ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN, AAS

Program Code: Architectural Design-AAS

Program Description

The Associate of Applied Science in Architectural Design prepares students for entry-level roles in architecture, engineering, and construction, with a focus on the high desert and alpine regions of the American West. Students learn architectural design thinking, 3D modeling, baseline architectural drafting, and environmental/sustainable design while exploring the cultural and geographical factors shaping these landscapes. Emphasis is placed on design skills with hands-on projects in challenging conditions such as high-altitude climates, water scarcity, and wildfire risk. Graduates are ready for non-regulated, entry level positions in firms such as design technicians or to progress into the 5-year Bachelor of Architecture (In Candidacy) Program which is required to become a registered Architect in the State of Nevada.

Recommended Course Schedule

1st semester		Units
AAD 100	Introduction to Architectural Design	3
AAE 180	Introduction to Design Principles	6
ENG 101 or ENG 100 or ENG 113	Composition I [1] or Composition Enhanced or Composition I for International and Multilingual Students	3
MATH 124	College Algebra	3
	Semester Total	**15**
2nd semester		
AAE 280	Design Foundations II	6
AAD 201	History of the Built Environment	3
AAD 223	Graphic Software for Arch, Const, Dsgnr, Planners	3
US & Nevada Constitutions		3
	Semester Total	**15**
3rd semester		
AAE 282	Design Foundations III	6
AAD 268	3-D Presentation Graphics	3
ENG 102 or ENG 114	Composition II or Composition II For International and Multilingual Students	3
PHYS 100	Introductory Physics	3
	Semester Total	**15**
4th semester		
AAE 283	Design Foundation IV	6
AAD 232	Bioclimatic Design	3
AAD 203	History, Theory, and Culture - Architecture of the 20th and 21st Century	3
Fine Arts [1]		3
	Semester Total	**15**
	Total Units	**60**

[1] Please see advisor if you placed in to ENG 102 or ENG 114.

Program Requirements

AAS degrees are generally non-transfer degrees designed for students to enter the workforce.

To earn an AAS degree, students must:

1. Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 (see requirements for graduation.)
2. Complete a minimum of 15 units within the college.
3. Satisfy General Education requirements for the AAS (https://catalog.tmcc.edu/degrees-certificates/general-education/aas/).
4. Have no financial or library obligation to the college.

Code	Title	Units
General Education Requirements		
English/Communications		*6*
Required:		
ENG 101 or ENG 100 or ENG 113	Composition I [1] Composition Enhanced Composition I for International and Multilingual Students	
Required:		
ENG 102 or ENG 114	Composition II Composition II For International and Multilingual Students	
Fine Arts/Humanities/Social Science		*3*
Recommended:		
Course that meets Fine Arts		
Human Relations:		*[3]*
AAE 180	Introduction to Design Principles	
Mathematics		*3*
Required:		
MATH 124	College Algebra (Or higher)	
Science		*3*
Required:		
PHYS 100	Introductory Physics	
Additional College Requirements		
Diversity		*[3]*
AAD 201	History of the Built Environment	
U.S. and Nevada Constitutions		*3*
Degree Requirements		
AAD 100	Introduction to Architectural Design	3
AAD 201	History of the Built Environment [2]	3
AAD 203	History, Theory, and Culture - Architecture of the 20th and 21st Century	3
AAD 223	Graphic Software for Arch, Const, Dsgnr, Planners	3
AAD 232	Bioclimatic Design	3
AAD 268	3-D Presentation Graphics	3
AAE 180	Introduction to Design Principles	6
AAE 280	Design Foundations II	6

AAE 282	Design Foundations III	6
AAE 283	Design Foundation IV	6
Total Units		**60**

[1] Please see advisor if you placed in to ENG 102 or ENG 114.

Program Outcomes

Students completing the degree will:

PSLO1: Apply foundational architectural design thinking, drafting, and 3D modeling skills to produce accurate and visually effective design imagery and models.

PSLO2: Analyze cultural, geographical, and environmental factors of high desert and alpine regions to inform contextually responsive design solutions.

PSLO3: Employ iterative design thinking processes—research, ideation, prototyping, and refinement—to generate creative solutions for region-specific architectural challenges.

PSLO4: Evaluate architectural precedents to inform design decisions and support the development of innovative, context-appropriate solutions.