

## **What is ARCHITECTURE?**

ARCHITECTURE is the design of buildings. It covers all aspects of the process from inception to the completion of a new building. It may also involve the renovation or restoration of existing buildings and in some instances, the building may undergo major changes in use. ARCHITECTURE encompasses not only the design of an individual building but also relates the building to those adjacent to it and to the environment as a whole. It is an integrative art that takes account of history, culture, environment, technology, economics, management and law.

## **How do I become an ARCHITECT?**

This involves a period of study at a University that has professional degrees for architects. In Hong Kong, there are two Universities that offer these courses:

### **The University of Hong Kong**

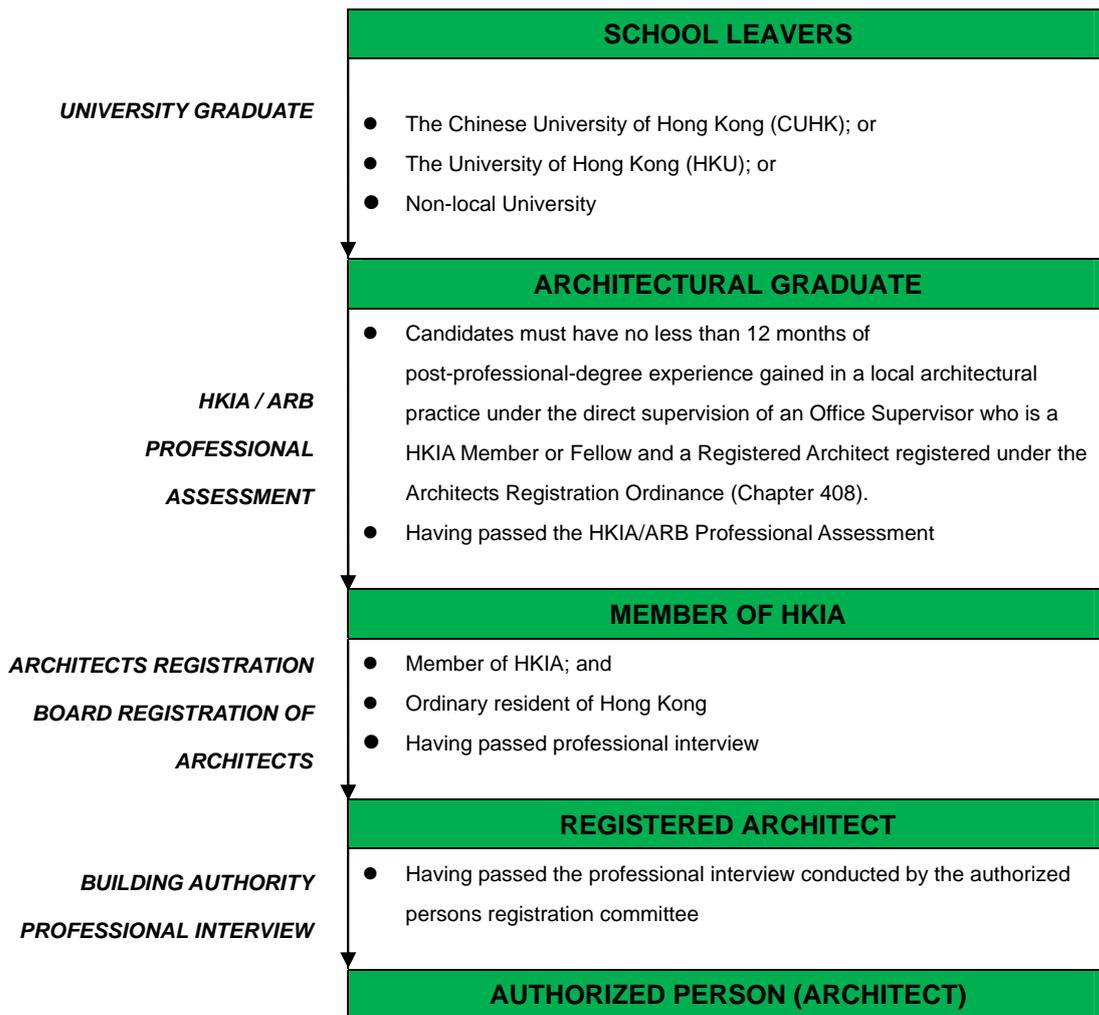
Students who wish to become architects follow the four-year programme leading to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies, B.A. (Arch. Studies), and subsequently continue in a further two-year programme leading to the second degree of Master of Architecture, M. Arch., which is recognized by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA), and the Architects Registration Board of Hong Kong (ARB).

### **The Chinese University of Hong Kong**

The programme consists of two degrees. The first is the four-year pre-professional degree of Bachelor of Social Sciences (Architectural Studies) [B. Soc. Sc. (A.S.)]. The second is the two-year professional degree of Master of Architecture (M. Arch). The curriculum has been structured to meet the present standards of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) and the Architects Registration Board of Hong Kong (ARB).

Students may study equivalent courses in overseas universities and for information on the applicability of these courses they should contact the Hong Kong Institute of Architects.

After completion of their University studies, all graduates are required to undertake a minimum of two years supervised work in an architect's office and then sit for the Professional Assessment conducted by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects and the Architects Registration Board of Hong Kong.



*\* The HKIA may revise entry qualifications from time to time to fit changing circumstances.*

## What does an ARCHITECT do?

Architects undertake multiple roles in their daily work. They are responsible for design work, coordination with consultants, management of projects and management of their offices. The work is exciting and variable – one day they may be working on the concept design of a modern high-rise building, on another they may be working on difficult small details of interior components.

Although design skills are required, the practice of architecture today is so complex that areas of specialization are developing; so that besides design architects there are also those who are experts in management, technology and planning. Computers are playing an increasingly active role in architectural practices, environmental concerned design is becoming more important in architectural design, such aspects are developing as areas of specialization.