

Your Architectural Technology Degree...What Next?

Architectural Technology, in essence, is the development of the working drawings and design detail for the architectural process, post concept stage, through to the completed building on site.

The Architectural Technologist is involved with the technical issues of the architectural design process and plays the role of a technical designer. S/he is a team player who provides an expertise in technical design principles and knowledge in the development of the built environment. S/he is an organiser and coordinator of the diverse disciplines involved in the design and construction process.

Key Skills for Architectural Technologists include:

- A strong interest in architecture, mathematics, drawing and design, with an excellent eye for detail
- Art and design skills to complement technical know-how
- Strong communication and leadership skills
- Competence in 2D/3D CAD, BIM, Revit Architecture, Therm, Wufi, PHPP, Deap
- An analytical mind with strong problem-solving ability
- Strong leadership and organisation skills
- The ability to work on your own initiative and as part of a team
- Excellent communication skills, both written and oral
- High levels of creativity, imagination and vision
- The ability to work well under time and budget pressures
- Must enjoy working with your hands and be willing to work outdoors

(Source: www.targetjobs.co.uk)

What can I do with my degree?

A graduate of Architectural Technology is a critical member of the Design Team, as s/he has an excellent appreciation and knowledge of the other Design Team discipline roles, and is involved in the coordination and development of a project at all stages.

Graduates may specialise in certain building typologies or concentrate on a particular area such as technical design, technology, architectural conservation or project management.

Most architectural technologists work for private architectural practices or in the architectural departments of Government Departments, Local Authorities or Semi-State

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Agencies. But there are also job opportunities with building contractors, manufacturers or suppliers of building products and materials, in private architectural technology practice, architectural graphics, model making and becoming self-employed.

As with architecture, career possibilities are very much dependent on the state of the economy. In a booming economy there is a shortage of architectural technologists. When it is depressed the building industry is soon affected.

Potential Areas of Employment

- Private Practice
- Commercial
- Government Organisation
- Local Authority
- Self-Employment
- Research
- Teaching

After your degree

Practical Training

Once you have your degree you will need to get some practical training in an architect's office. To be professionally recognised by the RIAI as 'Approved Experience' your work has to be done under the supervision of a Member of the RIAI, someone on the Register for Architects, or equivalent.

The quality of a graduate's practical experience is the single most important factor contributing to successful completion of the final stage of professional formation. The RIAI Policy on Post-Graduate Professional Training is intended to provide information and guidance on graduate's practical experience to students and graduates, RIAI members and practices, Schools of Architecture and of Architectural Technology, and State agencies with roles in education, training and employment.

Working Life

The architectural technologist usually works as part of the architect's team, with particular responsibility for the preparation of production information such as working drawings, schedules and specifications. They also work on site surveys, administrative procedures to do with building regulations, fire safety certificates, planning applications, the building contract, etc.. Some technologists develop specialisations in particular areas, such as specification writing, technology, materials, regulations, CAD management, Revit, BIM, Conservation, or Sustainable Design.

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What are the 2015 graduates doing?

Company	Job Role
Sigman Timber	Designer
O'Mahoney Pike Architecture	Architectural Technologist
Wilson Architecture	Architectural Technologist
Cook Architects	Architectural Technologist
Avanti Architects Ireland	Architectural Technologist
Ensiur Consultant Ltd.	Architectural Technologist
Healy Cornelius Design Consultancy	Architectural Technologist
Source Air Conditioning and Electrical Services	Office worker
Buckley Bros Builders	Builder
Kane Architects	Architectural Technician

If you would like to know more about the First Destinations Survey please contact the Careers Office.

Further studies

Degree holders who achieve the specified level of academic performance may be considered for entry to Year 4 of the Bachelor of Science (Honours) in Architectural Technology, subject to availability of places. The course also maintains co-operative links with other construction-related courses within the Institute and in other colleges.

Postgraduate Study

Gaining a postgraduate qualification brings with it many benefits. It enables you to gain further, more specialized knowledge in your field of study. It can give you a specific technical, vocational or professional qualification and facilitate you in developing a range of key skills including; research, analysis, evaluation and written communication.

For further information, go to the 'Further/Postgraduate Study' link on the Students page of our website;

<http://www.mycit.ie/careers>.

www.postgradireland.com

www.qualifax.ie

Further Resources

- [RIAI Jobs](#)

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- [RIB Appointments](#)
- [Greenjobs](#)
- [Architecture.co.uk](#)
- [Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland \(RIAI\)](#)
- [Royal Institute of British Architects \(RIBA\)](#)
- [Irish Architecture Foundation](#)
- [Irish architecture](#)
- [Irish architecture awards](#)
- [Europe's Top 100 Schools of Architecture and Design](#)
- Irish Architectural Technology Graduate Network

A detailed description of this occupation can be found on a number of online databases. Follow the link(s) below to access this information:

[Architectural Technician or Technologist](#) – from: N.C.S. [UK]

[Architectural Technologist](#) – from: icould [UK] Video