WELCOME

We would like to welcome you to the Department of Architecture at the University of Technology Braunschweig.

Studying abroad is an exciting experience that will benefit you throughout your whole life. You will become acquainted with a different academic tradition, you will meet students from all over the world and you will encounter a variety of new ideas and perspectives.

This guide is designed to give you an idea of what it is like to study at the School of Architecture of the TU Braunschweig. It contains a description of the core categories, all of the institutes as well as useful information for your studies throughout your exchange period. If you have further questions please contact us at the address stated on the back of the brochure.
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More than 20,000 students live in the historic and vibrant university city of Braunschweig. They study, work and research at Technische Universität and University of Art, shaping life in the Oker City.

Only a short walk will take you to Braunschweig’s inner city. Against the backdrop of its historic city centre, you will find everything you’re looking for in a major city: cinemas, restaurants, museums, shopping, night clubs, pubs, cafés, a theatre and many things besides. And the Braunschweig Lion, the city’s landmark since medieval times, is ever-present.

Many students meet in the parks that are located all over the city. They are particularly popular for barbecuing and playing football. You can jog and go for a walk in the Riddagshausen nature reserve, which begins in the city itself. The river Oker, which flows right around the city, is ideal for rafting and canoeing. Going to Harz National Park to ski is just a short trip away. The Weserbergland as well as the Südheide are popular destinations for day trips. Many students take advantage of the central location of Braunschweig to visit Berlin, Hamburg, Leipzig or Cologne for the weekend.

Braunschweig has an excellent infrastructure. On foot, by bicycle and by public transportation you can get anywhere quickly. As a student you receive a semester ticket, which enables you to travel free of charge by bus, tram, and local trains in Braunschweig and the whole of the federal state of Lower Saxony. It is also possible to get everywhere by car. There is generous parking on campus.
Germany to lay the foundations for a technical university. Among the first students was mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauß.

„Nec aspera terrent.“

Adversities shall not deter us – this motto of the founders of our university still serves as our maxim.

Approximately 19,500 students and 3,500 staff and faculty members make up our community. Our campus is the ideal size for a university: our vast spectrum of teaching and research activities enjoy the use of state-of-the-art facilities while offering an intimate atmosphere at the same time. The Central Campus is located on the banks of the Oker River, walking distance from Braunschweig’s city centre. Our core disciplines include a comprehensive engineering branch and a strong natural sciences branch, closely linked with business sciences, social sciences, humanities and educational sciences. Our strategic research fields are mobility, infections and active agents, city of the future and metrology, which are interlinked through numerous overarching topics. Our extensive range of engineering courses is unique among the universities of Northern Germany. The name Carolo-Wilhelmina stems from the founding fathers of Technische Universität Braunschweig, Dukes Carl and Wilhelm von Braunschweig-Lüneburg. In 1745, Carl founded the Collegium Carolinum, thus becoming the first in Germany to lay the foundations for a technical university.

With its 250,000 residents, Braunschweig is the largest city between Hanover and Berlin, making it the region’s focal point, both throughout history and the present.
FACULTY 3

The TU Braunschweig is made up of six Faculties. The Department of Architecture belongs to Faculty 3 along with Civil Engineering and Environmental Sciences.

6 Faculties

1. Carl-Friedrich Gauß Department
2. Life Sciences

3. Architecture, Civil Engineering and Environmental Sciences

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Department of Building and Environment

| Civil Engineering                  | B.Sc. / M.Sc. |
| Industrial Engineering             | B.Sc. / M.Sc. |
| Environmental Engineering          | B.Sc. / M.Sc. |
| Environmental Geology              | B.Sc. / M.Sc. |
| Computational Sciences in Engineering | M.Sc.     |
| Pro Water                          | M.Sc.         |

4. Mechanical Engineering
5. Electrical Engineering, Information Technology, Physics
6. Humanities and Educational Sciences
The Department of Architecture at TU Braunschweig is one of the most renowned Architecture departments in Germany. Among architects in Germany, the “Braunschweig School” is widely known.

The focus in the Bachelor's programmes is on teaching design skills. Developing students’ intellectual skills for critical analysis, assessment and comparison is given as much importance as enabling them to discuss basic artistic-creative issues. We understand design to mean the advanced and project-specific application or integration of all subjects relating to theory, history, technical construction and illustration in Architecture.
CORE DISCIPLINES

Architecture training at Braunschweig centres on artistic and design-related aspects. The design process for solving complex problems involves more than simple spatial design. Specialist knowledge from different disciplines accompanies the training. Design training starts in stage one of the degree course (Grundstudium), and thus forms the fundamental link for the acquisition of knowledge from the different subject areas, which can be divided into five groups:

A History and Theory
B Illustration and Design
C Design and Construction
D Urban and Landscape Design
E Architectural Design

These five groups are represented by 16 subject areas and professors at 15 institutes. With such a variety of institutes and subject areas, diverse fields of work can be covered in both teaching and research. The design-related professorships include a broad spectrum of disciplines: Architectural design, civil engineering, arts, urban and landscape planning, development and settlement planning.

