



ARCHITECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

DAVID R. RAVIN SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

In the United States, most registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit professional degree programs in architecture offered by institutions with U.S. regional accreditation, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture. A program may be granted an eight-year term, an eight-year term with conditions, or a two-year term of continuing accreditation, or a three-year term of initial accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established education standards.

Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may require a non-accredited undergraduate degree in architecture for admission. However, the non-accredited degree is not, by itself, recognized as an accredited degree.

The David R. Ravin School of Architecture at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:

Master of Architecture (MArch Advanced Standing) Pre-professional architecture degree from UNC Charlotte + 40 graduate credit hours
Master of Architecture (M.Arch), Pre-professional architecture degree from a NAAB-accredited school + NAAB-accredited 60 graduate credit hours
Master of Architecture (M.Arch), Undergraduate degree + NAAB-accredited 96 credit hours

Next accreditation visit for all programs: Spring 2032

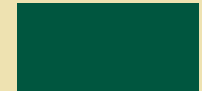
UNC Charlotte is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, actual or perceived gender identity, gender expression, age, national origin, physical or mental disability, political affiliation, veteran status, or genetic information.

soa.charlotte.edu.
soa-admissions@charlotte.edu
704-687-0101.

Who We Are **01**



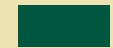
The Engaged City **02**



Emergent Material Practices **03**

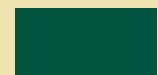


Regenerative Systems Design **04**

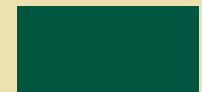


The Computed Environment **05**

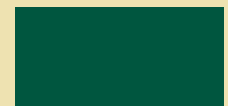
Applied Critical History **06**



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01 Who We Are



Storrs Hall, designed by Gwathmey Siegel Associates, New York.



The Storrs Fabrication Labs support all research and student work through hands-on experimentation.

The David R. Ravin School of Architecture (SoA) at UNC Charlotte embraces the mission of an urban research university that bridges academic excellence and access. Founded in 1971, the SoA is characterized by a community of energetic, award-winning faculty and students who advance experimental and pioneering ideas freely in an open and collaborative environment. Approximately 400 enrolled students pursue a **B.A. in Architecture** or one of **three graduate degree programs** in architecture and urban design, and 25 full-time faculty members lead applied research efforts that include the work of five research labs. The SoA's academic home within a college of visual and performing arts offers exceptional opportunities to explore interdisciplinary connections between architecture and music, theatre, dance, visual art, and art history.

01

Who
We Are



First Year "Bounding Box" projects, Storrs Salon.

02 The Engaged City



The Dubois Center at UNC Charlotte Center City.

