

**What is architecture?**

**What is studying architecture like?**

**What to consider when looking for a course?**

**What skills are required?**

**How long does it take?**

**Tips for preparing a portfolio**

# ARCHITECTURE

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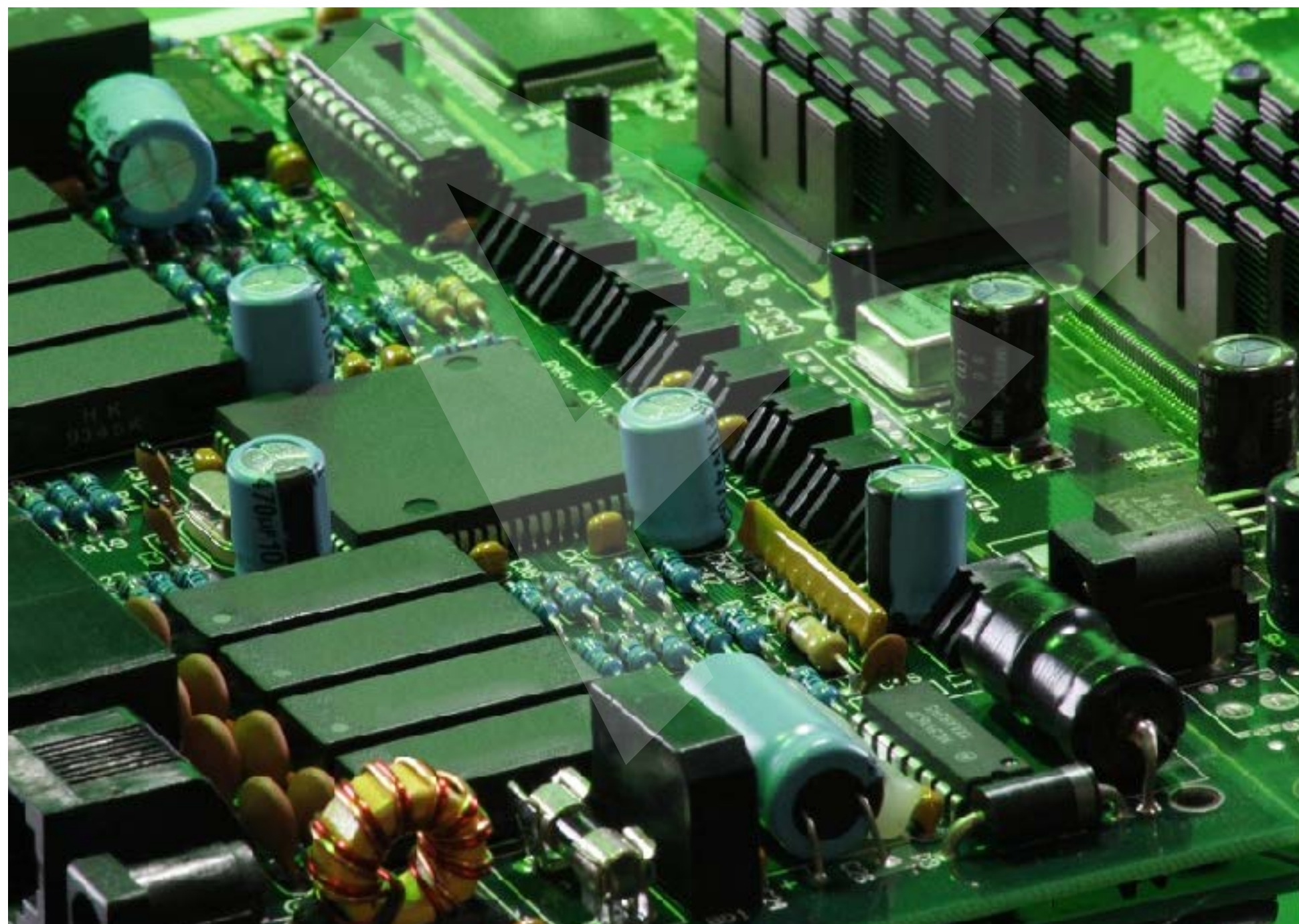
# What is architecture?

*'the art or practice of designing and constructing buildings'*



*'the complex or carefully designed structure of something'*

Oxford Dictionary





# What is architecture?



*Firmness, commodity & delight*

Vitruvius, 1st century BC



# What is architecture?

*‘the architecture of a building, a group of buildings, a city, a garden... is [...] its conceptual organisation, its intellectual structure.’*

Simon Unwin





# What is architecture?

*'Architecture is always designing  
by considering the next larger  
context:  
a chair in a room, a room in a  
house, a house in an environment,  
an environment in a city plan'*

Eliel Saarinen





# What is architecture?

*'Architecture is:  
Science, Technology, Geography,  
Typography, Anthropology,  
Sociology, Art, History.'*

Renzo Piano





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*We might go on to add that  
Architecture is also:  
Language, Law, Science,  
Economics, Politics, Music  
and much, much more ...*





# What is studying architecture like?

Different from anything you've done before! (And courses are designed to take account of that.)





# What is studying architecture like?

Traditionally studio-based.





# What is studying architecture like?

Collaborative and cross-disciplinary

Lots of creative problem solving





# What is studying architecture like?

Not as methodical as design and technology subjects — it's more of an open-end process of development, testing out ideas through models and drawings...





