are determined with social and environmental sensitivity
- _ they detect changes, and react to them; the questions they pose and their responses are characterised by an individual perspective, responsibility and a critical approach
- _ in addition to the freedom of expression, they are committed to the values and standards of their profession

2.1. Knowledge

Architects acquiring the DLA degree have

- _ penetrating knowledge of all relevant research methods and techniques related to architectural art
- _ the ability to differentiate between valuable and irrelevant scientific and artistic research, in both theoretical and practical fields
- _ deep knowledge of the relationships and theories in architectural art, and of the systems of concepts and terminology that build these

- _ deep knowledge of the areas of contact with other branches of the arts and specialist fields related to his/her own research field
- _ broad knowledge of the national and international context in which his/her work appears and related to his/her artistic and research activities
- _ high-level knowledge of the relationships of social responsibility and the ethics implications of creative behaviour

2.2. Ability

Architects acquiring the DLA degree have

- _ the ability to independently plan and implement research, utilise architectural research methods and techniques, the ability to publish and interpret his/her research results in professional forums and in the course of the activity as instructor
- _ the ability to recognise, identify and formulate research problems in the field of architecture and reveal new relationships
- _ the ability to develop the theories, techniques and instruments of architecture
- _ the ability to comprehensibly share the highly specialised information from his/her own field of creation/research with various target groups
- _ the ability to analyse theoretical and empirical research and to integrate that observed into his/her own architectural activity
- _ the ability to represent architecture at a high level in Hungarian and international professional forums and in public life
- _ the ability to carry out strategic thinking in connection with architecture and, within this, with his/her own architectural activity

2.3. Attitude

Architects acquiring the DLA degree have

- _ the ability to take an innovative stance to creative and research techniques,
- _ the ability to be open to establishing new artistic insights and relationships
- _ the ability to consciously endeavour to investigate artistic and scientific contexts that deepen and broaden his/her creative activity
- _ the commitment to pass on his/her creative work, knowledge and creative/research results on the architecture course
- _ the demand to establish and maintain cooperation relationships with members of the Hungarian and international creative community
- _ the ability to recognise the ethical aspects as creator and part of society and to take action in view of these

2.4. Autonomy and responsibility

Architects acquiring the DLA degree have

- _ the ability to perform his/her architectural activity in full creative autonomy and to exploit his/her own untapped professional potential
- _ the ability to initiate architectural art projects and contribute to joint creations with the representatives of his/her own or other fields of the arts and science with full professional responsibility
- _ the ability to react in an open and responsible way to opinions and initiatives in connection with architectural art in professional forums and the broader social environment
- _ the ability to represent architecture in the various forums of the propagation of knowledge
- _ commitment to actively participate in public life and are conscious of that the formulation of his/her opinion also shapes the opinions of others
- _ the ability to understand the social responsibility originating from his/her role as architect and to play an active role in the public debating of artistic and social problems

3. The four basic elements of the course

The course consists of four areas of activity:

- _ research-based architecture
- _ publication
- _ study material
- _ guided instruction

A total of 240 credits must be acquired in specified proportions during the entire term of the course, within this, students must acquire at least 120 credits during the four active semesters of the research and thesis phase. ¹

Research-based architecture and the publication of the results achieved in the framework of this stand at the centre of

¹ AER Article 186(1)5

the activity of the DSA; these are the two most important elements of its operations.

3.1. Research-based architecture

Subject	Contact hours	Credit value	Method of assessment	Assessor
Research-based architecture 1 to 4	Doctoral Wednesdays	12	Mid-semester grade	Advisor
Research-based architecture 5 to 8	Semester report Workplace debate	20	Mid-semester grade	Advisor

Research-based architecture is more than an academic subject: it is a constantly performed comprehensive research-creation activity acknowledged with credits. The concept of research-based architecture is understood to jointly mean independent, creative architectural work, as well as the reflective (analysis of external examples, literature) and self-reflective (evaluation of the student's own creative experience) research activities supporting this. Within the scope of the subject two mutually reinforcing activities are performed in parallel: theoretical research work (writing studies) and artistic practice (architectural design).