During stage one (Grundstudium) of the degree, the necessary basis is provided by set compulsory subjects; in stage two (Hauptstudium), every student can choose his or her own specialisms within a set structure. This ensures that all graduates are well prepared for a career as an architect. Students are encouraged to take courses offered by other university departments, e.g. in economics or the social sciences, the humanities, or the natural and engineering sciences. This is seen as promoting interdisciplinary work and the ability to work as part of a team.
INSTITUTES CORE CATEGORY A+B

A – HISTORY AND THEORY (KULTURELLE/HIST. KENNTNISSE)

INSTITUTE OF BUILDING HISTORY
INSTITUT FÜR BAUGESCHICHTE
PROF. DR.-ING. ALEXANDER VON KIENLIN
Pockelsstraße 4,
38106 Braunschweig
tel: +49 531 391 2524
baugeschichte@tu-bs.de
www.tu-braunschweig.de/baugeschichte

INSTITUTE OF HISTORY AND THEORY OF ARCHITECTURE AND THE CITY
INSTITUT FÜR GESCHICHTE UND THEORIE DER ARCHITEKTUR UND STADT
PROF. DR. TATJANA SCHNEIDER
Pockelsstraße 4
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 2347
gtas@tu-bs.de
www.gtas-braunschweig.de

B – ILLUSTRATION AND DESIGN (DARSTELLEN UND GESTALTEN)

INSTITUTE FOR ARCHITECTURE-RELATED ART
INSTITUT FÜR ARCHITEKTURBEZOGENE KUNST
PROF. FOLKE KÖBBERLING
Bevenroder Straße 80
38108 Braunschweig
tel: +49 531 23511 50
iak@tu-bs.de
www.iak-tu-bs.de

INSTITUTE OF MEDIA AND DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR MEDIALES ENTWERFEN
PROF. MATTHIAS KARCH
Zimmerstraße 24
38106 Braunschweig
tel: +49 531 391 3564
imd@tu-bs.de
www.imd.tu-bs.de
INSTITUTES CORE CATEGORY C

C – DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION (ENTWERFEN UND KONSTRUIEREN)

INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR BAUKONSTRUKTION
PROF. WERNER KAAG
Schleinitzstraße 21b
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 5922
baukonstruktion@tu-bs.de
www.tu-braunschweig.de/baukonstruktion

INSTITUTE OF BUILDING SERVICES AND ENERGY DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR GEBÄUDE- UND SOLARTECHNIK
PROF. DR.-ING. M. NORBERT FISCH
Mühlenpfordstraße 23
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 3555
igs@tu-braunschweig.de
www.tu-braunschweig.de/igs

INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR INDUSTRIEBAU UND KONSTRUKTIVES ENTWERFEN
PROF. CARSTEN ROTH
Pockelsstr. 3, 7. OG
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 2544
iike@tu-bs.de
www.tu-braunschweig.de/iike

INSTITUTE OF STRUCTURAL DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR TRAGWERKSENTWURF
PROF. DR.-ING. HARALD KLOFT
Pockelsstraße 4
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 3571
ite@tu-bs.de
www.tu-braunschweig.de/ite
INSTITUTES CORE CATEGORY D

D – URBAN AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN (STADT UND LANDSCHAFT)

INSTITUTE OF SUSTAINABLE URBANISM
INSTITUT FÜR NACHHALTIGEN STÄDTEBAU
PROF. DR. VANESSA MIRIAM CARLOW
Pockelsstr. 3, 12. OG
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 3537
isu@tu-bs.de
www.sustainableurbanism.de

INSTITUTE OF URBAN DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR STÄDTEBAU UND ENTWURFSMETHODIK
PROF. UWE BREDERLAU
Pockelsstr. 3, 13. OG
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 3538
ise@tu-bs.de
www.tu-braunschweig-ise.de

INSTITUTE OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
INSTITUT FÜR LANDSCHAFTSARCHITEKTUR
PROF. GABRIELE G. KIEFER
Pockelsstraße 3, 4. OG
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 2365
ila@tu-bs.de


INSTITUTES CORE CATEGORY E

E – ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN (ENTWERFEN: GEBÄUDE)

INSTITUTE OF BUILDING DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR ENTWERFEN UND BAUGESTALTUNG
PROF. ROLF SCHUSTER
Pockelsstraße 3, 14. OG
38106 Braunschweig
tel: +49 531 391 2523
ieb@tu-braunschweig.de
www.ieb-bs.de

INSTITUTE OF DESIGN AND ARCHITECTURAL STRATEGIES
INSTITUT FÜR ENTWERFEN UND GEBÄUDELEHRE
PROF. ALMUT GRÜNTUCH-ERNST
Pockelsstraße 3, 15. OG
38106 Braunschweig
tel: +49 531 391 94400
fax: +49 531 391 94409
idas@tu-braunschweig.de
www.idas.tu-bs.de

INSTITUTE FOR EXPERIMENTAL ARCHITECTURE
INSTITUT FÜR EXPERIMENTELLES ENTWERFEN
PROF. BERTHOLD PENKHOUES
Pockelsstraße 4
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 2515
iex@tu-braunschweig.de
www.iex-bs.de

INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN
INSTITUT FÜR ENTWERFEN UND RAUMKOMPOSITIONEN
PROF. VOLKER STAAB
Pockelsstr. 3, 11. OG
38106 Braunschweig,
tel: +49 531 391 3588
iad@tu-bs.de
www.iad-bs.de
As far as building history is concerned, the institute focuses on providing fundamental knowledge of European architectural history and the origins of planning and structural engineering, combined with general cultural, religious and sociotopographical issues. The institute uses comparative examples of key buildings in European building history – from antiquity until the late 20th century – to provide the basic knowledge needed to understand this. Students will be able to develop the skills they need to understand the concrete usage requirements of a building in the respective social environment by surveying and researching buildings on site, as well as by means of sources of written and visual material. The course also includes analyses of style and form of the respective era, as well as lectures and seminars. Students are encouraged to make proper use of the knowledge they have acquired in the architectonic discourse. By conveying the historical design and construction methods, the institute seeks to establish a basic, multidisciplinary understanding of architecture as a „building culture resource“ of the present. The institute facilitates interdisciplinary cooperation, e.g. in the preservation of buildings and in the Master's course in Sustainable Design. In previous academic years, the seminars have focused on construction using ecological and renewable building materials from a historical perspective, including seminars such as „The brick – sustainable artificial stone from antiquity until today“ (winter semester 2012/13) and „Historic timber-frame buildings“ (summer semester 2013). In addition, there were further elaborations in the form of BA theses, under Professor Vanessa Carlow from the Institute for Sustainable Urbanism (ISU), and the Master's thesis „Schlachthof Cureghem Brüssel“ written at the Institute of Urbanism and Design Methods (ISE).
In the face of epochal urban transformations and increasing socio-spatial inequalities in many parts of the world, the institute is dedicated to the research of the social, economic and political parameters within and through which architectures and cities are made and of the tools and methodologies that allow citizens to intervene transformatively in the production of space.

The Institute for History and Theory of Architecture and the City (gtas) investigates how space is produced, by whom and whom for. When architecture is often concerned with the object beautiful only, we are interested in unraveling, disentangling and explicating the interdependencies between architecture and other forces by developing ways and means that make such forces visible and negotiable. Our work aims to make tangible what often remains hidden, is concealed or otherwise obscured in order to develop tools and instruments that can critique and ultimately change dominant, profit-driven systems of production. The following themes reflect those interests and concerns.

- Spatial Agency
- Housing Otherwise
- Urban Education Live / Researching Alternate Urban Methods
- The ‘Social Turn’
The Media Space of Architecture: Against a background of the on-going mediatisation of our environment, architectural design is transforming itself from the advance plan to the adaptable information matrix. Urban space, as well as available information, are becoming dynamic and at times contradictory, and are changing over the very course of the design process. Moreover, locations where medial-virtual information (Facebook, Twitter etc.) fuses with the real-physical scene are taking on new meaning. This is why one of the areas of concentration for teaching and research at the Institute of Media and Design is now the exploration of events in the context of the Arabellion.

The demonstrations and occupations in Cairo, Tunis, Istanbul and other cities are transforming the central squares of each place into spontaneous communal areas of interaction which are organised according to specific rules, yet represent the result of a process. In our diagrammatically structured research projects and the subsequently developed designs, we examine the question how the characteristics of the collision of dramatically different people, the intensification of activities and actors, the openness and accessibility of a space and the intoxicating nature of the unplanned can be conveyed via architecture. For the design process, this means developing process-based control mechanisms that cannot be seen as mediators of established entities, but rather as independent actors which enable acts of architectural design. Topics to be investigated include both, the concrete situation and concrete space, as well as the mediately transmitted space, the space of information which has become inextricably bound to architecture and cities. The parametric tools for this spatial production are the protagonists of dialectics between the physical and mediately transmitted scene.
The teaching field of “Forms” includes objects, sculpture, space and performance. The topic centres on experimental, conceptual sculpting.

In aesthetics, experimenting calls for an alternative consciousness. It makes me think about the existence of the material, an interactive tension between inner structure and the outer experience of form, about the filling up of space. It allows us to achieve exciting, unpredictable results. All the same, experiments have no purpose when they do not lead to a concrete idea. Having ideas is important. Not having them is, at first, not so bad, but in the long term this can become unsatisfying. Form has to do with teaching structure and space. It is neither the material alone, nor the associated techniques that are essential, but rather the interplay and tension that arise between the material, the technology, the various media, the idea and reality of the concrete place. The processes, changes and confrontation with new visual and mental impulses play a central role in teaching this subject. It is important to create an atmosphere of mutual testing and questioning while nonetheless ensuring that no one’s feelings are hurt. The programme will focus on the following:

1. Seeing and commenting on the structure of culture is one of the most important functions of artistic practice. Social, spatial and temporal references will be linked (the contextual aspect).
2. Students will learn to juxtapose reality with their own semiotic systems and to transform these system (the poetic aspect).
3. Balancing documentation and presentation of the students’ own works.
4. The conceptual quality of work (the communicative role of the idea).
5. The creative quality of the connection between the private and the public realms.
6. Practical application of both new and traditional materials and techniques.
7. Teamwork.
Design and construction are usually regarded as separate disciplines. In terms of conveying their functions, this distinction might, to a certain degree, appear to be useful. However, in our opinion, there must already be a synthesis between the two disciplines at the design stage of a building project. Therefore, when we work, this interaction between construction and design is at the focal point of our considerations, as every thought about architecture must also address its relationship with the object of construction. We are not interested in construction per se, but in the relationship between material, structural disposition and aesthetic effect. We are always fascinated by the structural problems when we expect to find an essential part of the expression of a building. In our teaching, the question we investigate is the extent to which design results from the consequential implementation of constructional laws and how large is the scope of individual discretion as the basis for the form-finding process in design and construction. In our lectures, the principles of different construction methods, building components and building elements are explained, and their uses are analysed by way of practical examples. Monographic lectures of contemporary architects and their buildings serve to introduce the current discourse on constructional concepts and specific design strategies. It takes an understanding of the basic principles of architecture to discover an architect’s scope for creativity. Thus, the constructional detail becomes the architect’s sphere of activity; it embodies the creative consequence of design. We think that if arbitrariness is dismissed, architectural quality can arise.
As one of three institutes at German architecture faculties that engage in industrial construction, the Institute of Industrial Building and Constructive Design (IIKE) headed by university professor Mag. Arch. M. Arch. Carsten Roth holds core expertise in urban, typological and structural key aspects of industrial building and industrial site development.

The institute’s focus is on exploring and implementing innovative methods, technologies and materials in industrial building and the prefabrication in building construction. The transfer of highly efficient planning and construction methods utilized in industrial building to health care buildings is another key field of research. For both research and teaching, the institute maintains long-standing co-operations with partners in the industry. Research partnerships in the fields of plant design, city planning, construction business management and building services engineering enable the IIKE to develop and execute various research projects based on interdisciplinary collaboration.
The IGS - Institute for Building Services and Energy Design at the Technical University of Braunschweig handles the entire spectrum of energy and climatic design in buildings. This includes the areas of building services, structural physics as well as passive and active usage of solar energy for residential and office buildings. Along with new buildings, the conservation and restoration of existing buildings take centre stage. Professor Dr.-Ing. M. Norbert Fisch has headed the IGS since 1996. The focus and “philosophy” of the IGS is the integral planning of buildings while taking all relevant aspects of energy consumption and occupant comfort into account. A team of around 25 employees works on innovative solutions in structural physics, heating, cooling, air conditioning and renewable energies. Research on and development of new concepts, systems and components of innovative architecture is carried out by means of computer-aided simulations, experimental investigations in the institute’s laboratory, and implementation and validation in practice. In many of its projects, the IGS also collaborates with other research institutions and businesses. Funding is provided by entities such as the German Federal Environmental Foundation, the Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour as well as other federal institutions. Work results are immediately integrated into the institute’s curriculum.