# What is studying architecture like?

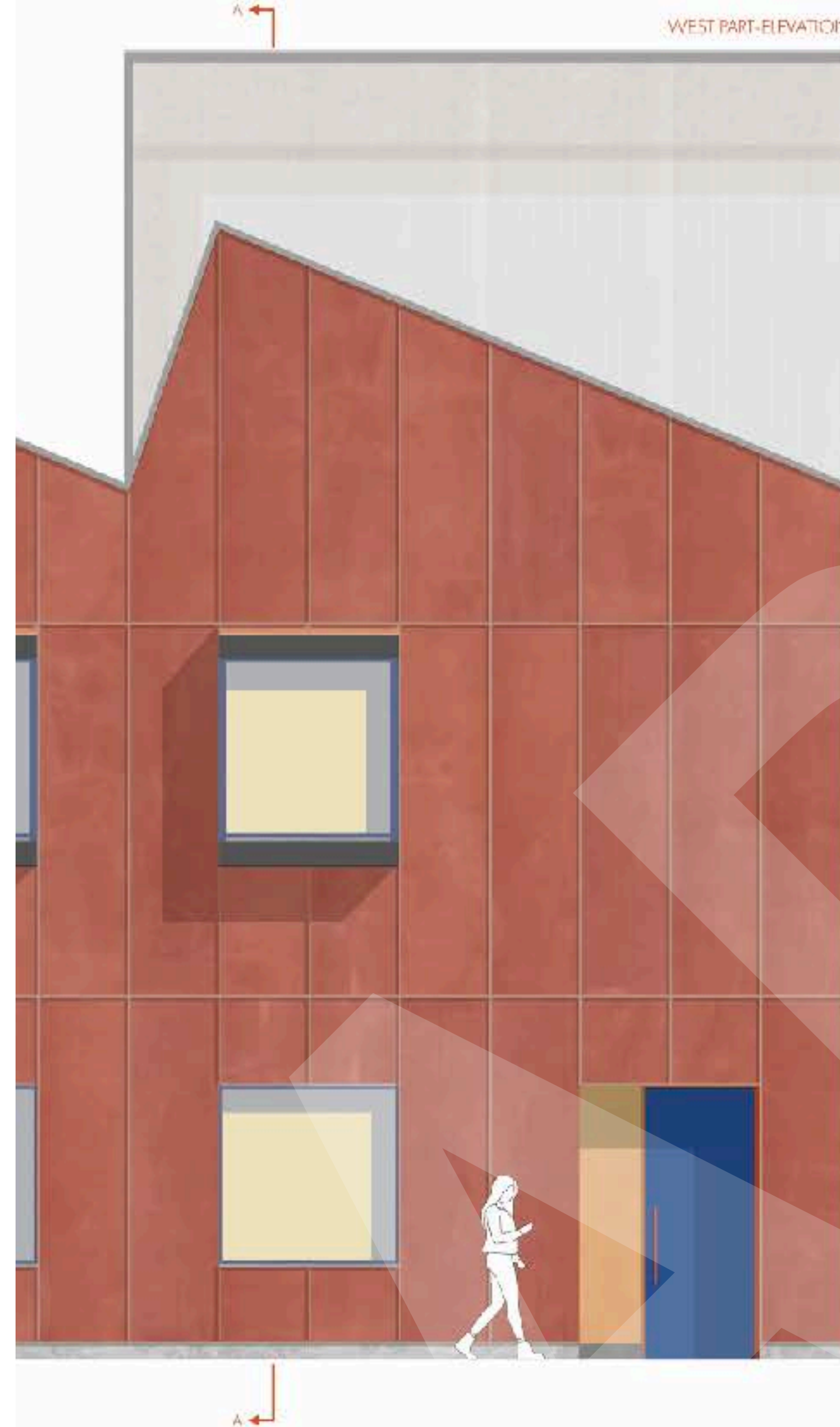
Using a wide range of skills — making, writing, presenting, researching, team-working...





# What is studying architecture like?

A little bit of lots of different things and the skill to bring them together into a coherent resolution



mathematical

- secondary
- primary

repulsed and isolated  
used oval bracket  
or rotation  
murmurden scene

Estrogenic activity is

ling  
dry lake - secondary  
- primary  
[leaf - 3 laminations, see Elmore]  
exposed basophilic rhyolite, 'saw' pattern.

E = Rock - External to internal

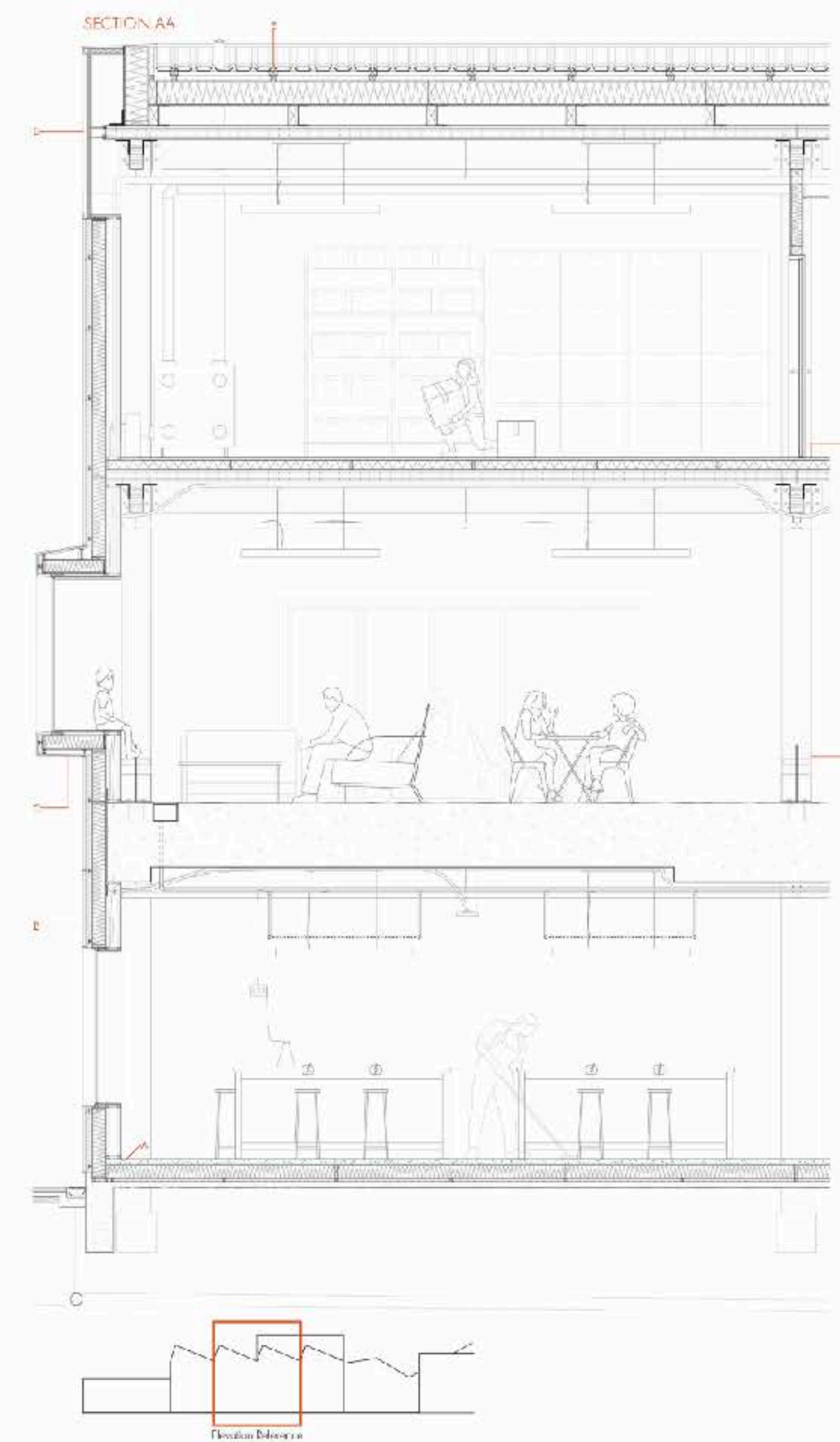
Galvanized zinc roofing sheets - Gungahlin - 10mm  
 Roofing connection plates  
 20mm Timber battens  
 Gungahlin weather membrane  
 250mm SP - 2nd - including 250mm polyurethane insulation  
 50mm Timber battens - cut at angle to allow for a 140 roof slope  
 150mm Gull Roof - 2 - insulation  
 300 x 130mm Guller secondary beams (as in section)  
 300 x 130mm Guller secondary beams (as in section)  
 - Work commencing in conjunction with main structure and framework  
 - Includes all material services