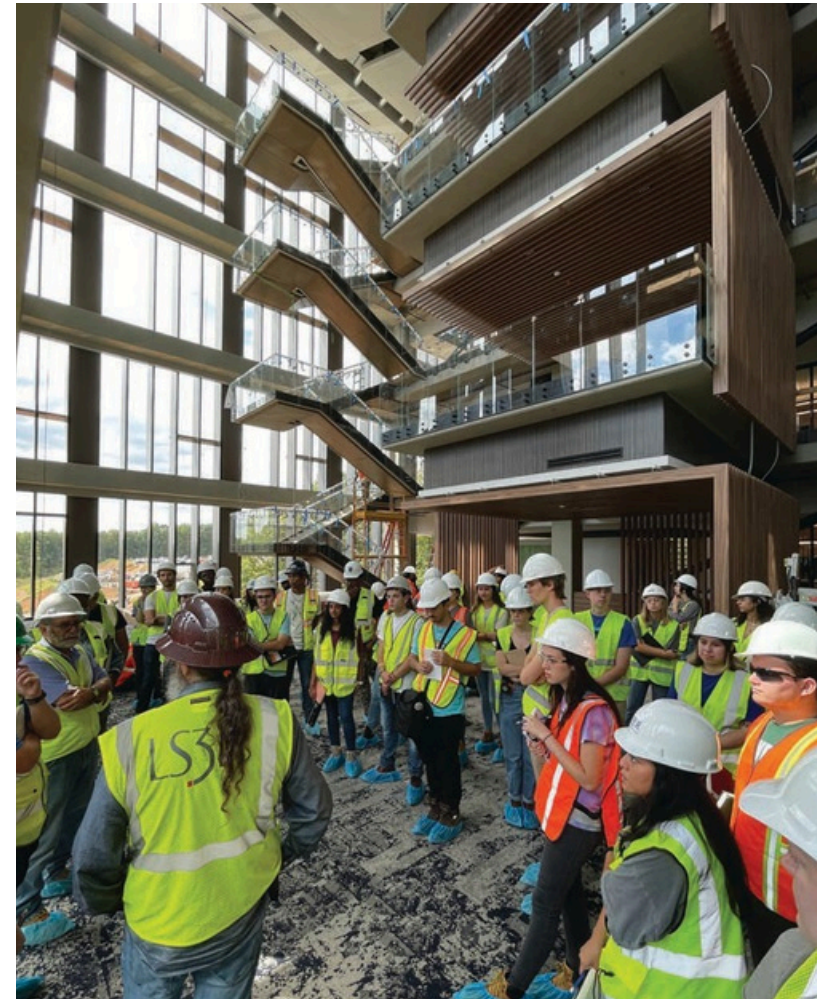
02

The Engaged City

Charlotte is one of the fastest-growing and most diverse cities in the United States. The SoA actively partners with Charlotte civic leaders, entrepreneurs, practitioners, and communities to address new opportunities and challenges facing this New South metropolis. Students regularly engage with Charlotte's architecture firms and allied industries, and the SoA's **Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) program** streamlines students' professional trajectories. Faculty and students pursue architecture and urban design practices involving new approaches to community engagement, analysis, and the design of metropolitan regions. SoA students explore urban design and technology in Global Information Systems (GIS), Urban Analytics, and the Community Planning Workshop. Students may also pursue a **Master of Urban Design degree**, which may be combined with a **Master of Architecture** or M.S. in Real Estate. The SoA's **City Building Lab (CBL)** advances social and environmental engagement initiatives in urban settings in collaboration with community partners, and the **designLAB (dL)** serves as a creative hub for imagining innovative models of future housing and other urban programs.



Architecture and urban design students transforming the basketball courts at Alexander Street Park.



Field trips are a core part of the curriculum.

03 Emergent Material Practices



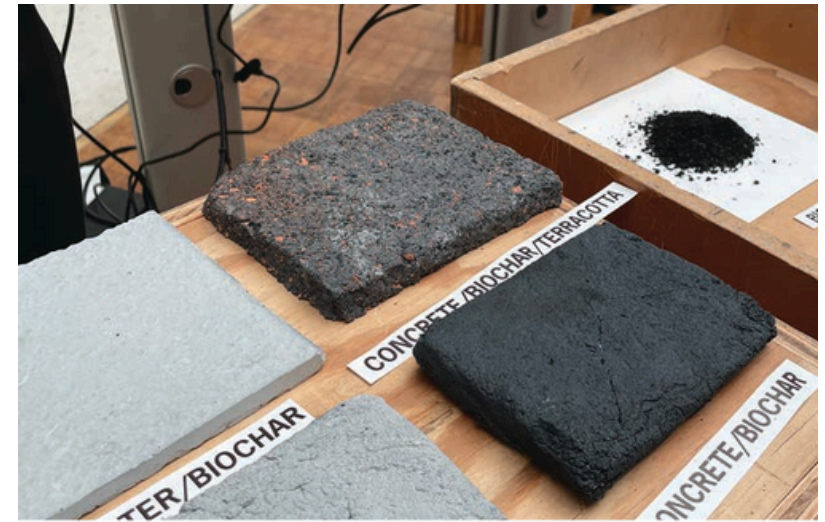
Associate Professor Rachel Dickey's "Sound Pavilion," an acoustical application of gypsum.