In addition to lectures on basics and current topics, the IGS offers its students a simulation laboratory, where they can experience the possibilities of practical software for integral building planning first-hand.
In contrast to conventional structural engineering studies, which comprise the modeling and calculation of structural systems, the main educational objective of the Institute for Structural Design (ITE) is to impart the conception and design of structures. For this, a fundamental knowledge of loads and stresses is just as important as an understanding of the operation modes of basic structural systems. The main difference in comparison to engineering studies is the targeted implementation and integration of this knowledge in the design of structures. This neither implies the mere dimensioning of building components nor the design of structures according to engineering principles. At the ITE, the conception of building structures is understood as an integral part of the architectural design process, an understanding which allows to develop structural systems for any kind of architecture. Regarding the education of architects, a paradigm change has occurred: the focus has shifted from conventional structural engineering towards structural design. As Harald Egger, former director of the Institute of Structural Design at the University of Graz, once put it: “Structural design is not a theory grounding, but a knowledge augmenting subject”. Gaining knowledge is hence the primary educational goal when it comes to teaching structural design! To achieve this, the conception of structures by the students themselves, following an experimental approach and using physical models, is particularly efficient. Whereas illustrative models provide a basic understanding of structural principles, the conception and testing of structural systems, with the help of physical models, help to develop a more intuition-based comprehension. In this context, it is important that designing structures is understood as process, in analogy with the architectural design process. This process-oriented experimental approach brings together fundamental knowledge and intuition.
“Sustainable Urbanism.” These two words represent the biggest challenge and at the same time the biggest hope of our time, as cities play a crucial role in confronting the challenges of real sustainability in our collective future. Cities are the biggest consumers of natural and human resources and also one of the most vulnerable places threatened by catastrophes caused by climate change. But cities have always been powerhouses of opportunity, cradles of innovation and emancipation, nodes of power, influence and knowledge, laboratories of creativity and cultural output. In our double role as researchers and designers, we have the means to inscribe global urbanisation with a future. This encompasses learning from urban planning history as well as investigating current global urbanisation trends and combining technical and ecological factors as much as economic and creative ones. Founded by Prof. Dr. Vanessa Miriam Carlow in October 2012, the ISU is part think-tank, part design laboratory, conducting research and promoting scholarship in an international and interdisciplinary context. We seek to deploy our students’ creativity and energy on the real, pressing problems of an urban society and, in the process, build up a long-term design and research platform at the institute. By establishing partnerships with other agents and disciplines, the ISU seeks to provide new insights into urban issues and propose innovative solutions to them. By collaborating with the city governments of Berlin, Bremen, and Wolfsburg, the HOWOGE housing company, the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (D E), Penn State University (US), the Blekinge Institute of Technology in Karlskrona (SE), Riseba Riga (LV), and GUTech (OM), we seek to forge new synergies.
The Institute of Urbanism and Design Methods is devoted to researching and testing strategies and concepts for sustainable urban development and to examining current individual topics with respect to the future structure of cities and residential areas. This includes the development of urban agglomerations at the national and international levels. Core topics of the Institute in terms of research and teaching are the contemporary city as well as the shaping and design of urban spaces with the objective of urban and architectural materialisation. For our Institute, working with current societal, political and technological processes of development and transformation are a natural foundation for being able to shape the urban and cultural spheres. In particular, exploring urban processes in the development of cities and residential areas while taking account of sustainable parameters is one of our main priorities. Urban planning is understood as a multilayered, multidimensional and dynamic design process which focuses on the future. To reflect this process in analytical procedures and to create synthesis skills and make decisions using the data provided, we work with both analogue and digital methods and models. Technical infrastructure and the abilities required for this technology come together at the Institute. Generating contemporary urban processes of development and transformation is the starting point for the design of the metropolitan and cultural spheres in terms of urban and conceptual planning. This means that experimental urban design as a method of developing viable concepts and shaping city spaces plays an important role at the Institute. The speculative element and derivation of hypotheses are also vital. We investigate the translation of clear visions into strategies and concepts. Furthermore, we test the process of transforming conceptual designs into future urban spaces. The Institute of Urbanism and Design Methods stands for urban planning and designs that can be integrated on a scale larger than the individual structure, on urban, regional and international levels.
Dealing with Landscape and Public Space is an essential aspect for future development of urban societies. Density and efficiency in our cities are decisive factors for the sustainable use of resources. Public space characterises the image and atmosphere of a city just as much as high-rise buildings do. Now, the once-clearly delineated border between city and landscape, buildings and the outdoors, interior and exterior, is becoming increasingly fuzzy. This convergence has led to the creation of hybrid spaces: Landscape is no longer the space surrounding a building. Instead, the built structure has now been subsumed into the landscape. More than 90 per cent of our environment – landscape and city – consists of free space. Landscape is the foundation of a large-scale involvement with the environment as a whole. Along with issues of urban planning, today’s challenges encompass the pressing questions of climate and nature protection, water and resource conservation, flood prevention, infrastructure projects and agriculture. New production processes and techniques are changing our existing cultural landscape. The fact that conversion regions are being cleared (more than 37,000 hectares in Germany by 2020) calls for sustainable concepts for use with future-orientated organisations and spatial structures. In this context, landscape architecture takes on significance as a motor for urban development and renewal. A city that can create added value from the ability to condense heterogeneous qualities can make a vital contribution to the implementation of people’s ‘right to the city’ (as defined by Henri Lefebvre) in that cultural exchange and communication become possible for all. Besides imparting knowledge of the ‘classical’ public space typologies, the ILA focus on the conceptual and formal integration of various aspects of sustainability. Today, urban or architectural projects cannot be successful without integration of public space planning. Therefore, knowledge of landscape architecture and development represent a cornerstone of architectural learning.
Designing is the continuous repetition of seeing, thinking, creating and discarding. The fact that it is not possible to establish universally valid design methods and rules might at first be difficult to understand. Yet reducing designing to something rational or logically understandable must fail because designing is also always a creative process. The design process is partially deterministic, complex and often unpredictable. On the one hand there are causal decisions, on the other there is uncertainty and playful searching. Many are unaccustomed to this.