$\tau$ -intermediate factor to idemp = Absent to break

30mm distance USB Boom Taping  
 20mm Acoustic technical protection - rigid  
 - 90% 4mm Timber beams  
 100mm CIT floor slab - 3 dimensions  
 4mm lead sheeting (plastic coated) in beams  
 Primary + Secondary column beams 1000 x 150mm  
 Connected to column using brackets (not T-joint noc)  
 Economic call mounted services

G. Per floor column to floor: Above to below

300 x 300mm Glue-in concrete column  
 600mm bridge steel joist plate connection  
 - Columns welded 250mm from the floor plate  
 Bolted into floor slab and horizontal bolts through columns  
 connected to the connection  
 250mm existing concrete floor slab



Number of children	Number of families (approx.)
1 child	100
2 children	120
3 children	140
4 children	160
5 children	180
6 children	200

Wallsend Co-Workshop - Technical Section and Part Elevation  
Scale: 1:20 when printed at A0



# What is studying architecture like?

Often quite 'hands-on'.





# What is studying architecture like?

Study visits to engage with and understand different places and architectures

Involves time and can be challenging...

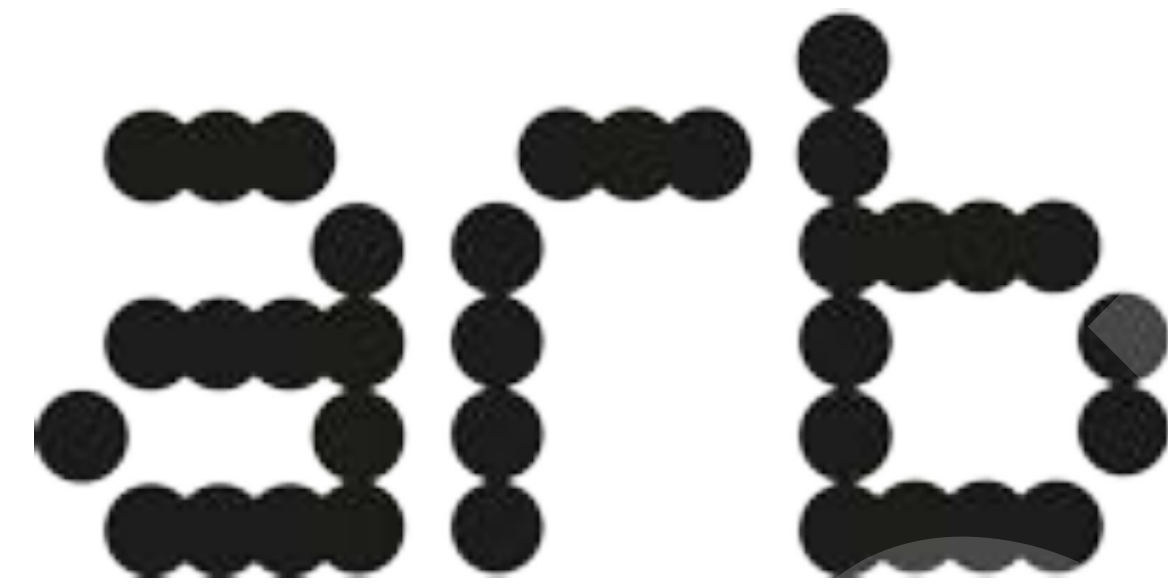
It's what you make of it...





# What to consider when looking for a course?

Accreditation



Architects  
Registration  
Board



RIBA



# What to consider when looking for a course?

Course ethos — how is it taught?





# What to consider when looking for a course?

Course ethos — how is it taught?





# What to consider when looking for a course?

Design work — will tell you a lot about what the School prioritises





# What to consider when looking for a course?

Workshop and printing facilities

Support for material costs

Studio space





# What to consider when looking for a course?

Studio culture





# What to consider when looking for a course?

Studio culture....

