

# Excel in the field of architecture

ARCHITECTURE is the art and practice of designing and constructing buildings. It is a broad and complex field that encompasses several interrelated disciplines such as art, design, science, engineering, business, geography and sociology.

It not only requires a good understanding of the sciences, but of the arts as well, combined with an understanding of current and future needs of users and various issues in the built environment in general.

At Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT), the Bachelor of Science in Architecture (Hons) programme has been offered since 2014.

For those who have completed their SPM (or equivalent) and wish to pursue a career in architecture, they can start off with a one-year Foundation in Arts (Track A) subject to passing a portfolio interview.

Upon completing this level, students will be eligible to join Year 1 of the three-year Bachelor of Science in Architecture (Hons) programme. All in all, it takes four years to obtain a bachelor's degree qualification in architecture at TAR UMT.

After completing their bachelor's degree and upon meeting the entry requirements, graduates may opt to continue with the new two-year Master of Architecture programme.



TAR UMT's Bachelor of Science in Architecture (Hons) programme has been offered since 2014.

The Bachelor of Science in Architecture (Hons) programme is fully accredited and complies with the Board of Architects Malaysia (LAM) Part I requirement.

After qualifying for LAM Part II, which is generally awarded to graduates of accredited Master of Architecture programmes, graduates may register with LAM as a graduate architect.

The next step is to obtain a minimum of two years' practical working experience and by passing the professional LAM Part III examination, before one can register as a professional architect.

One of TAR's many successful graduates in architecture is

Scarlet Koon Si Qi, who now works as an architectural assistant with Ar Dr Tan Loke Mun, an award-winning architect who is pushing the envelope on sustainable architecture.

"The technical skills I learnt during my studies help me greatly in my work," says Koon.

She is also grateful for her lecturers who helped her realise her potential in architecture.

"I was fortunate to have Ar Lee Chor Wah as my studio master in my first and second years as he really shaped my thinking, understanding and overall approach towards architecture.

"He also gave me many oppor-



Koon is a graduate of TAR UMT who thrives in the world of architecture and publications.

tunities to broaden my horizons and network in the field by having me emcee for DATUM:KL, an annual international conference by the Malaysian Institute of Architects, which acts as a platform for discourse and showcase of exemplary architectural works from around the world, as well as writing for *Architecture Asia* and *Architecture Malaysia*.

"I am also grateful to my studio tutor Fadzil Mohd Ali, who guided my coursemates and me in different avenues of architecture theory and pushed us to think out of the box for our designs."

When asked how she landed a job with such a distinguished

architect, she said: "I was fortunate enough to have had the opportunity to be the emcee for DATUM: KL 2019.

"Ar Lee was the convener and Ar Dr Tan the director. I worked closely with them to ensure the event ran smoothly and towards the end of the event, Dr Tan congratulated me on a job well done.

"I seized the opportunity to enquire about working under him. He interviewed me and I was eventually hired," she said.

"During my time at TAR UMT, I enjoyed spending time in the studio with my coursemates. We had our own space and time to explore our designs in the studio and also unlimited use of the laser-cutting machines and 3D printers," she said.

Due to her early exposure in writing about architecture during her bachelor's degree programme, it comes as no surprise that Koon has been writing on architectural works ever since.

For more information about TAR UMT's built environment programmes, call 011 1075 8535 or log on to [www.tarc.edu.my](http://www.tarc.edu.my) for information about TAR UMT and to apply online. Various financial aid and merit scholarships are available for qualified students.

