

Request to Disestablish Academic Program/Plan

Please complete all fields. Boxes may be expanded to accommodate longer responses. Clarifying field descriptions can be found below. Should you have any questions or concerns, please email [Curricular Affairs](#).

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| <p>Name of Academic Program: Master of Science in Architecture Design and Energy Conservation Subplan (ARCHMSDEC) Master of Science in Architecture Health and Built Environment Subplan (ARCHMSHBE) Master of Science in Architecture General Subplan (ARCHMSGNREL)</p> |
| <p>Academic Department: The name of the academic department or unit that currently primarily administers the academic program. If the proposed program is jointly administered across more than one department, please list the(se) additional department(s). School of Architecture, College of Architecture, Planning & Landscape Architecture</p> |
| <p>Geographic Site: The physical site (campus, extended campus, etc.) or modality where the academic program is currently primarily delivered or administered. University of Arizona Main Campus, Tucson, AZ</p> |
| <p>Instructional Modality: The primary modality of the academic program (i.e., immersion, online, hybrid). In-person</p> |
| <p>Last Admit Term: The last term the program admitted students. Disestablishment policy dictates that the program must remain active for a period of 8 years before fully becoming inactive, but no other students will be admitted once the last admit term is set. Fall 2020</p> |
| <p>Brief Description: A short outline of the content and skills that the program delivers. The Master of Science in Architecture (MS Arch) is a STEM-designated graduate degree devoted to fundamental and applied research in the built environment with a flexible curriculum of three semesters. Candidates develop specialized skills in concentration areas that align with faculty members' expertise. The program's first semester includes a common foundation in research methods and theory and technical coursework, after which each student establishes an individual research project through a research seminar culminating in an original master's project or thesis.</p> |
| <p>Reason for Disestablishing the Program: Please briefly explain why the program is being disestablished. We want to keep our current MS.Arch program active, however, we would like to close out any remaining subplans within the program. We haven't had students in these three subplans since Fall 2020. We tried to disestablish these subplans in Fall 2020, but were recently made aware that the process was not completed correctly. While these sub-plans evolved naturally in alignment with faculty research expertise, the overall program suffered from a separated curricular structure and lack of a unified cohort for students across the different research areas. There was a need to consolidate our core curriculum for the Master of Science in Architecture and remove the official sub-plans both for an administrative purpose (i.e. more efficient admissions processes, more efficient communication with a coordinating program chair, etc.) and for program quality purposes (more equitable management of degree expectations, more</p> |

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balanced oversight of student work and quality, etc.). In addition, the consolidation of the program under one umbrella, with research concentrations rather than sub-plans, engages the students with each other in a more cohesive academic context and provides a richer educational experience. With the separate sub-plans, the students were typically isolated from each other and often have the majority of their coursework with a single faculty member. Under the new structure, the students are consolidated in the first and second semesters through the identified core courses and are exposed to more faculty during this experience through seminars and guest lectures, allowing more diversity in the viewpoints and higher level of critical thinking across concentration areas. The students can select core electives from different faculty in our program, rather than being bound to strict sub-plan requirements. Furthermore, the field of architectural research and the architectural sciences is continuously expanding due to the nature of identifying new knowledge gaps in our discipline and the necessity for interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary practices. Because of this, the new program structure is ahead of many other programs in the country by establishing the appropriate forum for students, and the faculty, to collaborate across focus areas and make new discoveries with more robust research inquiries. The new model for the Master of Science in Architecture is necessary to place our graduates as leaders in their area of expertise and to support the collaborative experience that is so important for young graduates today. In addition, the new program structure fosters a modality of faculty collaboration, which also enriches our own continued work and efforts to reciprocally support the students in our program.

Disestablishment Plan: Please explain how any students affected by the planned disestablishment of the program will be supported to earn their degree.

There are currently no students these three MS.Arch subplans.

How will program resources be reallocated? (i.e., faculty and administrative positions; infrastructure, etc.): Please provide information about how personnel and infrastructure presently employed to deliver the disestablished program will be reallocated.

We do not need to reallocate any personnel, faculty, or other resources as part of this proposal. Since Fall 2020, all resources have been consolidated in one MS.Arch degree program. Administrators, faculty, and staff collaboratively run the program. The consolidation of the MS.Arch core curriculum in fact, allowed us for more efficient use of program resources, which otherwise were suffering because of high dispersion with few students across many courses.

Is this program in an ABOR designated high demand field? YES NO

Is the discontinued program in education, health, science, technology, engineering or math (STEM)?

The MS.Arch degree program is STEM-designated and will continue to be offered. We only request the discontinuation of the three subplans within the degree, as specified above.

Department Head Name: Ryan E. Smith

Department Head Signature: 

Date: Mar 17, 2025

Dean/Assistant Dean Name: Beth M. Weinstein



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Dean/Assistant Dean Signature: 

Date: Mar 17, 2025









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Final Audit Report

2025-03-17

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