

Appendix

To the Programme Regulations 2017 of the
Master's degree programme in Architecture

18 October 2016 (Version: 1 September 2019)

Applies to students who enter or re-enter the programme from Autumn Semester 2020 onwards.

This English translation is for information purposes only. The original German version is the legally binding document.

Subject and scope

This appendix sets out the academic and language prerequisites for and further details regarding admission to the Master's degree programme in Architecture. It supplements the stipulations of the Admission Regulations of ETH Zurich and the Directive on Admission to Master's degree programmes.

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1 Profile of requirements

Policy

For admission to the Master's degree programme in Architecture (subsequently "the degree programme") all of the following prerequisites must be satisfied.

1.1 Degree qualifications

¹ The prerequisite for admission to the degree programme is one of the following:

- a. A university Bachelor's degree in Architecture comprising at least 180 ECTS¹ credits or an equivalent university degree in Architecture
- b. A Bachelor's degree in Architecture from a Swiss university of applied sciences comprising at least 180 credits²

² A Bachelor's degree qualifies its holder for admission to an ETH Master's degree programme only if it also qualifies said holder to enter, without additional requirements, the desired Master's degree programme within the university system where the Bachelor's degree was acquired. The Rector may also demand proof of this, determining whether such proof must come from the home university or from another university in the country where the Bachelor's degree was acquired.

1.2 Academic prerequisites

¹ Attendance of the Master's degree programme in Architecture presupposes basic knowledge and skills in areas of technology, science, humanities and the social sciences, and subject-specific knowledge in architecture (particularly design), which are in content, scope, quality and skills level equivalent to those covered at ETH Zurich (discipline requirements profile).

² The **discipline requirements profile** comprises **120 credits** in total and is based on knowledge and skills covered in the ETH Bachelor's degree programme in Architecture. This includes training in the relevant methodological scientific thinking.

³ If a candidate does not fully satisfy the academic prerequisites, admission may be granted subject to the acquisition of the missing knowledge and skills. The scope of these is expressed in the form of additional credits. Details regarding fulfilment of additional requirements are provided in Section 4 below.

⁴ Admission to the degree programme is not possible if the gaps in the candidate's academic knowledge are too extensive. Details are provided below in Sections 2.3 (persons with university degrees) and 2.4 (persons with degrees from universities of applied sciences).

¹ ECTS: European Credit Transfer System. Credits describe the average time expended to achieve a learning goal. One credit corresponds to a workload of 30 hours.

² A Diploma from a Swiss university of applied sciences is considered equivalent to a Bachelor's degree in the same discipline. A Bachelor's degree from a German or Austrian university of applied sciences is considered equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences.

⁵ The discipline requirements profile is structured in two parts, as follows. Details regarding the content of the corresponding course units are published in the Course Catalogue (www.vvz.ethz.ch)

Part 1: Basic knowledge and skills (28 credits)

Part 1 comprises 28 credits in total and covers basic knowledge in technology, science, humanities and the social sciences. The substance of the following course units is required:

Part 1a: Foundations in technology and science (12 credits)

- Tragwerksentwurf I and II [Structural Design I and II] (4 credits)
- Baumaterialien I [Building Materials] and Bauphysik I [Building Physics] (4 credits)
- Mathematisches Denken und Programmieren I und II [Mathematics and Programming] (4 credits)

Part 1b: Foundations in humanities and the social sciences (16 credits)

- Architekturgeschichte und -theorie I und II [History and Theory of Architecture I and II] (8 credits)
- Soziologie I und II [Sociology I and II] (4 credits)
- Städtebau I und II [Urban Design I and II] (4 credits)

Part 2: Subject-specific knowledge and skills (92 credits)

Part 2 comprises 92 credits and covers subject-specific knowledge in subject areas of architecture, the history and theory of architecture, and design. The substance of the following course units is required:

Part 2a: Technology in Architecture (16 credits)

- Tragwerksentwurf III und IV [Structural Design III and IV] (4 credits)
- Bauphysik II und III [Building Physics II and III] (4 credits)
- Bauprozess I und II [Building Process I and II] (4 credits)
- Energie- und Klimasysteme I und II [Energy and Climate Systems I and II] (4 credits)