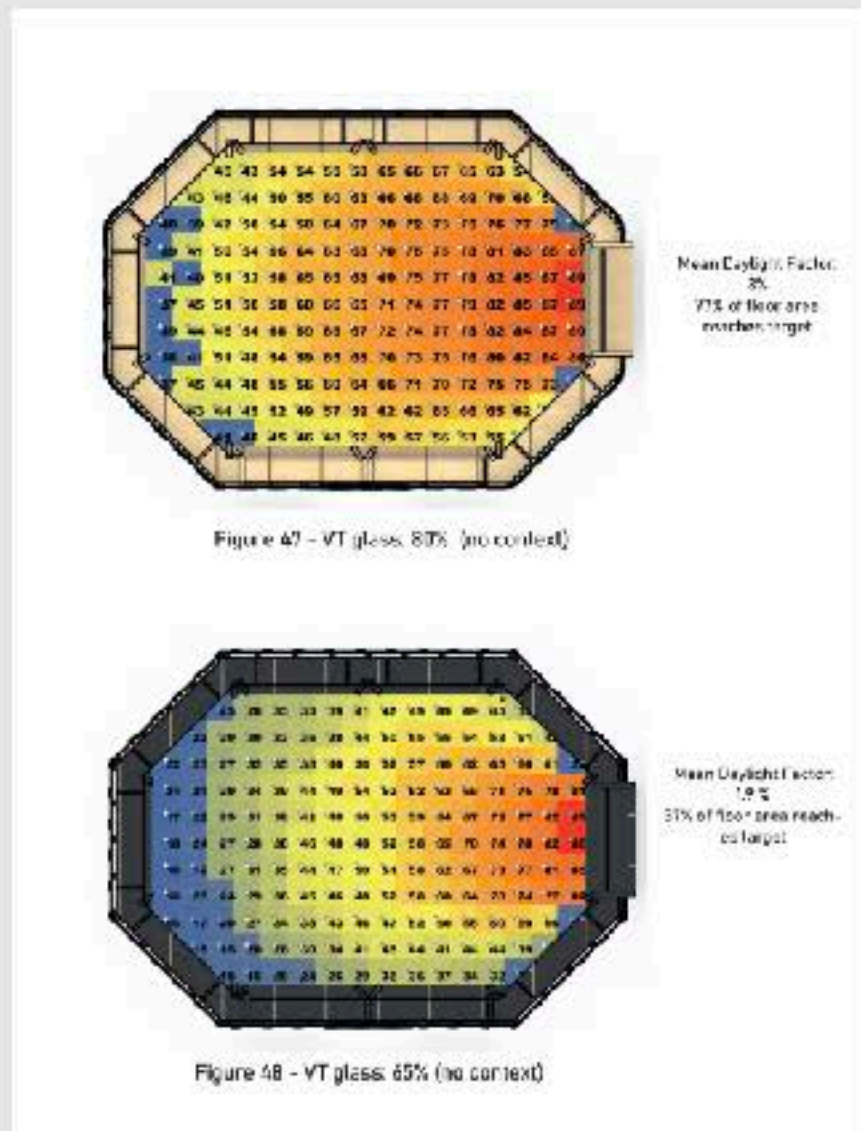
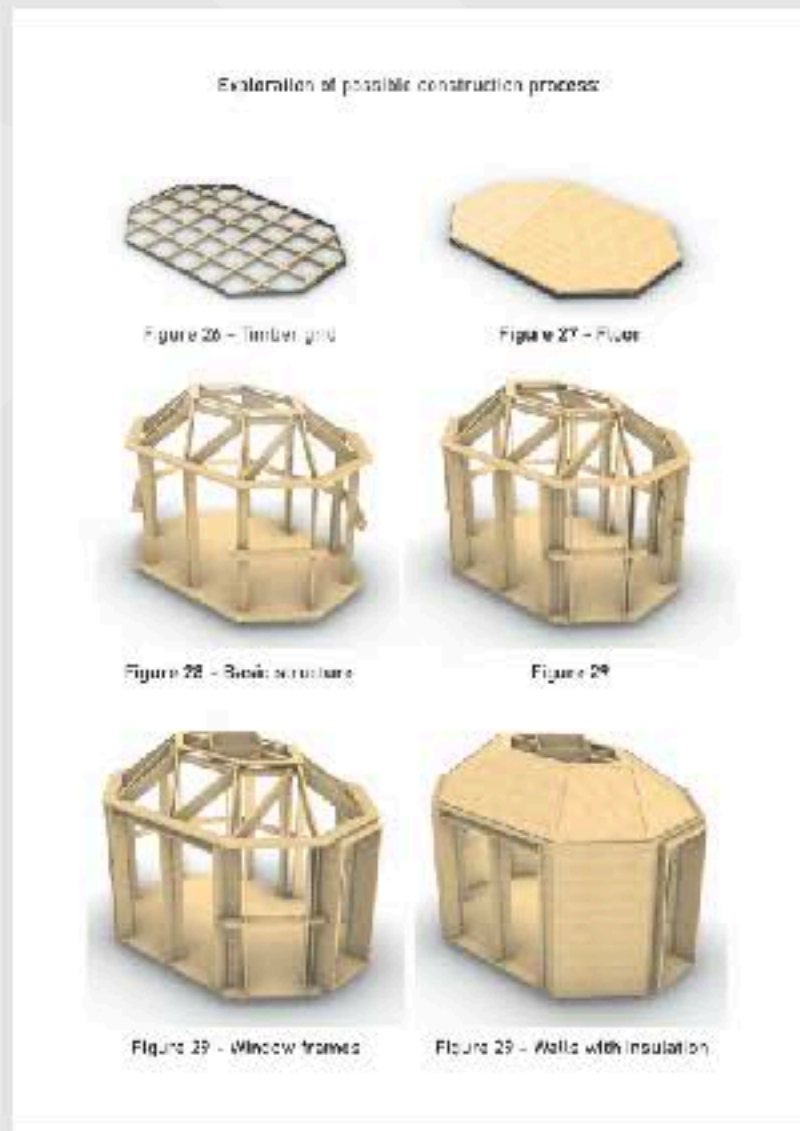
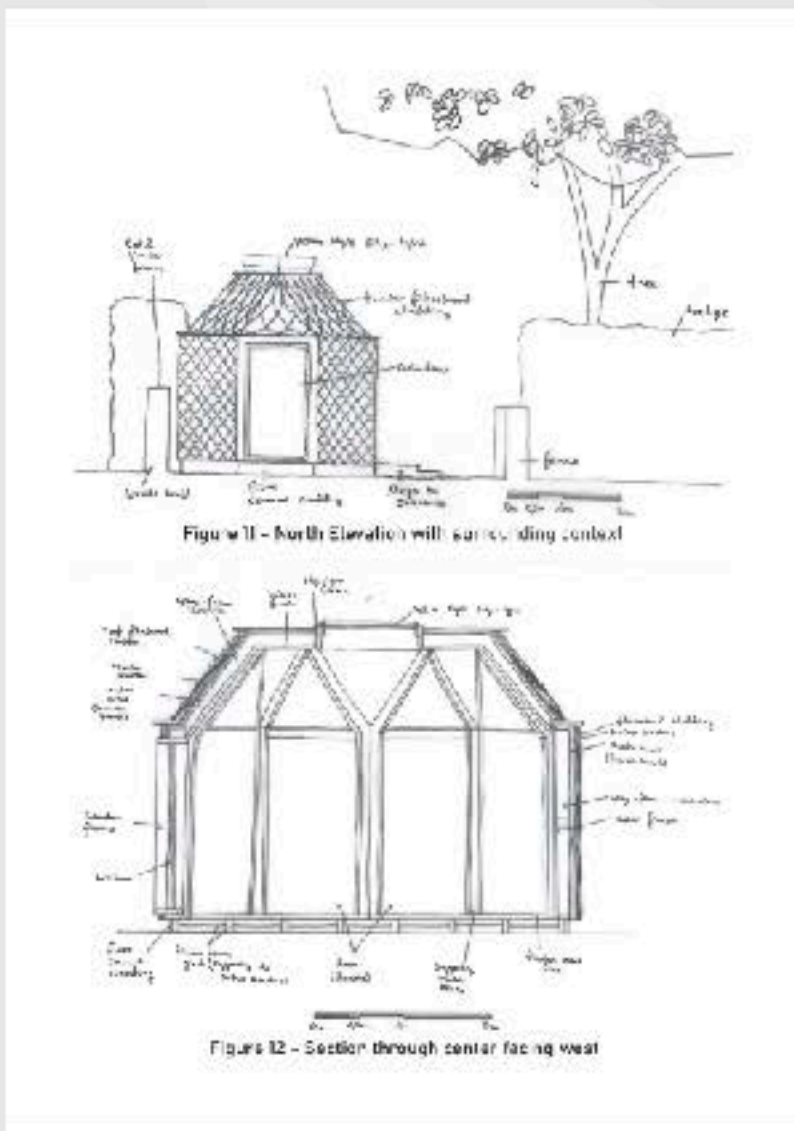
It's really important to visit and take a look around





