

# Zurich University of Applied Sciences

## School of Architecture, Design and Civil Engineering

WINTERHUR



DEGREE PROGRAMMES

Bachelor programme: 3-year programme	Bachelor of Arts in Architecture degree Title: Bachelor of Arts ZFH in Architecture
Master programme: 2-year programme	Master of Arts in Architecture degree Title: Master of Arts ZFH in Architecture

CONTACT INFO

Visiting address:	Tössfeldstrasse 11 Postfach 805 CH-8401 Winterthur Switzerland	Admissions contact:	International Office Tel. 00 41 (0)58 934 7603 Email: mder@zhaw.ch Website: www.archbau.zhaw.ch
Head of the School of Architecture, Design and Civil Engineering:	Prof. Stephan Mäder		
Head of the Department of Architecture:	Dr. Oya Atalay Franck		

GENERAL INFO

Application deadline:	April (Bachelor of Science, 3-year programme, start only on the winterterm) July (Master of Science, 2-year programme, start on the winterterm) December (Master of Science, 2-year programme, start on the summerterm)
Tuition and fees:	CHF 680 per term (residents in the canton of Zurich, Switzerland)
Accommodation:	Support to find accommodation can be provided
Setting:	The Department of Architecture is situated on the Zurich University of Applied Sciences Campus 'Tössfeld' near the medieval city centre of Winterthur. The Department of Architecture occupies the former boiler foundry of the famous Sulzer Brothers engineering company that has been converted into a huge learning space in 1991. The Architecture degree programmes gain greatly from the innovative style of the large, open study space in the former factory building. Winterthur's art museums offer an impressive collection of European masterpieces ranging from the late Middle Ages to the present day. Many private collectors bequeathed their treasures to the nation, first and foremost Oskar Reinhart (1885-1965), whose impressive collection is on show at two different museums. In addition, Winterthur has the only museum of photography in the German-speaking part of Switzerland.
Student population:	230 students, 30% female, 7% foreign-exchange students
Faculty:	70 full-time and part-time scientific staff, 16-18 visiting lecturers and critics
Student service/activities	Student Association VSZAHW. Wide range of sports facilities.
Facilities:	Personal and any time accessible student studio-workplaces with access to different services (Intranet, Internet, VPN, and a peripheral equipment of high standing) and a large scale of software. Library with 5000 titles and subscription to numerous periodicals, map archive, modelling workshop, refectory, cafeteria, generous exhibition spaces.
Admission requirements:	See website (www.archbau.zhaw.ch)
Language:	The language of instruction is German

### Profile of the school

The Winterthur University Zurich (ZHW) is a member of the Technical College Zurich (ZFH). It is the biggest Technical College in Switzerland, having five departments:

- 1) Architecture, Design and Civil Engineering,
- 2) Engineering, informatics and natural science,
- 3) economy and management,
- 4) applied linguistics and cultural science and
- 5) health

### Structure of the curriculum

The department Architecture, Design and Civil Engineering is divided in the following curricula: Architecture (Bachelor/Master), Civil Engineering (Bachelor) and in the two centres Urban Landscape and Constructive Design. The architecture studies have two stages. The three year bachelor studies (6 semesters), which end with the Bachelor of Science in Architecture (BSc), allowing a professional activity, are the basis for the two-year master studies (4 semesters), which end with the Master of Science in Architecture (MSc). The concepts of the curricula are consistent with the criteria necessary for the international and especially European recognition of the degree. Meeting the standards of the European Union (EU-Guideline 85/384/EWG), of the International Union of Architects (UIA) and of UNESCO is the basis for obtaining an internationally recognised title as architect. The Swiss recommendations and guidelines for introducing Europe-wide the two-stage studies according to the "Bologna Declaration" are also taken into account.

### Research programme

In both centres Urban Landscape and Constructive Design, lecturers, scientific co-workers and assistants from various fields of activity come together in a team, which processes theme based assignments from following fields: theory, research and development, service and further training. At present, the two centres deal with two long-term research themes: the single-family house as a complex unit in the settlement development and an innovative project, which fathoms the architectural and spatial potential of steep roofs. Both projects are part of the Master courses.