How do you approach aspects that can neither be calculated nor proven? Creativity plays a central role in this process. A natural inquisitiveness and a passion to continuously call things into question are essential. The ability to blur one’s vision and to abstract as well as note down what one sees is indispensable. Things appear and processes are triggered which, without this visual aid, would have remained undetected. The most important characteristics of sketching is that it is quick and direct. The fuzziness enables one to test one’s ideas without knowing the exact solution. This uncertainty is often mistaken for imprecise thinking, but it’s absolutely indispensable when designing. In quick sketches, things often appear that give the whole design a new direction. The same is true for simple models. Building working models is a creative and effective way of moving forward with a design. It also enables a design idea to be quickly checked and made more precise. Digitisation leads to other important tools. They are characterised by continuously growing capacities and quality changes. Setting parameters makes it possible to check and change form and function of various models, albeit only within the defined range of possibilities. Incentives for creative design processes can only be expected to a limited extent. The sensuality and tangibility of the materials is lost and merciless precision collides with the vague blurriness mentioned before. Dealing with complexity might then appear to be easier, but the process of designing certainly is not.
Designing is creative exploration: It is exploring and getting a feel for something, discovering, inventing, testing, developing and making decisions. The basis of studying design is the sharpening of one's individual perceptive experience of the natural and constructed environment – or one's own spatial experience and also of one's ability to feel one's way into other worlds of perception. Beyond the conveyance of knowledge and skills, the course aims to encourage students take a creative approach to methods and rules, to promote creative thinking and action, discover new possibilities and stretch the power of the imagination beyond standards and expectations. Architecture is not an end in itself. It is not a closed system. Designers seek to find a balance between the individual and the collective. On the one hand, there is the collective, conventional, inherited and the familiar; and on the other hand, there is the individual, experimental, idiosyncratic and inquisitive. Time and again, these qualities have to be sounded out, reconciled and combined. Only through an understanding of the collective and through the courage of the individual is it possible to develop strategies for mastering current and future challenges. The openness to question things and to reinterpret design tasks, the curiosity and courage to experiment in the search for alternative functional, formal, technical, artistic and cultural possibilities leads to innovative and unique solutions. The world we live in is complex and characterised by the uncertainty of dynamic planning parameters. We therefore need to take a critical-creative stance in each design project, to develop a model of thought and to transform this into form and material. The architect’s skill lies in the conceptual and spatial shaping of the constructed world. Designing is creative exploration and requires the observation and evaluation of changes in order to develop strategies for mastering current and future challenges.
The Chair of Spatial Composition and Design is primarily concerned with design themes from the construction engineering projects. The focus is on finding a design strategy which pays equal attention to the complex framework conditions of architecture, contemporary processing techniques and the conceptional acuity of design processes. Thus, both the processing of external influences and also the inner logic of architectural constructs play an important role. The discourse is dominated by the question about the relevance of an architectural shape. Based on these technical aims, the following design formats are offered: In the Bachelor’s programme, in two consecutive courses, basic handicraft skills are taught before initial design concepts are tested in the subsequent building design. In addition to developing spatial room allocation plans, other contextual areas are also addressed. Certain design themes are isolated – or rather simplified and analysed in more depth – in the first semesters, then the complexity of the designs starts to increase in the later semesters. In addition to the integration of other specialist disciplines, such as structural planning, landscape planning, urban planning and technical finishes, theoretical questions specific designs are addressed, while always keeping one’s own design process in mind. In the Master’s course, students learn to develop a master design and also an experimental format. Whilst with the master design a complex design topic is always combined with a theoretical concept, new practical techniques and design approaches are tested with the experimental design. Using these two formats, we intend to address a whole range of theoretical and practical issues in the coming years and to examine their influence and relevance in the design process.
We understand architecture in terms of its genesis, its ability to be experienced directly and its theoretical reception as determined and determining in a variety of ways. Consequently, we do not see design logic as a rigid set of rules, but as a complex system of interactions between technical knowledge, historical associations, social factors, personal experience and aesthetic intentions. When it comes to the concrete formulation of our tasks, we have therefore distanced ourselves from „standard teaching“. Instead, we focus our teaching on the development of individually defined approaches to architectural work. Starting with simple observations and moving on to more detailed analyses of everyday or exceptional phenomena, students establish their own personal position in space and time, and learn to connect it with the functional requirements and aesthetic goals and to find an adequate way of expressing it.
APPLICATION

The INTERNATIONAL OFFICE of the TU Braunschweig will assist you with all general questions about the application procedure and general questions about studying at TU Braunschweig.

ERASMUS INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATOR:
Francesco Ducatelli
Phone: +49 (0)531-391 14373
Email: erasmus@tu-bs.de

CONTACT INFORMATION FOR INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENTS:
Anne-Kathrin Kaiser
Phone: +49 (0)531-391 14375
Email: exchange@tu-bs.de

CONTACT INFORMATION:
INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURE COORDINATOR
Dipl. Ing. Architektin Anna Kostreva and
Loreen Neumann M.Sc.
Katharinenstr. 3, 1. floor left, Room 002, 38106 Braunschweig
E-Mail: international-fk3@tu-braunschweig.de
Phone: +49 (0)531 391-5938

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE:
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/international/incomings/exchange

APPLICATION DEADLINE:
01.06. for the Winter Term and the whole Academic Year
01.12. for the Summer Term

APPLICATIONS FROM CHINA:
01.03. for the Winter Term and the whole Academic Year
01.09. for the Summer Term

LEVELS OF STUDY:
Bachelor, Master, PhD

ONLINE APPLICATION:
https://moveonline.tu-braunschweig.de/moveonline/incoming/welcome.php

COURSE CATALOG:
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/studieninteressierte/studienangebot

CHOOSING COURSES:
http://www.fk3-documents.tu-bs.de/Arch/Downloads/Incomings_Arch-Courses.pdf

ACADEMIC CALENDER:
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/studium/imstudium/semestertermine
SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE:
The department of Architecture recommends a minimum of 2 years of study prior applying as an exchange student at TU Braunschweig.

PORTFOLIO
From 2018 on all students need to hand in a portfolio (pdf send to international-fk3@tu-braunschweig.de not bigger than 10 MB) with your application. The portfolio can be a pdf showing the final boards of the last design projects at your home University. The portfolio allows us to advise you on course selection.

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/arch
LANGUAGE RECOMMENDATION:
English or German B2 level
(TOEFL, IELTS, etc.)

We do accept applications with English/German B1 level - please state in your motivation letter how you are going to achieve B2 level.

Applications from students with English as mother language are welcome without any German skills.

Visiting students at TU Braunschweig need not pass a language test to be able to register. However, you should be aware that the teaching language is German and that all regular courses will be held in German. Though some lecturers may be willing to discuss your work with you in English on a one-to-one basis, you will need basic proficiency in German to be able to follow lectures, seminars and presentations. All written teaching aids, exams and most of the specialist literature used will also be in German. Having a good knowledge of German will help you not just follow courses, it will also make it easier for you to settle into a new culture, particularly when you first get here. If you lack basic proficiency in German, you will lose time at the start of your degree and may also feel isolated.