# What skills are required?

You don't need A-Level Maths or Physics, but practical understanding is important





# What skills are required?

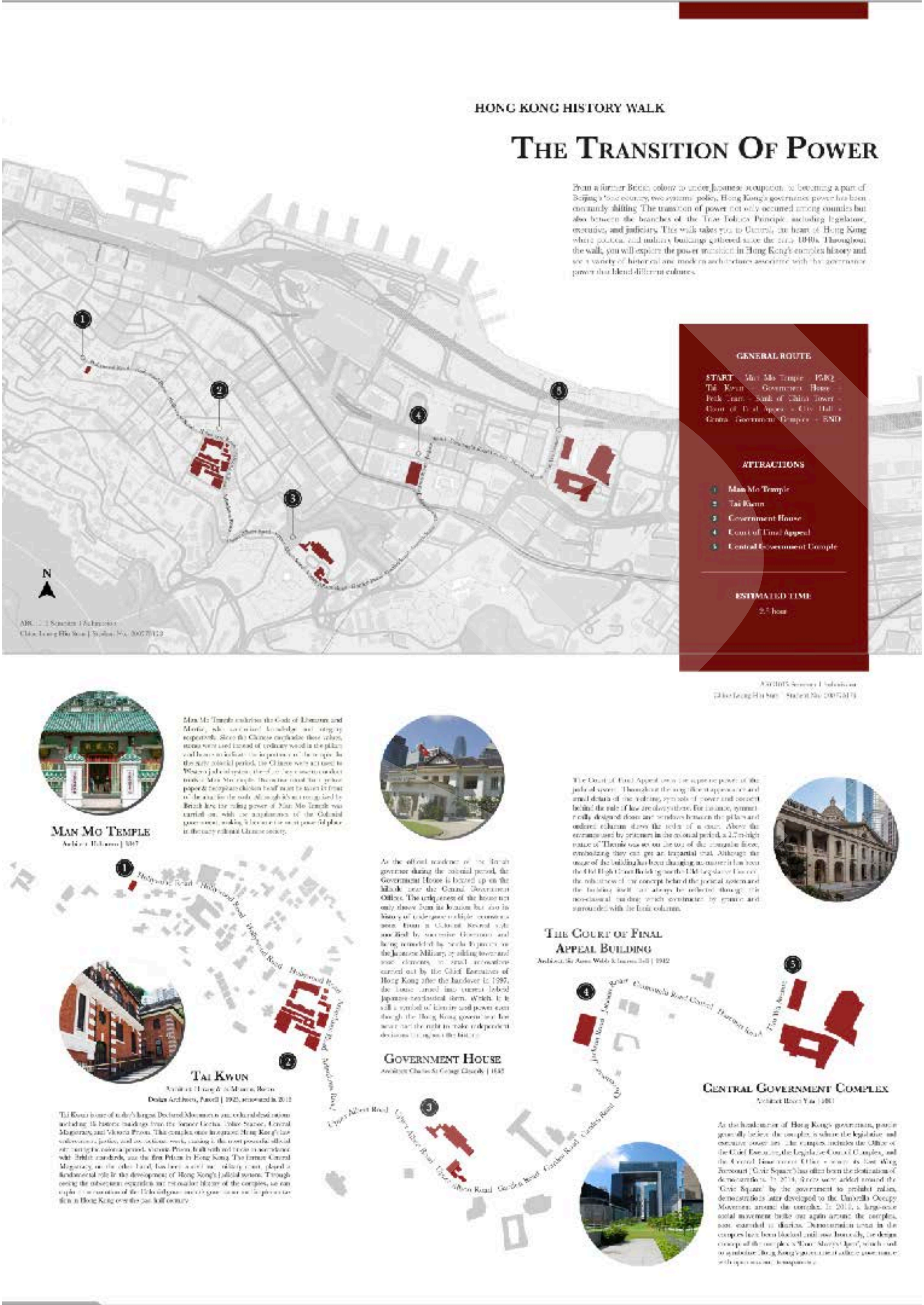
An art or design subject is helpful, but not essential, as there will be time to develop drawing skills on the course