03

Emergent Material Practices

New materials and systems are revolutionizing the architecture, engineering, and construction industries. Emergent Material Practices envision potential applications for new building products as well as untapped possibilities for conventional ones, seeking to expand the design, function, and technical capacities of architectural materials. The School's **Fabrication Lab (FabLab)** operates as a center of creative experimentation, education, and leadership development regarding emergent materials knowledge. Courses such as Materials and Assembly Principles, Structural Systems, and Topical Design Studios, including summer design-build programs, offer in-depth opportunities to explore this area.



Students join faculty in researching emergent building materials, such as fungi-based materials and new recipes for concrete.

04 Regenerative Systems Design

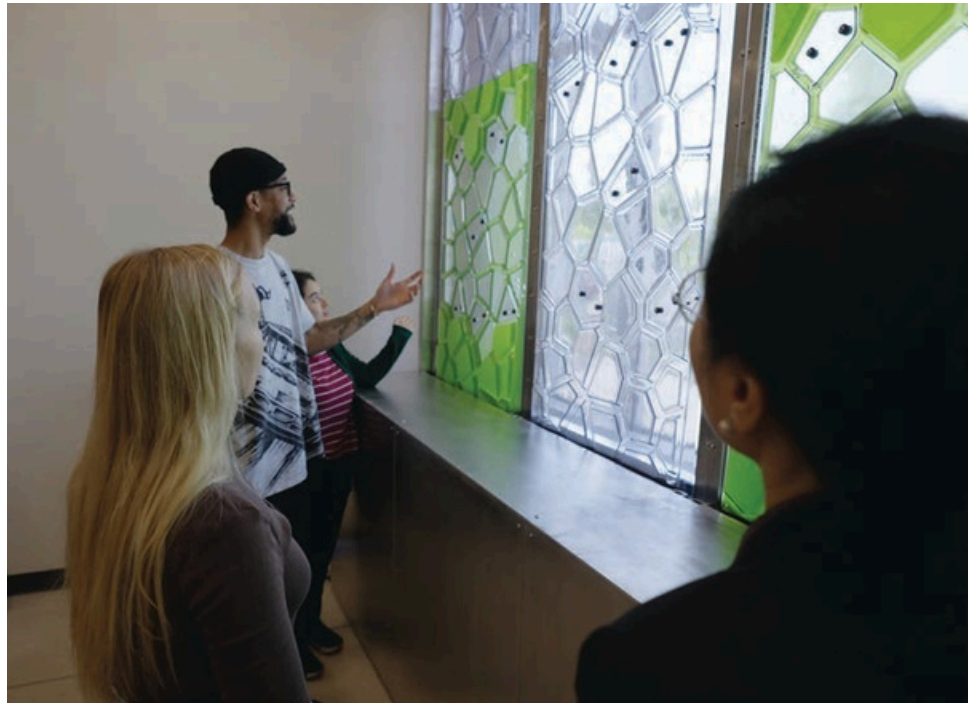


Active Modular Phytoremediation System, a living wall designed and constructed by Associate Professor Jefferson Ellinger with student research assistants.

04

Regenerative Systems Design

Global warming and resource depletion are motivating significant changes in the built environment, and architects are working more closely with natural organisms and ecosystems to develop compelling solutions to these problems. Regenerative Systems Design consists of biologically attuned methods, substances, and assemblies that expand building construction's standard material palette and increase the environmental performance of architecture. This focus is evident in the work of the School's **Integrated Design Research Lab (IDRL)**, which advances research in climate-responsive strategies that also improve human health. Courses like Environmental Systems Principles, Building Systems Integration, and Environmental Ethics broaden students' expertise in this topic. Students may also pursue in-depth studies as part of the **M.S. in Architecture—Sustainable Building Technology** degree program.



