

USC School of Architecture

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN ARCHITECTURE

Students achieving a Doctor of Philosophy in Architecture will demonstrate:

- a breadth of knowledge and an awareness of the interdisciplinary nature of architecture;
- a depth of knowledge in a particular field of study related to building science, landscape, heritage conservation, and/or architecture.
- an ability to formulate problems, to synthesize and integrate information, to work collaboratively, and to communicate effectively;
- a mastery of methods of advanced analysis and the use of digital and physical tools appropriate to an increasingly complex field;
- an awareness of the dynamic and evolving nature of the field, including current controversies, novel approaches, and significant critiques;
- skills pertinent to the research process, including the students' ability to launch an independent research agenda, and to work independently and to publish the results of their research;
- a sense of leadership, and a desire for future service to their field;
- an ability to produce and orally defend an acceptable dissertation based on original investigation and supervised by their dissertation committee, showing a doctoral-level mastery of an area of emphasis within their discipline, capacity for independent research, and scholarly results.
- an ability to scope a doctoral-level research program that will result in substantial new knowledge contributions to the field