# Course Specification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Course Code:</strong></th>
<th>PMAR102</th>
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</thead>
</table>

## 1. Course Title:
Individual Research Project 1: Report

## 2. Academic Session:
2013/14

## 3. Level:
SCQF 11

## 4. Credits:
15

## 5. Lead School/Board of Studies:
Mackintosh School of Architecture

## 6. Course Contact:
As per Pathway

## 7. Course Aims:

- To apply research methodologies and practices to an allied architectural field.
- To identify a research question within an allied field of study and develop appropriate research in response.
- To develop an academic writing practice in answering a self-directed research question

In addition the specific aims of the elective area are:

### Urban Design

- To develop a critical understanding of the key cultural, social and economic issues that shape the urban environment.
- To analyse the nature of a particular place (town or city) in order to devise strategies and visions for its future.
- To devise and test solutions against local conditions and to reflect upon their applicability in global situations.
Urban Building

- To develop a critical understanding of the key cultural, social, economic and technological issues that influence the role and form of architecture within the city.
- To analyse the nature of a particular urban site and to devise a particular programme of use in order to prepare designs for an urban building.
- To demonstrate the organisation of an urban building and its architectural qualities in response to local conditions and to reflect upon the applicability of the chosen approach in global situations.

Digital Creativity

- To develop a critical understanding of the key philosophical notions of information, reality, materiality and cyberspace.
- To develop a theoretical understanding of the intellectual trends in computer based design cognition.
- To explore and demonstrate appropriate skills in the use of various machine based media and techniques in the design process.

Energy and Environment

- To develop a critical understanding of the key principles relevant to the creation of sustainable architecture.
- To gain an understanding of the physical parameters that determine the performance of buildings in terms of environmental efficiency, comfort and well being, relative to function and climatic context.
- To develop an ability to use appropriate analytical tools to make an innovative contribution to the design of sustainable, solar, bio-climatic or green architecture.

History and Theory of the City

- To equip students with a range of methods and ideas for examining urban architecture through a historical and theoretical framework.
- To provide a broad coverage of significant themes and case studies in history and theory relating to western urban architecture.
- To enable and stimulate the development of students’ independent research interests and learning within the discipline and subject area.

Creative Urban Practices

- To develop a critical understanding of the key theories and practices of space and place, in the context of historical and contemporary urbanism.
- To analyse the nature of a particular place in order to devise creative propositions that address issues of space and place in that location.
- To reflect upon the links between theories and practices of space and place and the realities of contemporary urban design practice.

Zero-Energy Mass Custom Housing
- To develop a critical understanding of design, production and communication principles relevant to the delivery of zero energy sustainable housing.
- To gain an understanding of key parameters that determine the housing affordability and performance in view of socio-demographic contexts.
- To develop an ability to use appropriate analytical tools to make an innovative contribution to mass-customising socially, economically and environmentally responsible housing units and the community development.

8. Intended Learning Outcomes of Course:

At the end of the Course each student should have the ability to demonstrate and/or work with:

SCQF Level 11.

Category A : Knowledge and Understanding
- Knowledge that covers and integrates most, if not all, of the main features, boundaries, terminology and conventions of the chosen elective pathway.

Category B: Practice – Applied Knowledge and Understanding
- Apply a range of standard and specialised methods of enquiry relevant to design and design research.
- Plan and execute a significant project of research, investigation and/or design.
- Demonstrate creativity in the application of theoretical, conceptual and practical knowledge

Category C: Generic Cognitive Skills
- Apply critical analysis, evaluation and synthesis to issues which are at the forefront, or are informed by developments at the forefront, of the areas of study.

Category D: Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills
- Communicate on an expert level in a variety of roles and contexts.
- Communicate, using appropriate methods, to a range of audiences with different levels of knowledge/expertise.

Category E: Autonomy, Accountability and Working with others
- Exercise substantial autonomy and initiative in carrying out the work related to the Course of study.
- Demonstrate the ability to manage time and physical resources in relationship to undertaking self-directed study as an individual and a group member.