The LANGUAGE CENTRE at TU Braunschweig offers both preparatory summer courses (from elementary to advanced level) and courses during the semester. To find out about the courses available, please contact the International Office or the University Language Centre directly. We would also strongly advise completing a German language course in your home country before coming here.

https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/sprachenzentrum/index.html
ORIENTATION PROGRAM
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/international/incomings/exchange/first-steps

BUILDING BRIDGES SCOUT PROGRAM
TU Braunschweig has a program to help exchange students get oriented at the university. Please register online:
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/abu/studierende/international/buildingbridges/buildingbridgesexchange

OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENTS:
- Student visa might be necessary: https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/international/incomings/exchange/preparation
- Student Service Fee of about 270 Euros for each semester
- German Public Health Insurance or equivalent to one
- Liability Insurance recommended

HOUSING
Housing will be available through the Student Services with limited availability. Students are asked to apply early:
https://tl1host.de/SWBS/wohnheimaufnahmeantrag.html?modul=wohnplatzantrag&bereich=wohnen&ort=braunschweig

Useful links to apply on the private market:
https://www.tu-braunschweig.de/studieninteressierte/braunschweig/wohnen

Housing application procedure:
http://www.stw-on.de/braunschweig/wohnen/wohnheime

HOUSING COSTS
What is the approximate cost of accommodation per month?
Approx. 350 – 400 Euro /months

AIRPORT PICK-UP
Students can arrange pick-up with peer students through the scout program.
CHOOSING COURSES

You should normally choose one design project and one or two theoretical subjects per semester. Design projects are often linked to recommendations for specific theoretical subjects (some of them obligatory). In addition, you can complete some minor assignments, field trips or short-term impromptu design projects during the semester.

The main focus of the degree is on the design project. Completion of this project will touch on all core areas of your degree course. You should therefore take good care in selecting a design project, as you will spend most of your time during the semester on it. Most of the Design projects are in German language, but all design projects can be supervised in English language.

Many institutes can offer supervision in other languages as well. Please contact the institutes you are interested in studying with two weeks before courses begin to ask if supervision in your mother tongue is available.

There are several seminars in English language.

All exchange students (architecture) can choose out of the bachelor and master programme.

The current list of courses for a semester is published on the Department of Architecture’s website – in mid-October for the winter semester and in mid-March for the summer semester.

The departmental coordinator will advise you on your choice of courses and on how to create your learning agreement.

The course selection process occurs in two steps. Step 1 is a general selection with your application. Step 2 is a specific course selection two weeks before courses begin.

We recommend the following combination of courses - see next page.
STEP 1 - GENERAL SELECTION

EXCHANGE STUDENT COURSE PACKAGE - BACHELOR

1 Bachelor Design Project: 10 ECTS
1-2 seminars: 5/6 ECTS each
1-2 impromptu design project: 1 ECTS each
1 language course: 2-4 ECTS

EXCHANGE STUDENT COURSE PACKAGE - MASTER

1 Master Design Project: 14 ECTS
1-2 seminars: 6 ECTS each
1-2 impromptu design projects: 1 ECTS each
1 language course: 2-4 ECTS

DESIGN PROJECTS:

Bachelor Design Project C – Design and Construction (winter only) 10 ECTS
Bachelor Design Project D – Urban and Landscape Design (winter only) 10 ECTS
Bachelor Design Project E – Building Design (summer only) 10 ECTS
Bachelor/Master Short-Term Design Project 6 ECTS
Bachelor/Master Impromptu Design (several times) 1 ECTS
Master Design Project B – Illustration and Design 14 ECTS
Master Design Project C – Design and Construction 14 ECTS
Master Design Project D – Urban and Landscape Design 14 ECTS
Master Design Project E – Architectural Design 14 ECTS
Master Design Project EX – Experimental Design 14 ECTS

SEMINARS:

Seminar A: History and Theory (1 in English language) 5/6 ECTS
Seminar B: Illustration and Design (1-2 in English language) 6 ECTS
Seminar C: Design and Construction (not every semester in English) 6 ECTS
Seminar D: Urban and Landscape Design (not every semester in English) 6 ECTS
Seminar E: Architectural Design (1 in English language) 6 ECTS

„ARCHITEKTURPOSITIONEN“ (guest lecture series) 1 ECTS

LANGUAGE COURSE please refer to the language centre 2-4 ECTS
STEP 2 - SPECIFIC COURSES

2 WEEKS PRIOR SEMESTER START

The specific courses that are offered are only available two weeks prior semester start.

To get an impression of what courses are currently offered you can have a look at this link:  http://stdb.igs.bau.tu-bs.de/stdb/vergabe/angebotsliste.php
Since the menu is in German, please find a description on the next page about how to choose your courses once the courses are online for the upcoming semester.

There will be a WELCOME MEETING at the Department of Architecture shortly before the semester starts and we will go through the course selection in detail. It is very important to attend the meeting! All design projects and seminars will be presented in a meeting with all students and professors in a so called “ENTWURFSBASAR” before you choose your courses. You will get further information how to apply for the online registration later.
ONLINE COURSE DATABASE

You can choose any course that suits you from the Bachelor’s Programme and from the Master’s Programme. The departmental coordinator assists you with your choice and the changes in your learning agreement. The actual semester program is posted on the department’s homepage two weeks prior semester start.

