

# Architectural Studies

## Learning Goals for the Major

1. To gain an understanding of the complex factors that condition the built environment through design analysis, theory, and history.
2. To attain critical and analytical skills through a study of history, theory, and design studios.
3. To cultivate an ability to communicate ideas through written, graphic, and oral means in an organized and articulate fashion by presenting history papers, design critiques, and presentation booklets.
4. To gain the ability for creative problem solving in the design studio.
5. To gain the ability to visualize in spatial and three-dimensional terms.

## About the major

The architectural studies program has been designed to offer students enough of an exposure to the field that they can determine whether they wish to pursue it professionally. It also helps them develop the skills and credentials necessary for admission to graduate study in architecture. For those who decide this is not something they wish to build upon after Middlebury, it still provides a fine way to acquire a liberal arts education in a synthetic manner. It combines study in the history of art and architecture (important for developing critical awareness and skills) with art studio work, calculus, physics, and elective work in a range of fields: environmental studies, geography, economics, sociology, and theater design.

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**“In the fast-changing technology industry, the liberal arts approach to learning, communicating, and problem-solving is a huge advantage.”**

*—Eliza Margolin '16  
Channel Marketing  
Specialist at Formlabs*

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## Reasons you might choose this major

- You are fascinated with architecture, design, and technology.
- You are interested in bringing the liberal arts together in a creative and multidisciplinary way that can be brought to bear upon problem solving.
- You want a solid foundation in design, broadly defined, that sets you up for a variety of career paths, both within and outside the creative economy.
- You want to test your interest in a career in architecture or design and pursue it, postgraduation, at a professional school in the U.S. or abroad and, eventually, professionally.



## Translating Learning into Professional Competencies

Throughout your time at Middlebury, you will develop and enhance the following core professional competencies, skills, and dispositions highly valued by employers that will prepare you for leadership and success in any given field:

**Critical Thinking:** Exercise sound reasoning to analyze issues, make decisions, and overcome problems.

**Oral/Written Communications:** Articulate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively in written and oral forms.

**Teamwork/Collaboration:** Build collaborative relationships with colleagues and customers from diverse backgrounds.

**Leadership:** Leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals, and use interpersonal skills to coach and develop others.

**Professionalism/Work Ethic:** Demonstrate personal accountability and effective work habits.

**Global/Intercultural Fluency:** Value, respect, and learn from diverse cultures, races, ages, genders, sexual orientations, and religions.

**Digital Technology:** Leverage existing digital technologies ethically and efficiently to solve problems, complete tasks, and accomplish goals.

**Career Management:** Identify and articulate one's skills, strengths, knowledge, and experiences relevant to career goals, and identify areas necessary for professional development.



**Middlebury College**  
Center for Careers and Internships

## Where architectural studies majors go

### Applying your learning through internships . . .

Students pursue internships and research in a variety of fields, enabling them to apply their liberal arts learning in real-world settings. Internships, research, and self-directed projects enrich your academic experience and help prepare you for life after Middlebury. Students of foreign languages, literatures, and cultures have interned or done research at:

Whitney Museum of American Art  
J. Paul Getty Center  
Middlebury College Museum of Art  
National Public Radio  
Eric Cohler Design  
Salt Branding  
Western Environmental Law Center  
Harvard Graduate School of Design  
Career Discovery Program  
Phaidon Press  
Edgewater Gallery  
Truckee Donner Land Trust  
Student Conservation Association  
Horton Architecture  
Bloomsbury Publishing  
The National September 11 Memorial  
and Museum at the World Trade Center Foundation Inc.  
Museum of Byzantine Culture  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
1% for the Planet  
Shelburne Museum  
RebelMouse  
BDR Partners  
ArtLA  
DramaFever  
Christie's  
Boston Redevelopment Authority  
The Child Health Institute at Rutgers  
Robert Wood Johnson Medical School  
Radical Media

### . . . leading to meaningful, dynamic, and engaging career paths.

See some of the many interesting ways our graduates have applied their liberal arts learning to engage the world. If you want to see what other Middlebury alumni are doing now, log into [Mid2Mid](#) and search by major: [go/midd2midd](#)

Miller Dyer Spears, Inc., *Architect*  
Harvard Magazine, *Design & Integrated Marketing Manager*  
IA Interior Architects, *Senior Interior Designer*  
CBRE, Inc., *Senior Architectural Historian*  
Maker Studios, *Software Engineer*  
Adobe Systems, *Director, Digital Strategy and Architecture*  
Pitchfork, *Art Director*  
Sky Zone Franchise Group, *Sr. Director of Innovations*  
Aerospective Imaging, *Owner/Founder*  
CH2M, *Principal Urban Designer*  
Shagri-La Hotels and Resorts, *Director of Business Development*  
United Nations Office for Project Services, *Technical Analyst/Infrastructure Project Management*  
Boston Green Building, *Pre-Construction Coordinator and Marketing Director*  
IrisVR Inc., *Cofounder and CEO*  
Oxbow Creative, *Cofounder/Strategy Director*  
Google Inc., *Corporate Counsel*  
Seedsheet, *Founder and CEO*  
Vital Communities, *Energy Program Manager*