9. Indicative Content:

The submission for the course will be in the form of a written report identifying the area of research forming the focus of the student’s significant project delivered over stages 1, 2 & 3 through three related courses:

Individual Research Project 1: Report
Individual Research project 2: Feasibility Report
Individual Research Project 3

The work is undertaken on an individual basis. Individual projects can be either:
predominantly design based, supported by analysis and critical enquiry
predominantly analytical, supported by a critical enquiry into the role of design
The work related directly to the student's specialist pathway.

- Urban Design
- Urban Building
- Digital Creativity
- Energy and Environment
- History and Theory of the City
- Creative Urban Practices
- Zero-Energy Mass Custom Housing

10. Description of Summative Assessment:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Assessment Method</th>
<th>Description of Assessment Method</th>
<th>Weight %</th>
<th>Submission week (assignments) or length (exam)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Written Work</td>
<td>Design Report of 1,500 – 2,000 words</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Week 20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10.1 Please describe the Summative Assessment arrangements:

The Individual Research Project 1: Report is assessed against the stated learning outcomes of the course.

The submission will be assessed by the Internal Examination Board, comprising the elective tutor and Programme team. Written feedback will be given.

A candidate will be permitted reassessment in the course, if he or she has obtained a grade D1 or worse. A candidate will be entitled to one reassessment only, which must take place prior to the submission of the course work for the next stage.

All reassessment results will be capped at grade C3.

11. Formative Assessment:

Formative feedback is available through regular tutorial sessions and group discussions.

11.1 Please describe the Formative Assessment arrangements:

12. Collaborative:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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12.1 Teaching Institutions:
13. Requirements of Entry:
First Class or Upper Second Class Honours Degree, or the equivalent in a field relevant to the chosen Pathway.

14. Co-requisites:
Stage 1
Core Research Skills for Postgraduates
Individual Research Project 1: Report

15. Associated Programmes:
Master of Architectural Studies

16. When Taught:
Stage 1

17. Timetable:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Induction meeting</td>
<td>Late September</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lecture input and associated seminars occur weekly during the first 10 weeks of the stage</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for rationale submission</td>
<td>Mid to Late October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives confirmed</td>
<td>Late October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective tutorials occur weekly following the submission of and approval of elective rationale</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission Date</td>
<td>Early January</td>
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</tbody>
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18. Available to Visiting Students:
Yes [ ] No [ ]

19. Distance Learning:
Yes [ ] No [ ]

20. Placement:
Yes [ ] No [ ]

21. Learning and Teaching Methods:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Formal Contact Hours</th>
<th>Notional Learning Hours (Including formal contact hours)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lecture</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seminar/Presentation</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tutorial</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project work</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Private Study</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Date of production / revision 01 April 2014
22. Description of “Other” Teaching and Learning Methods:
N/A

23. Additional Relevant Information:

24. Indicative Bibliography:
Dependent upon the Pathway in which the elective is based.

Creative Urban Practices

Digital Creativity
Gibson, W., 1984 *Neuromancer*.
Mitchell, W., 2000, *City of Bits*.

Energy & environment
Melet E. (1999), *Sustainable Architecture towards a diverse built environment*, NAI Publishers, Rotterdam

History and theory of the City
Blunt, Alison, and Robyn Dowling, (London, 2006), *Home*
De Certeau, Michel, (Berkeley, 1984) *The Practice of Everyday Life*
Foucault, Michel, (London, 1972), *The Archaeology of Knowledge*
Williams, Rosalind, (Los Angeles, 1982), *Dream Worlds: Mass Consumption in Late Nineteenth Century France*
Young, James E., (New Haven, 2000), *At Memory’s Edge: After-images of the Holocaust in Contemporary Art and Architecture*

Urban Building
Raphael Moneo, 2005, *Theoretical Anxiety and Design: strategies in the work of eight contemporary architects*.

**Urban Design**
John Reader: *Cities*, William Heinemann, 2004
Le Corbusier: *The Radiant City*, Faber, 1967
Robert Venturi, Denise Scott Brown, Steve Izenour, *Learning from Las Vegas*, 1972
Peter Reed, *Glasgow: The Forming of The City*.
Rudolph Kenna, *Glasgow then and now*
A. H. Gomme and D. Walker, *Architecture of Glasgow*

**Zero Energy Mass Customised Housing**
European Commission, *Photovoltaic Geographical Information System (PVGIS)*