- In the upper left corner you choose the academic year
- Right below you can sort the course offer according to disciplines or intitutions
- In the upper right corner you can log in and sign in online for courses

Please note: you can only login once you are in Germany and you have been to the international office and received your „y-number“.

https://stdb.igs.bau.tu-bs.de/stdb/login.php

https://stdb.igs.bau.tu-bs.de/stdb/vergabe/angebotsliste.php

https://stdb.igs.bau.tu-bs.de/stdb/login.php

Choose Language

Option to select Design Projects, Core Disciplines, Seminars, Name of Institute, Description of Course, LP = ECTS, and Department Architektur Studierendendatenbank.

You can choose from either Bachelor or Master!

Depends on Departure „1 Half“ „2 Half“

A: History & Theory
B: Illustration & Design
C: Design & Construction
D: Urban & Landscape Design
E: Architectural Design

https://stdb.igs.bau.tu-bs.de/stdb/vergabe/angebotsliste.php
CAMPUS
INFRASTRUCTURE

COMPUTER POOLS

There are various computer pools run by the university computer centre, as well as pools for individual institutes. The institutes’ own computer pool rooms are sometimes used for exercises for specific classes and students can also arrange to work there on their own. The installed software ranges from image editing and drawing to modelling to animation and video editing programs. Some institutes also offer a scanning and plotting service.

MEDIA LABORATORIES

The New media has a key role in architecture. Right from the start, students are introduced both to analogue techniques and to working with digital media. There are a multitude of presentation options both in the virtual and real contexts. Computer-designed models can be printed out as drawings, animated and edited for use as video clips, or printed in 3D as life-like models. Two-dimensional drawings can be animated, interactively designed, plotted or cut from boards. Especially with this combination of different techniques, there are virtually no limits to presentation options.

WORKSHOPS

Most workshops are located on the premises of those institutes that use them for teaching; they can be used by students who have previously completed a course there. The department’s model workshop is open to all students of Architecture. Student assistants with the appropriate craft training provide assistance and support. Most studios also have small model workshops, which are available for use on request.
The department’s Pavilion provides a prestigious venue for exhibitions, symposia and other events. With its translucent facade made from glass, which has earned it the friendly nickname “gherkin jar”, the Pavilion also hosts the graduation ceremony, is a venue for public discussions and sometimes even has a bar facility. It is the hub of social life within the department and also provides a public space. The Pavilion was designed by Meinhard von Gerkan, formerly a professor at TU Braunschweig, as a classic cube with two floors, a central atrium and a surrounding gallery. It is located in the yard of the old university building. Address: Pockelstrasse 4, in the inner courtyard of the old building;
STUDIO SPACES

A distinctive feature of studying at the TU Braunschweig is the common work in the students’ Drawing Studios (‘Zeichensaal’).

20 rooms spread out over the campus accommodate more than 300 student working places, which contribute notably to the quality of the study course. They provide an outstanding platform for discussions, mutual assistance and revision during exercises and design projects, but also for collaborative activity during intensive working phases. The stimulation and exchange of ideas among the fellow students is one of the key experiences in the study course and an appreciated complementation of the academic training.

Studio spaces can be viewed during orientation and the Building Bridges Scouts program can help you apply for a spot.

In addition there are numerous extracurricular student activities like art room tournaments, field trip parties or summer cinema contribute to enhance the strong companionship among the students.
A student’s personal workplace in one of the many studios.
DRAFTING AND MODEL MAKING SUPPLIES

BEYRICHS CHOP
office supplies like pencils, paper etc.
Pockelsstr. 9 /
Monday-Friday 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

GRAPHITI
paperboard, glues, little wood-, metal-, plexisticks, colours.... all you need!!!
Cyriaksring 35 /
Monday-Friday 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

IDEE
crafts material, paperboard, paints, etc.
Schloss-Arkaden /
Monday - Saturday 9.30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

OHLENDORF
hardware, wood material, glues, etc.
Ackerhof 1 /
Monday-Friday 7.30 a.m. - 6.30 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES
Do-it-yourself stores, e.g. Bauhaus,
Hornbach, Globus, specialised shops for miniature railway
Semester projects are presented at the different institutes.
International Coordination - Department of Architecture:  
Anna Kostreva and Loreen Neumann M.Sc.  
Katharinenstr. 3, 1. floor left, Room 002, 38106 Braunschweig  
tel +49 531 391 5938  
international-fk3@tu-braunschweig.de  |  www.tu-braunschweig.de/abu  
Office hours: Monday 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.,  
Tuesday and Thursday 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. and 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.  

International Departmental Professor:  
Prof. Carsten Roth  
Institute of Industrial Building and Construction Design  
Pockelsstraße 3, 7.floor, 38106 Braunschweig  
tel +49 531 391 2544  
iike@tu-bs.de | www.tu-braunschweig.de/iike  

International Office:  
Bültenweg 74/75, 38106 Braunschweig  
tel +49 531 391 4331  
international@tu-braunschweig.de | www.tu-braunschweig.de/international  
Office hours: Monday – Thursday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  

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