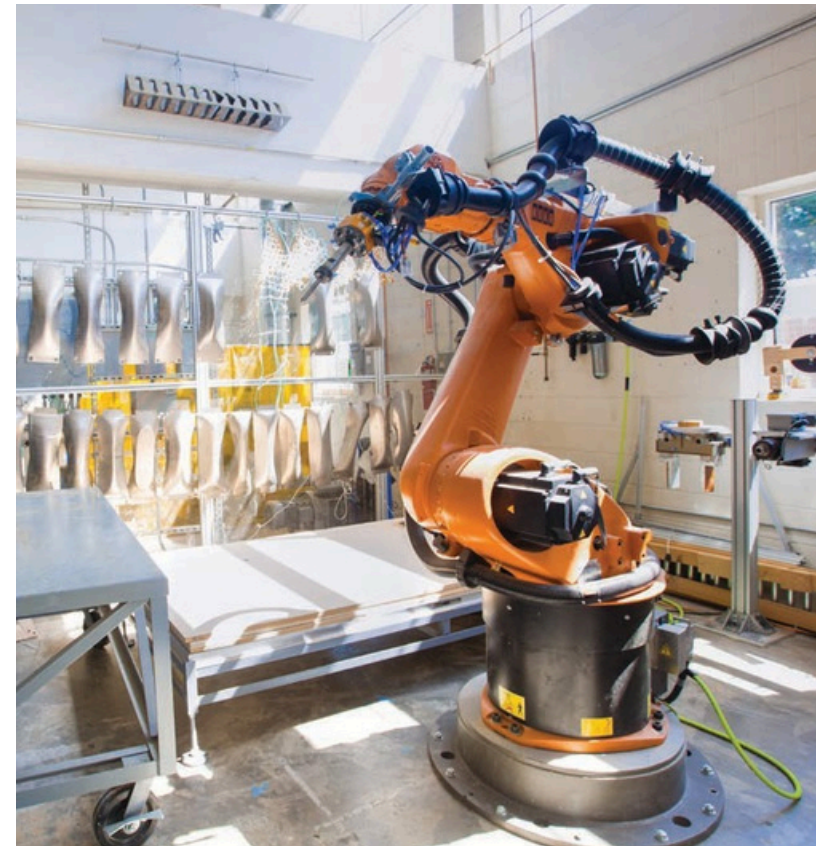
Professor Kyoung Hee Kim and student researchers are developing microalgae window systems.

05 The Computed Environment





The FabLab includes fully equipped wood, metal, and digital facilities.



One of three robots in the FabLab robotic fabrication shop.

05

The Computed Environment

Artificial intelligence and robotics are swiftly transforming the ways buildings are designed, built, maintained, and occupied. The Computed Environment considers the relationship between atoms and bits at all scales, developing design and experiential opportunities at the intersection of AR, VR, AI, IoT, and robotics. The work of the **College of Arts + Architecture's Digital Arts Center (D+Arts)** explores the possibilities of responsive environments, digital fabrication, and multidisciplinary performance. Courses in Computational Methods, Computational Practice, and Robotics provide meaningful forays into this area for students. In addition, the **M.S. in Architecture—Design Computation degree**, with dual degree options in Computer Science and Information Technology, provides an opportunity to gain advanced expertise in this area.

06 Applied Critical History



Critical heritage research at Historic Rosedale, a former plantation in Charlotte.