# What skills are required?

An essay-based subject is helpful, as courses typically include several essays and written reports covering architectural theory, history, technology and practice





# What skills are required?

A combination of subjects you enjoy, bridging across arts, humanities and sciences.

There's no ideal mix — architects each have strengths in different areas, and there are many different kinds of role in practice...





# How long does it take?

Yes, it usually takes at least 7 years to become fully qualified...

At least 3 of those years will be in practice allowing you to earn a graduate wage and potentially save towards further study.

There are also apprenticeship routes now available.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

**BA or BSc in Architecture  
(RIBA Part I)**

**Year(s) in Practice**

**Master of Architecture  
(RIBA Part II)**

**Diploma  
(RIBA Part III)**

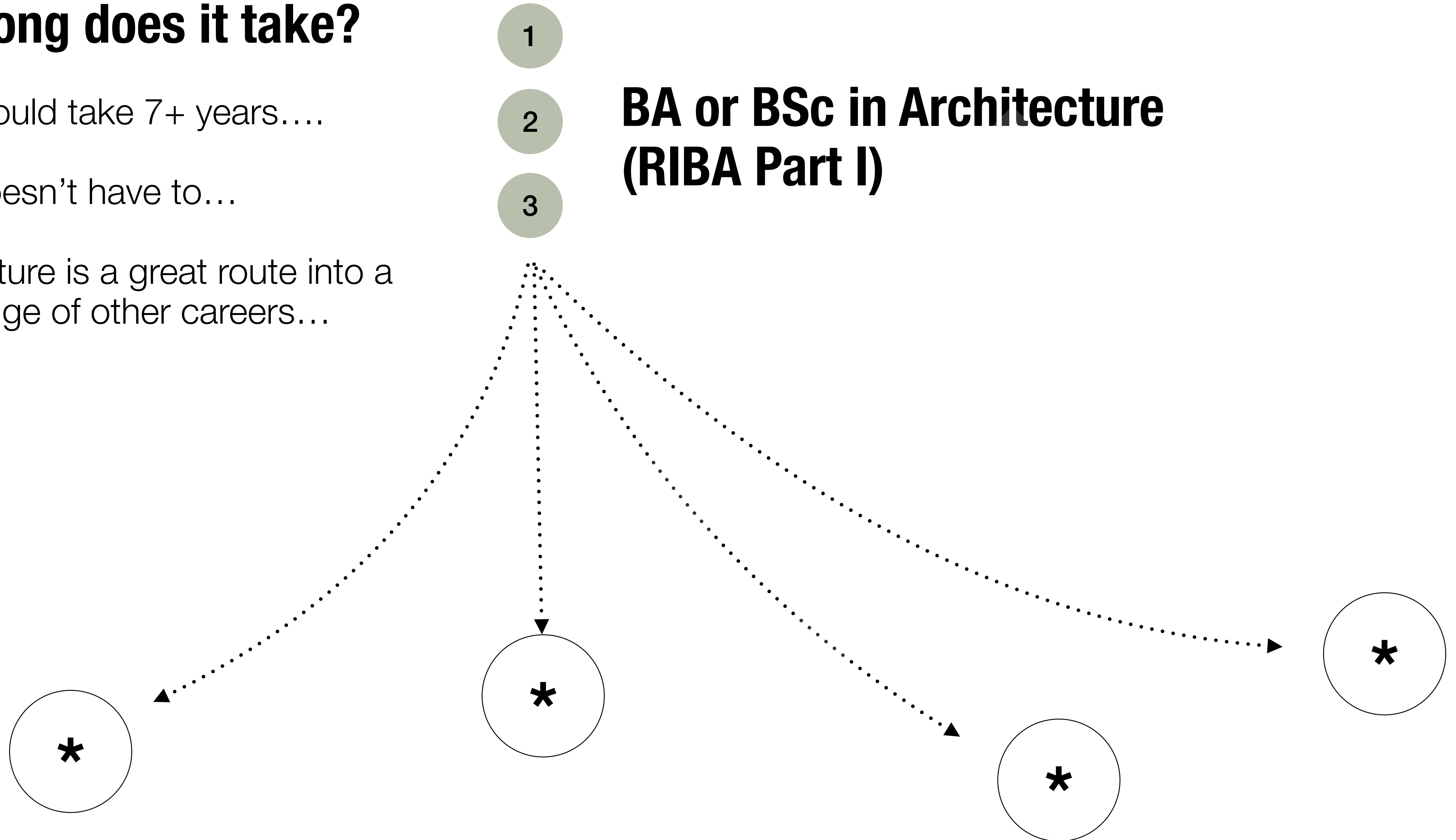


# How long does it take?

Yes, it could take 7+ years....

But it doesn't have to...

Architecture is a great route into a wide range of other careers...