Part 2b: History and Theory of Architecture (20 credits)

- Architekturgeschichte und -theorie III und IV [History and Theory of Architecture III and IV] (4 credits)
- Geschichte des Städtebaus I und II [History of Urban Design I and II] (4 credits)
- Einführung Denkmalpflege I und II [Building History I and II] (4 credits)
- Landschaftsarchitektur I und II [Landscape Architecture I and II] (4 credits)
- Städtebau III und IV [Urban Design III and IV] (4 credits)

Part 2c: **Design (56 credits)**

- Entwurf III und IV [Design III and IV] (28 credits)
- Entwurf V – IX [Design V – IX] (28 credits)

A portfolio must be submitted, from which will it be determined whether the prerequisites in the area of design have been fulfilled.

1.3 Practical experience prerequisite

¹ Admission to the degree programme is subject to proof of at least six months' practical experience in the architecture branch.

² A written confirmation from the employer constitutes this proof.

1.4 Language prerequisites

¹ The teaching language of the degree programme is German.

² For admission to the degree programme, proof of sufficient knowledge of German (level C1³) must be provided.

³ Applicants to the degree programme who hold a Bachelor's degree from a university of applied sciences must, because of the additional requirements for admission, also supply proof of sufficient knowledge of German (Level C1).

⁴ The required language certificates must be submitted by the application deadline. The ETH Zurich publishes a list of the language certificates accepted.

2 Specific stipulations for admission and entry to the Master's degree programme

2.1 Bachelor's degree in Architecture from ETH Zurich

Unconditional admission

¹ The following persons are guaranteed unconditional admission to the degree programme:

- a. Holders of a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from ETH Zurich
- b. Persons enrolled in this Bachelor's degree programme at ETH Zurich

Entering the Master's degree programme

² Students of the Bachelor's degree programme in Architecture may enrol directly in the degree programme via www.mystudies.ethz.ch. The admission procedure outlined in Section 3 is dispensed with. Details:

³ The required language level is measured according to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (EFR) scale: *The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*

- a. The normal ETH Zurich enrolment dates and deadlines apply.
- b. Enrolment may proceed if both of the following apply:
 - 1) No more than 6 credits from the "Science in Perspective" electives and the seminar weeks remain to be acquired for the Bachelor's degree.
 - 2) All remaining prerequisites for the Bachelor's degree have been fulfilled, i.e. all required credits in the other categories of the Bachelor's programme have been acquired and acceptable proof of at least six months' practical experience can be produced.
- c. Admission is provisional until the Bachelor's degree is issued. Admission will be revoked if the Bachelor's degree is not or cannot be issued.

2.2. Bachelor's degree in Architecture from another Swiss university

Unconditional admission

¹ Holders of a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the following universities are unconditionally admitted to the degree programme:

- a. EPF Lausanne
- b. Università della Svizzera Italiana Mendrisio

² Admission is subject to fulfilment of the language prerequisites set out in section 1.4 above.

Entering the Master's degree programme

³ Candidates who have been granted admission may only enter the Master's degree programme when they have completed the preceding (Bachelor's) degree programme.

2.3 Bachelor's degree in Architecture from a university outside Switzerland

¹ Persons holding a Bachelor's degree or the equivalent in Architecture from a university outside Switzerland must satisfy the academic and language prerequisites listed in section 1 above to be admitted to the degree programme.

² Admission may be subject to additional requirements.

³ Admission is not possible if

- a. the practical experience prerequisites (section 1.3) or the language prerequisites (section 1.4) are not satisfied
- b. the content, scope, quality and skills level of the degree are not equivalent to those at ETH Zurich
- c. the number of additional credits required to satisfy the academic prerequisites exceeds
 - 1) 30 credits in total;
 - 2) 10 credits from Part 1 of the academic prerequisites (see section 1.2);
 - 3) 20 credits from Part 2 of the academic prerequisites (see section 1.2).

Entering the Master's degree programme

⁴ Candidates who have been granted admission may only enter the Master's degree programme when they have completed the preceding (Bachelor's) degree programme.

