

# Universidade do Porto



Founded

1979

Public/Private



Years

3+2

Enrollment  
students per year

150

Enrollment of institution  
students

31,000

Cost per year in €

999

Language

POR

Notes

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Requirements

For Bachelor, High School Diploma or equivalent and Portuguese language proficiency are required. For Master, bachelor or equivalent degree in Architecture or related field and Portuguese language proficiency are required. For additional details, see website.

## Professional degrees offered

The Master of Architecture offers a professional degree in Architecture. Professional practice must be licensed by the National Architectural Board.

## Other Programs

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Communication Design, Master in Graphic Design and Editorial Projects, Master in Art and Design for Public Space, Master in Design and Printing Techniques, Master in Image Design, Master in Sculpture, Master in Art Studies, Master in Painting, Master in Contemporary Artistic Practices, Master of Advanced Studies in Architectural Heritage, Advanced Studies in Digital Architecture, PhD Program in Architecture.

## Collaborations

EURAU12, Center for the Study of Architecture and Urbanism (CEAU), Center for Design Studies of the Faculty of Architecture (CEFA).

## Exchange programmes

Erasmus, Universities in America (Brazil, Chile, Argentina), Africa (Mozambique and Angola) and Oceania (Australia).

## Internships/Jobs

Herzog & de Meuron, Harry Gugger Studio, Habersroh Architekten, Sauerbruch Hutton, Lahdelma & Mahlamaki, Buro Happold, Lund Hagem, Narud Stokke Wiig, Nordic, Alejandro Aravena, João Pedro Seródio, Camilo Rebelo, Nuno Brandão Costa, Adalberto Dias, Group 8, Atelier 15.

Bachelor of Architecture,  
Master of Architecture Link

## Contacts

<http://sigarra.up.pt/iaup>  
[servicos academicos@arq.up.pt](mailto:servicos academicos@arq.up.pt)  
+351 22 605 71 00

## Prominent faculty

Adalberto Dias,  
Carlos Guimarães/  
Luís Soares Carneiro,  
Carlos Prata,  
Eduardo Souto de  
Moura, Graça Correia,  
Filipa Guerreiro,  
Francisco Barata,  
Francisco Vieira de  
Campos, José Gigante,  
José Manuel Soares,  
Nuno Brandão Costa,  
João Pedro Seródio.

## Prominent alumni

Alvaro Siza,  
Eduardo Souto de  
Moura.

Universidade do Porto is located in Portugal's second largest city, Porto, along the northern coast of the country. The city is Portugal's most storied architectural centre, home to OMA's Casa da Música. The coastal atmosphere and high-quality faculty make the school a unique place to study, offering a strong fundamental education with solid underpinnings. The school has a unique pedagogy, one that focuses on hand drawing and traditional methods as a gateway to understanding architecture.

Students are taught to use their hands and create analogue drawings and models to communicate ideas. These fundamentals eventually enhance designer's capabilities once they begin to use computers. For the first two years, no computers are used, and only in the third year are programmes such as CAD, Photoshop, and Rhinoceros integrated into classes. Special consideration is given to history and context. For some, though, this fundamental education trajectory can be too pragmatic. The school calls its students "Specialists of Generalities". The well-rounded education does not focus on a particular aspect of architecture, but gives students a little bit of everything. The history department is very strong. Still, it is the school's rare focus on hand drawing that could set graduates apart in a rapid, digital world. The broad education also allows them to design everything from "a keyhole to a city". While hand drawing and model-making are promoted, there is also a new developing programme in advanced digital design, which should be on par with other institutions across Europe in a few years.

In the nearby Casa da Música, the Portuguese Architectural Association hosts auxiliary events. At least once a year, a large number of renowned architects and academics gathers at the space. This allows the school to enjoy a fruitful relationship with the Portuguese Architectural Association, giving students access to connections and work experience. Other collaborations outside the school are developing through a new doctoral programme. Students report that the school's insularity can be a drawback. It is often up to the students to get out of the academic environment and prepare themselves for the real world. Workshops and charrettes offer the opportunity for collaboration, and manufacturers often sponsor conferences at the school. Professors have connections from their own practice and many of the students work part-time for teachers while studying.

Alumnus Alvaro Siza designed the building for the school, a series of five towers dedicated to each year of the school. Older students will often go to other towers to look at the work of younger students and to help them with their projects. This atmosphere fosters close relationships between students as well as professors. Older students act as assistants, and there is ample opportunity for teaching. The facilities in general are aesthetically pleasing. However, some of the more advanced digital fabrication technologies are not available to students of the architecture school. There is a computer lab and printers hosted by an outside company, offering students cheaper printing than what is available elsewhere in the city. The library is one of the most important in Portugal, and carries a wide variety of architectural books.