# Tips for preparing a portfolio

It doesn't have to be about buildings — play to your strengths and use the materials you already have; make it personal





# Tips for preparing a portfolio

Can include photography, sculpture, drawing, painting, prints, product design, graphical work, technical drawings, poetry etc....

...anything that shows architectural awareness — interest in colour, space, composition, form, making

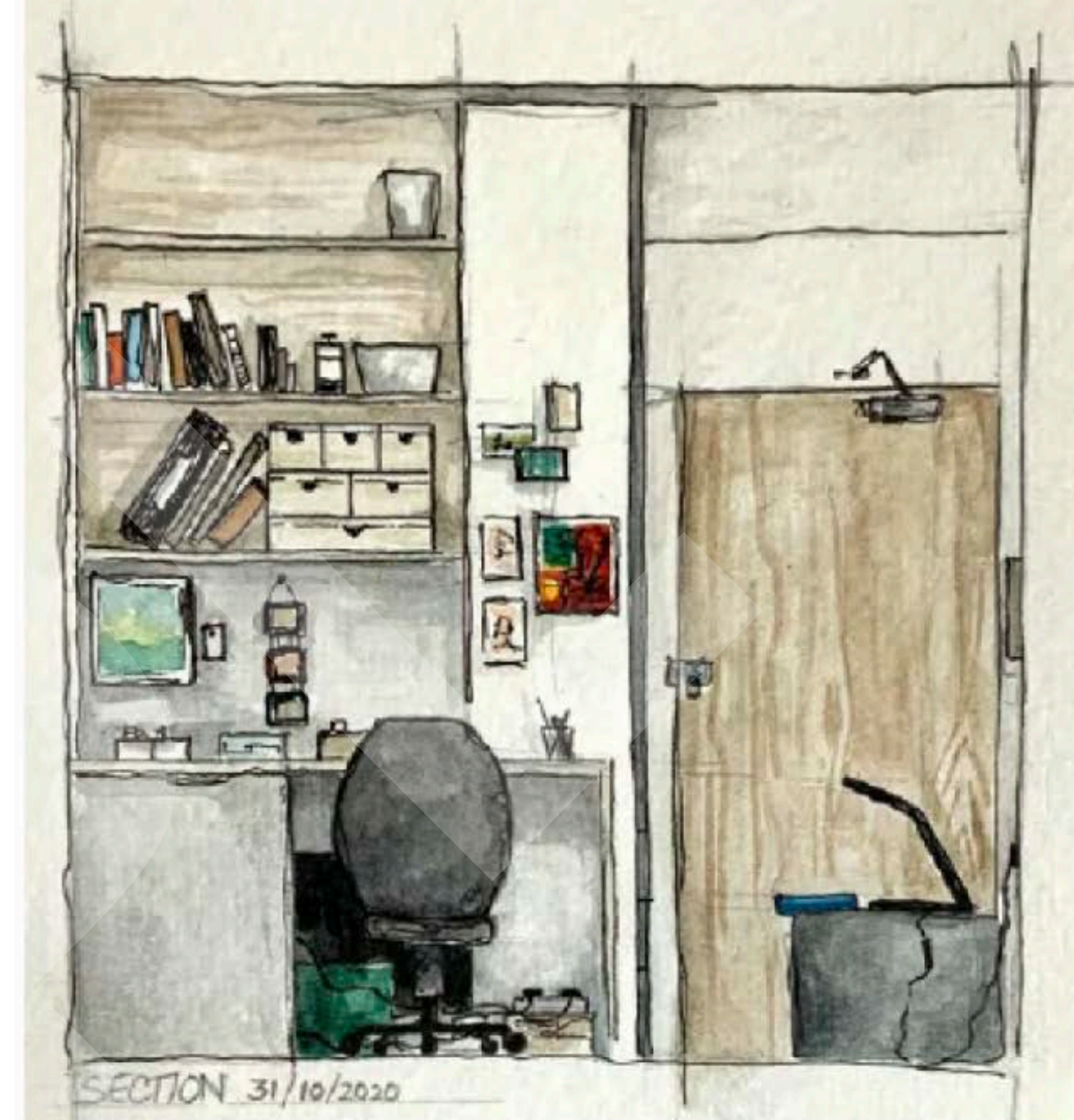
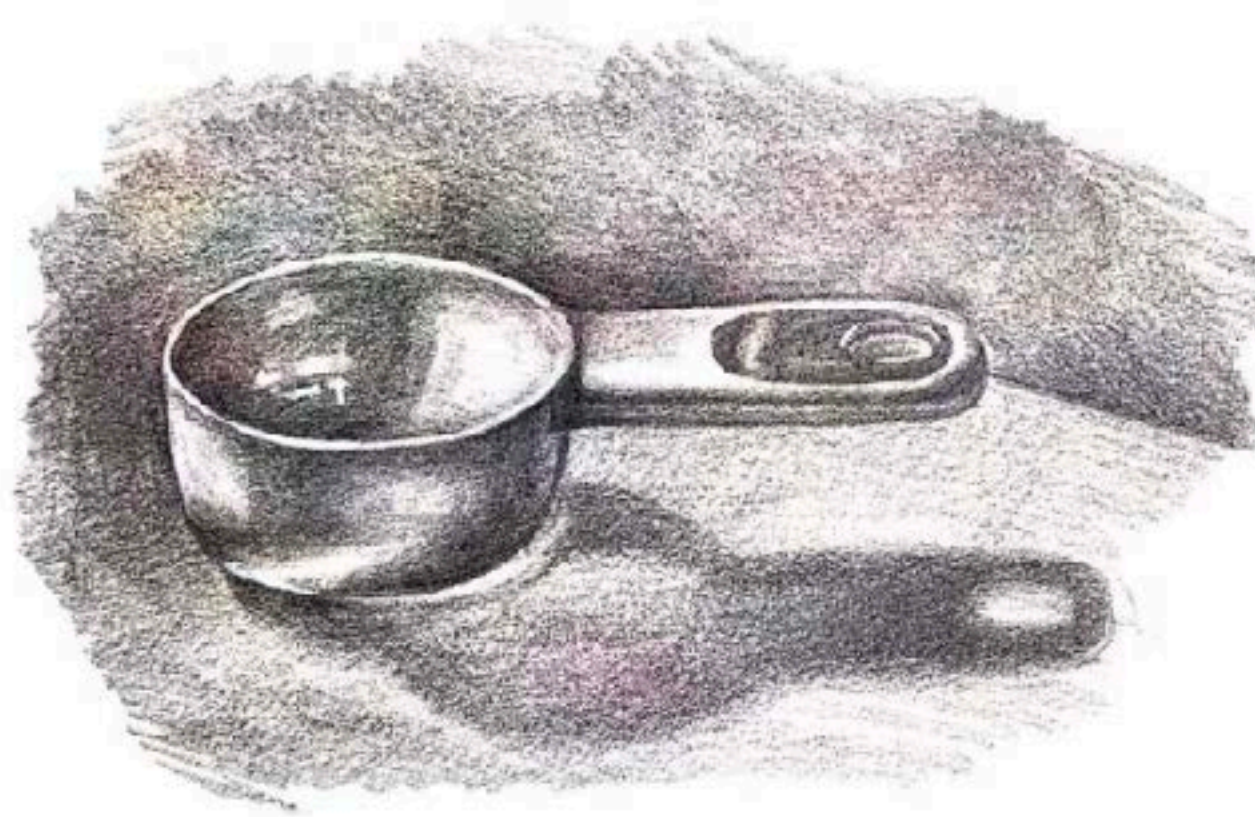
...and skills in observation, judgement, precision, care, focus, enquiry...





