

How to Prepare in High School

for the School of Architecture

Completing the necessary courses in high school provides a firm foundation for architectural study. In general, students wishing to pursue an education in architecture should follow a college preparatory curriculum in high school. The following is a guide to best practices.

Art

Take all the Art courses you can, particularly those that involve freehand drawing.

English

Take all the English courses you can. All professionals must be able to read and write skillfully.

Math

Take all the Math courses available; particularly Algebra, Geometry, and Trigonometry.

Physics

Take at least a full year of physics. Physics PH1113 and 1123, General Physics I and II are among the most challenging academic courses for students in the School of Architecture. You cannot begin college physics until you have satisfied College Algebra and College Trigonometry requirements (see math requirements next page).

MSU ORIENTATION/REGISTRATION

All new students entering Mississippi State University as "Architecture" majors are required to participate in the summer orientation program. The purpose of the program is to enable the student to become familiar with the University, its activities, and its academic programs. The student participates in small group activities, selects courses, completes schedules, receives academic advisement, and completes registration except for the payment of tuition and fees.

DESIGN DISCOVERY WORKSHOP (and summer camp)

The School of Architecture offers an eight-day summer design program that is intended to answer many of the questions about architecture as a field of study and as a profession. The major goal of the workshop is to simulate the experience of being a first year architecture student by demonstrating the skill and intensity required for an architectural education, and to give clear insight and information into the practice of architecture. With this experience it will be possible for the participants to make an informed career decision about architecture and its related disciplines.

Design Discovery is open to individuals sixteen years of age and older on the basis of interest in design and architecture. Many of the incoming freshmen already accepted to the School of Architecture have found the summer workshop very helpful in not only confirming their choice of architecture as profession, but also providing the experience of being in the Architecture Building (Giles Hall). They also have the opportunity to work with other students (who will also be incoming freshmen) and faculty making their first semester of college easier in the fall.

[FYI: Note: If left up to the faculty – all incoming freshmen would be required to attend Design Discovery.]