

Program Review

Executive Summary

ARCHITECTURE

Majors Reviewed:

- *Architecture (AX), A.A.S.*
- *Architecture & Sustainable Design (ASD), B.S.*
- *Bachelor of Architecture (ARC), B.Arch*

January 2026



Pennsylvania
College of Technology
A Penn State Affiliate

Executive Summary

Since offering the first architecture course in 1941, architecture at Penn College has gradually expanded the technical knowledge beyond the development of working drawings to embrace environmental systems and sustainable design. Today, all three programs – the A.A.S. in Architecture (AX), the B.S. in Architecture & Sustainable Design (ASD), and the Bachelor of Architecture (ARC) – continue the tradition by building on that knowledge base while introducing students to computer programs such as AutoCAD and Building Information Modeling (BIM), as well as analytic platforms to inform building performance.

The department has structured the curriculum so students can choose, based on their specific professional goals, the degree that is the “best fit” with their goals. The coursework of the three degrees is continuous, such that students can easily change their major and graduate with the more advanced degree within the normal timeframe. The two-year degree (AX) is the same coursework in all three majors, and the architectural coursework in the third and fourth years was designed so there’s significant overlap between the (ASD) and (ARC) degrees.

The programs/department has benefitted from strong relationships with industry and a high level of support from the College, resulting in very high retention and graduation rates and strong employment. This is primarily due to the faculty’s dedication and belief in sharing knowledge with the next generation. The department has seen significant enrollment growth over the last several years due in part to the launch of the Bachelor of Architecture (ARC) program, the pursuit of National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) accreditation for that program, and the renovation, relocation and significant expansion of the department’s physical space.

To continue this trajectory, the program will:

- attain NAAB accreditation for the Bachelor of Architecture program;
- continue and expand relationships with alumni and employers;
- continue pursuit of Advisory Committee feedback;
- continue to work with College Relations to pursue fundraising for student scholarships, enhanced equipment, and instructional space;
- develop architecturally-oriented marketing materials to increase exposure;
- build relationships to expand our adjunct pool and classroom presenters/jurors; and
- consider options for future growth and expansion of the architecture program.