3.2. Publication

Subject	Contact hours	Credit value	Method of assessment	Assessor
Publication 1 to 8	-	4	Mid-semester grade ²	Advisor, DSC

The minimal requirement demanded by the DHR³ in the Doctoral School of Architecture is a graded, implemented architectural creation. Masterworks may only be published creations; only the HCDC may grant exceptions to this upon request, in exceptional circumstances (e.g. confidential work).

In addition to this the Course Plan specifies requirements in the scope of the subject of creation, written publications meeting academic standards (study, essay), within the framework of a cited medium or a medium included in the MTMT system (repository of Hungarian academic works).

Publication is an activity for which credits are awarded, the content of which is characteristically derived in the subject of research-based architecture (study, design competition), but it may also come from other creative or theoretical work (e.g. design, implemented work, conference lecture).

The credit values associated with this work are included in the appendix "DSA_K02 Publication scoring".

3.3. Study material

The purpose of the study material consisting of three groups of subjects built from a system of mandatory and optional subjects is support of the basic activity and the provision of the theoretical background. The DSC may review the subjects on a yearly basis.

a) Obligatory subjects, methodology subject group, also the subjects of the complex examination

Research methodology 1 to 4: The objective of the subject is for the students to obtain an overview of the position, purpose, concept system and research methods of architecture within the sum total of academic disciplines as an academically determined creative process. The subject offers theoretical and methodology assistance for the elaboration of the individual's research topics, and supports the students on the course with practical help during the entire process of their theoretical research work (study writing).

Subject	Contact hours	Credit value	Method of assessment	Assessor
Research methodology 1	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host
Research methodology 2	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host
Research methodology 3	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host
Research	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host

² AER Article 177(3)

³ DHR Article 17(5)

methodology 4				
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b) Obligatory subjects, thematic subject group, also the subjects of the complex examination

Culture and architecture: The aim of the subject is to explore the place and role of architecture in culture, to broaden the spectrum of interest of the students, to illustrate the broader relationships of cultural phenomena, to develop a way of thinking in greater perspectives in order to enrich and cultivate creative work in architecture.

Architecture and communication: The objective and method of the subject is dual: using theoretical knowledge and practice, independent and group experiences, the subject wishes to support the approach that instead of a creative approach involving conveyance, it is worthwhile thinking about architecture as a communication process.

Environment psychology: The objective of the subject is, with a view to shaping attitude, to provide postgraduate students with an overview of the classical and modern approaches to the psychology of built, natural and virtual environments, its methods and practically applicable research results.

Modern Hungarian architecture: In addition to the presentation of modern Hungarian architecture, the subject examines its critical evaluation, a reinterpretation of its principles and the methodology of its prominent creators.

Subject	Contact hours	Credit value	Method of assessment	Assessor
Culture and architecture	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host
Architecture and communication	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host
Environment psychology	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host
Modern Hungarian architecture	2	4	Mid-semester grade	Subject host

c) Optional subjects

The “creation-research” subject advertised by the DSA may be studied without preliminary approval.

The subjects advertised by BME’s or other universities’ MSc courses or the subjects advertised by any doctoral school that facilitate successful progress in the research topic.

The external optional subjects that the student wishes to undertake must be indicated in advance in the workplan and approved by the DSC.

The DSC recognises up to 12 credits from subjects the doctoral students undertake from the MSc or doctoral courses of other institutions as long as they belong to disciplines that do not appear in the DSA’s course program but that are essential for successful research into the topic. The subjects to be undertaken in this way must be indicated in advance in the annual workplan and approved by the DSC.

In the case of optional subjects, the credit values indicated in the sample curriculum and broken down for the semester (in the case of proportionate fulfilment) may be consolidated within one semester.

Subject	Contact hours	Credit value	Method of assessment	Assessor
Creation	-	2 (4)	signature	Subject host
Optional	-	2-3 (4-6)	signature	Subject host

3.4. Guided instruction ⁴

Guided instruction has special significance in the field of architectural art. The community nature of architecture assumes a broad cooperative ability, one of the training grounds of which is participation as an instructor on the graduate course. On the one hand, it tests the knowledge learnt in the course in practice, and, on the other hand, it prepares the future instructors for their profession. The doctoral student develops his/her lecturing and communication skills under the guidance of an appointed instructor, on the basis of elaborated and well-documented study material, characteristically in the scope of design consultation.