2.4 Bachelor's degree in Architecture from a Swiss university of applied sciences

¹ Holders of a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from a Swiss university of applied sciences are admitted to the degree programme if all of the following apply:

- a. The final Bachelor's degree grade is at least a 5 (according to the Swiss grading system, which involves grades from 1 (lowest) to 6 (highest))⁴;
- b. The language prerequisites are satisfied;
- c. Practical experience as per section 1.3 has been verified;
- d. Additional requirements in the subject area of design (section 1.2, Part 2c) do not comprise more than 28 credits.

² Admission is always subject to the acquisition of missing academic and methodological knowledge via additional study achievements which total at least 48 credits.

³ The additional requirements to be fulfilled by candidates are structured in two parts, as follows:

Part 1: (20 credits)

To fulfil Part 1 of the additional requirements, 20 credits must be acquired in the following course units. Details regarding their content are published in the Course Catalogue (www.vvz.ethz.ch).

- Landschaftsarchitektur I und II [Landscape Architecture I and II]
- Energie- und Klimasysteme I und II [Energy and Climate Systems I and II]
- Architekturgeschichte und -theorie III und IV [History and Theory of Architecture III and IV]
- Geschichte des Städtebaus I und II [History of Urban Design I and II]
- Tragwerksentwurf III und IV [Structural Design III and IV]

Part 2: (28 credits)

Part 2 comprises 28 credits in the category of design and integrated disciplines.

- Entwurf V - IX [Design V - IX] (28 credits)

Entering the Master's degree programme

⁴ Candidates who have been granted admission may only enter the Master's degree programme when they have completed the preceding (Bachelor's) degree programme.

⁴ The method of computation of the final grade is stipulated in the Directive on Admission to Master's Degree Programmes (www.directives.ethz.ch).

3 Application and admission procedure

¹ All candidates – with the exception of matriculated ETH Zurich students from the Bachelor's degree programme in Architecture – must submit an application for admission to the degree programme. The binding specifications for application, in particular the documents required and the dates/deadlines for submission, are published on the website of the ETH Zurich Admissions Office.

² Application may be made even if the required preceding degree has not yet been issued.

³ Applications will not be considered if

- a. they are not submitted by the set deadline or are not in the correct form;
- b. any associated fees are not paid.

⁴ The admissions committee of the degree programme determines how far the background of the candidate corresponds to the profile of requirements and submits an application for admission/rejection to the Director of Studies.

⁵ On the request of the Director of Studies the Rector makes the final decision regarding admission or rejection.

⁶ The candidate receives a written admissions decision which includes relevant information concerning any additional admission requirements.

4 Fulfilling additional admission requirements

4.1 General regulations

¹ Candidates who are admitted subject to the fulfilment of additional requirements must acquire the required additional knowledge and skills before or during the Master's degree programme via independent study or by attending classes. They must undertake the associated performance assessments by the set deadlines.

² If the candidate fails said performance assessments or does not respect the set deadlines he/she will be regarded as having failed the degree programme and will be excluded from it.

³ The deadlines and conditions for undertaking the performance assessments depend upon the background of the candidate (see sections 4.2 and 4.3).

4.2 Candidates with a university Bachelor's degree

¹ Candidates holding a university Bachelor's degree must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any assessment repetitions, must be fulfilled within 18 months of the start of the Master's programme at the latest.

² A pass grade in each individual performance assessment is required.

³ A failed performance assessment may only be repeated once.

⁴ Candidates may only begin the Master's thesis when they have completed the additional requirements.

4.3 Candidates with a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences

¹ Candidates holding a Bachelor's degree from a Swiss university of applied sciences must undertake all of the performance assessments pertaining to the additional admission requirements by the end of the first year of the Master's programme at the latest. All additional requirements, including any assessment repetitions, must be fulfilled within two years of the start of the Master's programme at the latest.

² The performance assessments may be grouped into examination blocks. A pass grade in the examination block is achieved if the average of the individual grades is at least a 4.

³ A failed performance assessment or a failed examination block may only be repeated once. Repeating an examination block entails repeating all of the performance assessments belonging to it.

⁴ Candidates may only begin the Master's thesis when they have completed the additional requirements.