

# PDip Architectural Practice 2020-21

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

As a leading centre of research both nationally and internationally, the Kent School of Architecture and Planning offers a rich portfolio of postgraduate programmes with six masters courses, directed and taught by our dedicated members of staff and conceived around expertise related to our three research centres: CREAtE (Centre for Research in European Architecture), CASE (Centre for Architecture and Sustainable Environment), and DARC (Digital Architecture Research Centre).

Designed to provide students from a variety of backgrounds with both cultural and practical tools for their chosen careers, as well as a series of interchangeable skills, our Masters cover the following areas: 1) **MAUD** (Masters in Architecture and Urban Design); 2) **MAAV** (Masters in Architectural Visualisation); 3) **MARCON** (Masters in Architectural Conservation); 4) **MASE** (Masters in Architecture and Sustainable Environment); 5) **BIODIG** (Masters in Bio Digital Architecture); 6) **MUPR** (Master in Urban Planning and Resilience); and 7) **PGDipAP** (Postgraduate Diploma in Architectural Practice)

## ACADEMIC DELIVERY

How do we teach the programme, especially in these uncertain times of great public health concern?

As you can read in our FAQs below, the majority of our teaching and services will be delivered in a blended way – both online and on campus. What parts of your studies will be online and what will be in-person will vary according to the course you are on, government requirements and our health and safety assessments. Online lectures will be complemented with face-to-face and/or online interactive sessions. Lecture theatres will be used for smaller in-person group-based activities. Lab classes, and other activities where you physically need to be there, will take place in strict compliance with health and safety requirements. Some modules, or parts of modules, may need to be rescheduled to later in the academic year when social distancing restrictions are eased.

In short, we are planning to return to campus in September with careful arrangements put in place to ensure that everyone is protected as much as possible. We plan to continue with small group teaching, such as our Masters courses, with larger format teaching, such as lectures, etc., being placed online. All teaching events will be recorded via Moodle, the university intranet, and made available to the students. In addition, all teaching material will be made available to the students in advance of every teaching event. In respect of all advice, this makes for a sustainable way forward where the quality of our courses, and everyone's safety, are safeguarded.

Further details regarding how teaching will take place for PDip Architectural Practice are outlined below:

The 12-month programme comprises two lecture and seminar-based modules in the autumn term, two similarly taught modules in the spring term, and a case study which is based on the student's current or recent work in practice and extends throughout the year in which the programme is taken.

The first two 15-credit modules, covering core principles of professionalism and the legal system, are taught in an intensive three-day study block in late September, followed by seminars at roughly monthly intervals, and assessed by means of essays submitted in January. The other two 15-credit modules have lectures in an intensive three-day study block in January, followed by seminars at approximately monthly intervals, and are assessed by means of examinations in May. The study blocks will remain campus-based, but students who are unable to participate in face-to-face teaching will be able to access the lectures remotely. Some specialist lecturers may also deliver their presentations remotely. All events will be recorded and made available on Moodle, the university intranet. Teaching material will also be made available on Moodle in advance of every teaching event. Where either the lecturer or the student is unable to be physically present at a teaching session, the technology used (usually MS Teams) will allow for full and spontaneous interaction and group discussion.

The 60-credit case study module involves no formal lectures or seminars. Students will be supported remotely with monthly reviews of work in progress by MS Teams (in conjunction with other seminars) and via Moodle or exchanges of e-mails.

We expect no particular changes to either module content or to assignments, and students can benefit from access to nearby sites and the use of our library.

Peter Wislocki

Programme Director: PDip Architectural Practice  
Kent School of Architecture and Planning  
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## **SITE VISITS**

Most of our site visits can be done by respecting social distancing or indeed via online tools if you are unable to attend in person. Arrangements and/or adjustments can be agreed with the programme director.

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

Most of our assignments can be adapted to all circumstances. The nature of adjustments will depend on the particular module you are taking. See above for details.

## **SOCIAL LIFE**

The University and the Students Union are developing plans for a safe social life, on and off campus. Clearly, the mass gatherings that have been the hallmark of student social life cannot take place in their former formats. However, Kent is blessed with a large, airy and low-density campus, and the onus will be on the myriad student clubs and societies to provide safely distanced events. Our own KASA – the Kent Architecture Student Association – is organising its term-time events, including the weekly guest lectures (all online this year, for obvious reasons), but also a series of small-scale social and communal meetings.

## **FAQs**

The University has produced answers to these frequently asked questions. Do please follow the link! <https://www.kent.ac.uk/student/coronavirus/returning-to-campus>.

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