⁴ 30 credits must be fulfilled, Article 179 of the BME AER concerns the instruction activity in excess of this

Subject	Contact hours	Credit value	Method of assessment	Assessor
Guided instruction 1 to 8	Departmental allocation	4-3	signature	Head of department

4. The course system

The doctoral course is an activity performed in the scope of independent or group instruction corresponding to the characteristics of the field of art and the demands of the doctoral student. The course consists of a training and research phase and a research and thesis phase; both phases are four semesters in length. The condition of moving on from the first phase to the second is a pass grade in the complex examination.⁵

The course takes place on the basis of personal workplans.⁶ It is necessary to draw up a workplan every semester in the training and research phase, and to draw up a workplan for the two years of the research and thesis phase as a part of the complex examination.

4.1. Training and research phase

The first two years of the course is the period of study and preparation. The basis is the group of subjects involving research-based architecture and publication, which is a continuously performed comprehensive activity and is intensively supported by subjects providing special knowledge. Guided instruction is when students have the opportunity to share the knowledge they have obtained and gain experience with organising instruction.

The work in the training and research phase is carried out both individually and in groups.

Tasks performed individually include research in the student's own topic, which, however, is linked to a broader field and the department community.⁷

Design competition: The setting of this teamwork (groups of 3 to 5) is a design competition announced in every academic year. Depending on the decision of the DSC the competition may be restricted to students in the Doctoral School, open (if the course schedule permits this) or it may be a current project task.

The design competition is a part of the subject of research-based architecture. Participation is obligatory for students in the research and training phase and is recommended for students in the thesis phase.

4.2. Complex examination

Following the fourth semester the students must take a complex examination, which measures and assesses academic and research progress, and a pass grade is a condition of moving on to the second phase of study. The complex examination is an important milestone of the course, its process and detailed requirements are included in section 3.3 of the Operation Regulations (sections 4.1 and 4.2 in the case of students preparing independently).

4.3. Research and dissertation phase

In the second phase of the course the students select a personal research topic in consultation with their advisor. This may be a completely independent, new topic, but it may also constitute the continuation of previous research. The personal research topic is the first step of the preparations for graduation; this research will be the basis of the thesis to be defended. Therefore, it is advantageous if this topic is linked in one way or another to the future masterwork or to the student's personal creative methods.

The students research the personal topic and prepare their thesis under the guidance of their advisor in the scope of the subject Research-based architecture, according to the stipulations in the subject description.

The BME issues a pre-degree certificate to those doctoral students who have acquired the prescribed number of credits in the doctoral course.

The students of the Doctoral School of Architecture may submit their doctoral thesis and portfolio, including their masterwork, within one year of obtaining the pre-degree certificate. The detailed requirements of this, as well as the rules of the doctoral graduation procedure are included in the Operation Regulations.

5. Sample curriculum

	Training and research phase				Research and thesis phase				credits
	Sem. 1	Sem. 2	Sem. 3	Sem. 4	Sem. 5	Sem. 6	Sem. 7	Sem. 8	
Research-based architecture	12	12	12	12					48

⁵ AER Article 174

⁶ AER Article 177(1)

⁷ Specialisation in the graduate course

Thematic subjects 1 to 4 (16)							
Publication (32)							
Instruction (30)							
Optinal subjects (18)							

6. English language course

The DSA views it as an obligation to cultivate architecture as discipline in the Hungarian language, and to maintain and develop Hungarian professional language. Nevertheless, the School also views it as a key objective to reinforce its international connections and integrate the English professional language into thinking about architecture. One of the instruments of this is the clear determination of the language requirements and an opportunity for this is the constant operation of the English language course.

The DSA makes all the elements of the Course Program available in the English language. The courses implemented in the two different languages progress in line with the same logic, and only differ in part. The objective is integration, close cooperation and movement between the two groups (Hungarian and English). Among the four basic elements of the course it is the Study Material that is clearly different from the point of view of language, the obligatory subjects (methodology subjects and thematic subjects) are also advertised in English. The other three elements (research-based architecture and design competition, publication, guided instruction) are, as a result of their nature, activities that are less restricted to the timetable, as a result of the close cooperation with the advisor the working language is English. Due to the mixed English-Hungarian groups and some of the lectures being held in English during the doctoral Wednesdays, the design competitions encourage international cooperation.

Closing provision

The BME UHCDC discussed and approved the present document on 28.04.2022.

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Architect

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