





# Architecture (ARCH) 645

## Architectural Practice in Canada (Revision 3)

**Status:** Replaced with new revision, see the [course listing](#)  for the current revision 

**Delivery mode:** [Individualized study online](#) 

**Credits:** 3

**Area of study:** Architecture

**Prerequisites:** Enrollment in the Graduate Diploma in Architecture program or referral from the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) for individuals with a professional degree in architecture from a university outside Canada.

**Precluded:** None

**Faculty:** [Faculty of Science and Technology](#) 



**Notes:**

For students interested in pursuing a career as a registered architect, this course contributes to the RAIC Syllabus Diploma. Information about the **RAIC Syllabus Diploma** [↗](#) is available on the RAIC website.

**Credit may be transferred for previous work considered equivalent.**

## Overview

This course is intended for students in the Graduate Diploma in Architecture program or for those international architecture graduates referred by the CACB. It examines both the theoretical and practical aspects of architectural practice in Canada.

The student will become familiar with the various stakeholders involved in the design and construction of buildings (such as builders, authorities having jurisdiction, consultants, owners, and clients) and their relationship to the architect. The course includes the current context in which architects practice and the laws and regulations that govern their practice in Canada, and it also looks to the future and the position of the architect in society and around the globe.

## Outline

- Unit 1: The Legal Context, Part I
- Unit 2: The Legal Context, Part II
- Unit 3: The Ethical Context
- Unit 4: Architects as Leaders in the Construction Industry
- Unit 5: The Regulatory Context
- Unit 6: The Architect and Sustainable Design
- Unit 7: The Architect as Leader Beyond the Building Project
- Unit 8: Architectural Practice Around the World

- Unit 9: Forms of Architectural Practice in Canada
- Unit 10: Architecture as a Career Path

## Learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to

- describe the general purpose and content of the Architects Act and its regulations of the jurisdiction in which you work.
- apply codes of ethics in everyday practice.
- develop a personal conviction on the role of the architect in society.
- nurture appropriate professional relationships and administer the contractual role of the architect with others in the design and construction industry (e.g., clients, authorities having jurisdiction, consultants, and building product manufacturers).
- apply building codes, standards, and other regulations to the design and construction of buildings.
- analyze how architectural practices may be organized and know the regulations governing the formation of a practice.
- discuss potential new leadership roles for architects.

## Evaluation

To receive credit for ARCH 645, the student must complete all five assignments, receive at least 50% on the final project (Assignment 5), and achieve a final grade of at least 67%.

The weighting of the final grade is as follows:

Activity	Weight
Assignment 1: Regulation and Ethics	20%
Assignment 2: The Construction Industry and the Fundamentals of Architectural Practice	20%
Assignment 3: The Practice of Architecture and Canadian Civic Politics – Understanding Architectural Practice in Canada in	20%

Activity	Weight
Relation to Other Countries	
Assignment 4: The Business of Architecture and Setting Career Goals	20%
Assignment 5: Final Project	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Materials

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. (2020). *Canadian handbook of practice for architects* (3rd ed.). <https://chop.raic.ca/>  (Online)

**Note:** Students are responsible for obtaining the following two documents that are specific to the jurisdiction in which they will work or where they intend to register as an intern architect:

- Building Code
- *Internship in Architecture Program (IAP)*, Fourth Edition (available from provincial/territorial association)

## Important links

- › [RAIC Centre for Architecture](#) 
- › [Graduate Diploma in Architecture](#) 
- › [Courses](#) 
- › [Fees and Funding](#) 

Athabasca University reserves the right to amend course outlines occasionally and without notice. Courses offered by other delivery methods may vary from their individualized study counterparts.

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*Updated December 8, 2024*

View **previous revision** 

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