# Tips for preparing a portfolio

Try to include a range of media and skills





# Tips for preparing a portfolio

Be selective — choose your best work and give each piece enough space to shine.

Usually one image per page is best, unless you want to show how something was developed, or what it looks like from different angles.





# Tips for preparing a portfolio

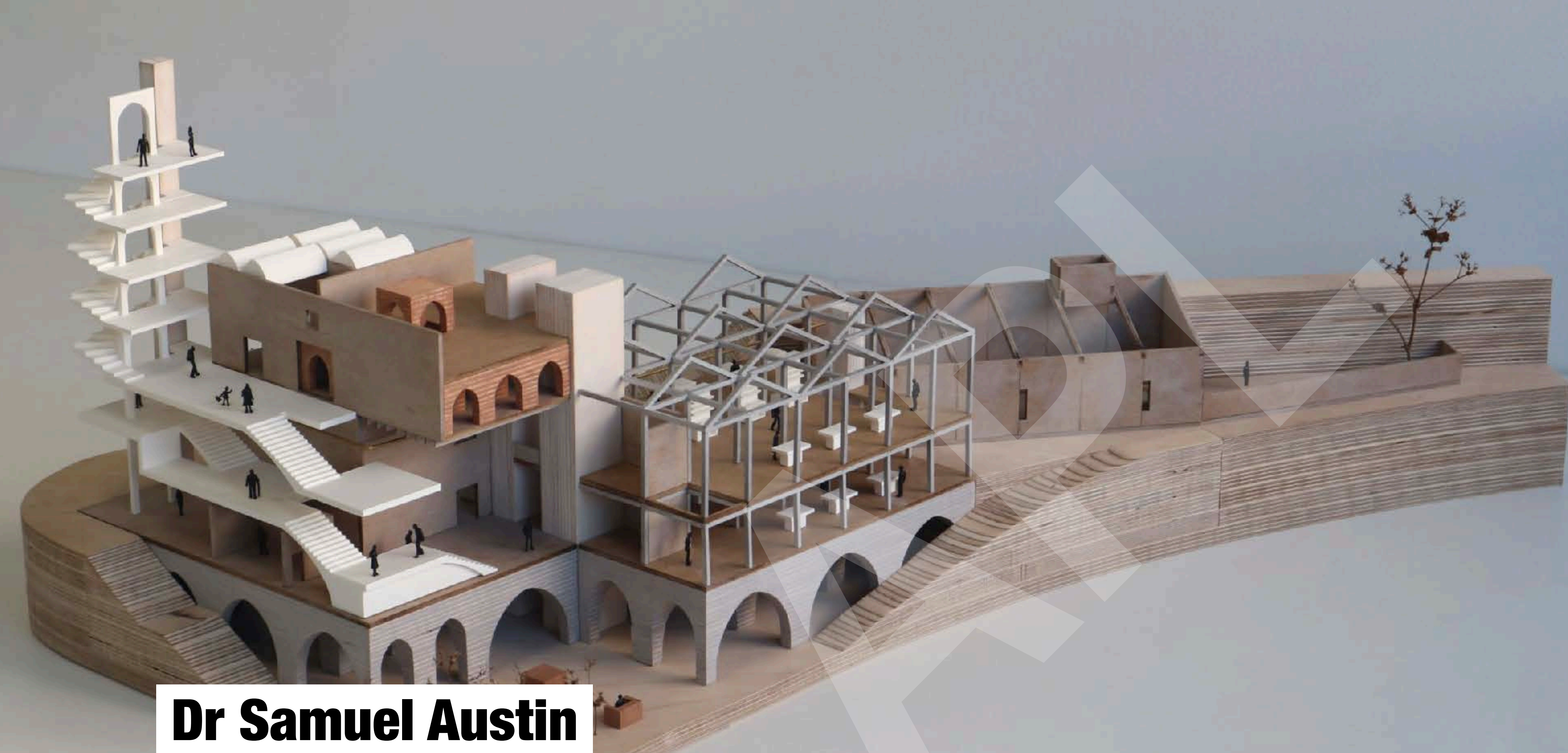
Use the best of your school work, but also pieces done in your own time.

Include a brief explanation for each piece, explaining why you did it and what it means



The new photographs were taken in Wrocław and represent different residential buildings located in the same district. What I have found especially interesting is the contrast between newly-built and newly-renovated dwellings, and those with visible signs of the passing time. The natural consequence of this, is the variety of material structures depicted. The black and white colours increase the sense of depth in the photographs.





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