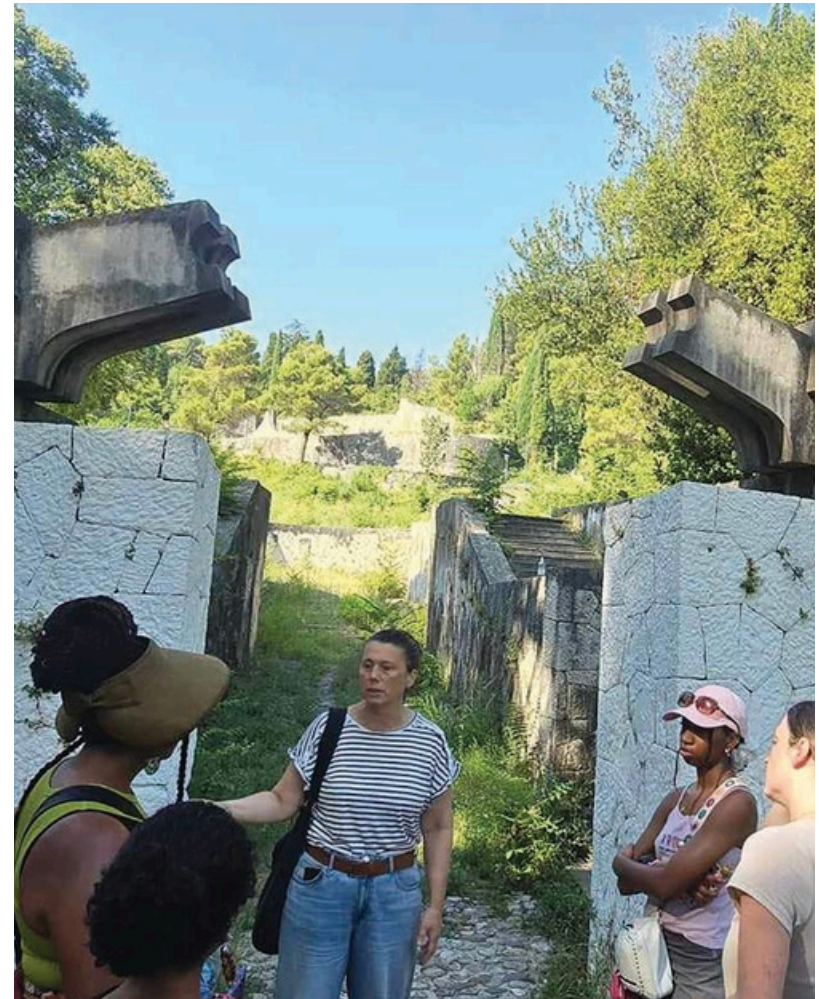
06

Applied Critical History

Every site has a memory, and history forms the foundation of the built environment's future. Applied Critical History extends the role of history beyond the textbook, engaging fundamental matters of cultural significance via new critical interpretations and speculative design proposals. Courses such as Architectural History Criticism Methods, Landscapes of Peacebuilding, and Brave New Worlds: Utopian Thinking in Urban Planning offer in-depth explorations of these topics. Students can participate in the School's semester-long Rome program, which explores both ancient and modern architectural history. The School offers a **Minor in Architectural History and Heritage**, and graduate students also have the option to develop further knowledge via the **M.S. in Architecture - Critical Heritage degree** in partnership with Geography, Public History, and Anthropology. The interdisciplinary **Center for Community, Heritage, and the Arts (CHART)** focuses on preservation and interpretation of the built environment through hands-on engagement with communities.



A traveling exhibition about architect Phil Freelon, developed by students with professors Emily Makaš and Greg Snyder.



Students touring the Partisan Memorial Cemetery in Mostar, Bosnia.

07 Intercultural Futures



Field trip to Junya Ishigami's KAIT Plaza in Kanagawa, Japan, during the summer studio in Tokyo.



The SoA offers an annual spring semester program based in Rome and Istanbul.



07

Intercultural Futures

Intercultural competency is critical in our increasingly globalized world. The disciplines of architecture and urban design rely heavily on soft skills such as communication and collaboration with diverse stakeholders. In the SoA, Intercultural Futures imagine design's capacity to enhance these skills and apply them in the context of emboldened, speculative projects. The SoA's **Rome and Istanbul program** offers a unique opportunity at UNC Charlotte to spend an entire semester abroad, actively engaging with local students and faculty from multiple institutions. Other intercultural destinations that engage questions about the future of architecture and urbanism include **Japan, Taiwan, and Tanzania**. In the U.S., field trips to architectural destinations like Chicago and the Civil Rights Trail provide domestic opportunities for intercultural skill development.