### Bachelor programme

The Bachelor studies are structured on semester modules and include 180 Credits of compulsory, optional compulsory and optional modules. Together with the existing courses a great importance is also accorded to the responsible acquisition of achievements in studio based learning and in self-learning. It is very important to work together with students of the Civil Engineering Department during the entire study-period.

During the 1st year of studies (assessment stage) the perception and development of architectural, constructive and creative concepts will be taught. Students will acquire important experiences through analytical and draft exercises. Lecture courses, seminars and trips serve to deepen thematic focus points theoretically and to combine them with practice. Students will learn and practise written, oral and visual presentation techniques. Furthermore the fundamentals of natural sciences and liberal arts necessary for the main studies will be deepened.

During the 2nd and 3rd year of studies (main studies), theory based project classes in ateliers and the acquisition of specialized basic knowledge (building physics/material technology, building realisation, household technology and supportive structure/foundation) form the two complementary poles of education. During the 3rd year, due to professionally applied optional modules, it is possible to continue individually a thorough study. The projects will include in their development architectural, as well as technical, ecological, economic, cultural and social problems.

### Master programme

The Master studies Architecture are the perfect continuation of the Bachelor studies, enlarging the professional perspectives for architects. The studies are modular structures and include 120 Credits of compulsory, optional compulsory and optional modules.

Within the framework of the close relation between theory and research the two centres Urban Landscape and Constructive Design fulfil important tasks in the master studies:

- The centre Urban Landscape concentrates on changes in the landscape and settlement area and on the relation between infrastructure and land.
- The centre Constructive Design deals with the main questions of the interaction between constructions, space, form and context, when buildings are designed.

Projects and workshops together with European partner schools supplement the achievements realized at Winterthur. Students have the possibility of studying up to one year at one of the partner colleges. There are contracts with the following schools:

- Escuela Tecnica Superior de Arquitectura de Valencia
- Escola Tècnica Superior de Arquitectura de Barcelona
- Universidade do Minho, Guimarães
- School of Architecture and Landscape, Kingston University London
- School of Architecture CEPT, Ahmedabad
- Universitat der Kunste, Berlin

The Master studies are laid out as a vertical atelier, where praxis-related tasks of Urban Landscape and Constructive Design are dealt with from a design and research perspective. Together with formulating and dealing with the tasks, the design process itself is an important didactic element. Pro semester there are two study-weeks for workshops and trips planned. With a Master thesis the knowledge acquired during three semesters and the obtained skills will be demonstrated and tested within the framework of an exemplary and explicit formulation of a problem.

To complete the Master studies, the optional compulsory modules include test facilities for research papers for Urban Landscape and Constructive Design, which will be also be completed by lecture courses and seminars.

### Research programme

The research programmes of the department architecture, design and civil engineering are to be found in both centres Urban Landscape and Constructive Design. Both centres deal decisively with theory in the master studies architecture.

The centre Urban Landscape deals in theory and research with structure problems and transformation processes of urbanised spaces. Profound changes of the settlement structure as a consequence of the transformation towards a service-oriented society are visible in the structure and architectural appearance of urbanised areas as well as in the methods and instruments used to control urbanisation processes. The boundaries between city and country have become blurred. A settled landscape as an accumulation of completely different, architectural and country elements is spreading in large areas of Europe. Planning occurs on a territory which is limited and disputed by many: there is someone everywhere, there is something everywhere. Much is going on however and is constantly changed.

The centre Constructive Design deals with the main questions of the interaction between constructions, space, form and context, when buildings are designed. The centre Constructive Design refers to the specific observance when designing architectural projects, for which an important part is assigned to the constructive awareness. Within Constructive Design, construction engineering and building construction are not independent, separate domains. Constructive problems will play an important role in the design process. The centre Constructive Design explores in different projects (e.g. concrete element construction, steep roof, fibre composite) methods for an integral constructive design regarding the strengthening of the interaction between architectural theme, space, form and construction.