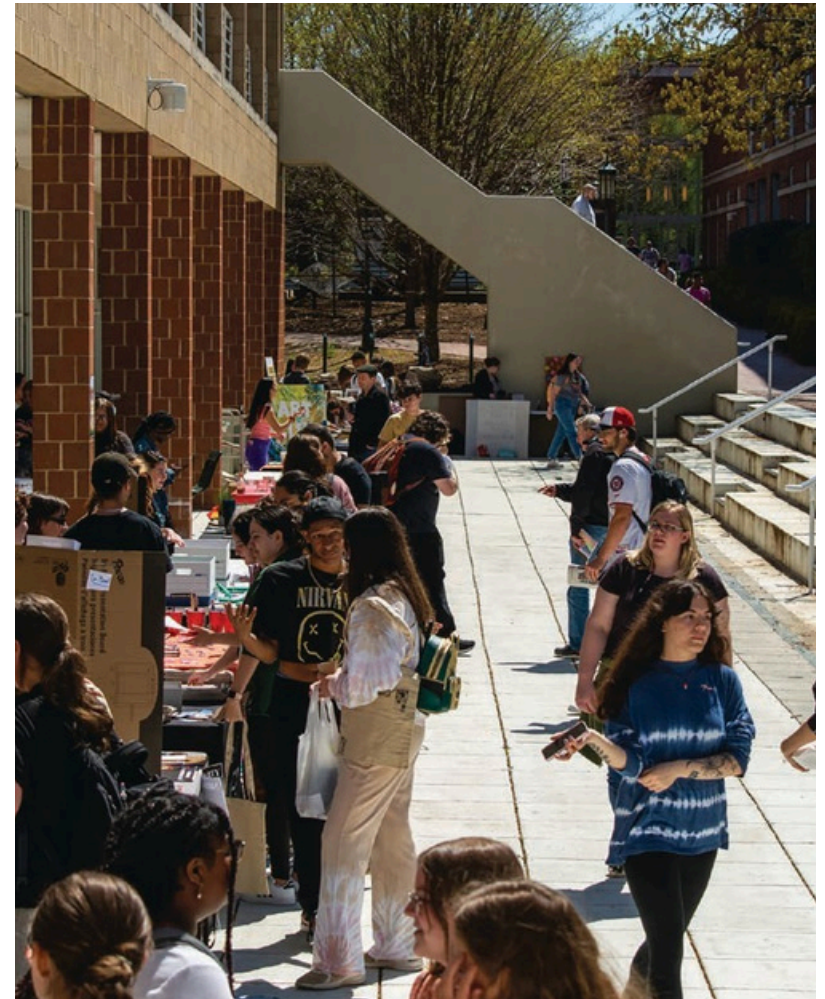
08 Nurturing Community



08

Nurturing Community

Traditionally, architecture has a reputation as a stressful and hyper-competitive discipline of study. However, the opportunities and challenges affecting today's built environment require intense collaboration and mutual support. At UNC Charlotte, faculty and students are committed to creating an open-minded and positive atmosphere to pursue research, explore new forms of building, and discover collaborative practices that foster human potential. One of the SoA's distinctive qualities is its nurturing community of peers and mentors, which promotes mental and social wellbeing. The School builds students' confidence through interdisciplinary programs, close alliances with the profession, and active engagement with local and international communities. We believe this kind of positive, multifaceted learning environment contributes to the success of our graduates. Nearly 3,000 SoA alumni now make significant contributions to architecture and related disciplines in approximately 700 cities worldwide.



CoAApalooza, an annual student-led arts festival.



The Lambla Gallery showcases exhibitions related to SoA curricula.

09 More Information



Our Studio Culture Policy: Be Present. Be Respectful. Be Responsible. Be Smart. Be Amazing.

09

More

Information

We invite you to learn more about our programs, faculty, students, and alumni!

Visit our website at soa.charlotte.edu.

Follow us on social media!

Instagram: [@cltarchitecture](https://www.instagram.com/cltarchitecture)

Facebook: [@clt.soa](https://www.facebook.com/clt.soa)

For admissions information, email us at soa-admissions@charlotte.edu or call 704-687-0101.

The Ravin School of Architecture is one of five units in the College of Arts + Architecture. See the creative activities of all our disciplines by following us [@clt_coaa](https://www.instagram.com/clt_coaa).





UNC Charlotte is North Carolina's urban research university.

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