



PRE-MASTER PROGRAM MASTER (INTERIOR) ARCHITECTURE

info booklet



version January 2025

Preparation Program | Pre-master

Academy of Architecture Maastricht

Zuyd Hogeschool





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PRE-MASTER PROGRAM MASTER (INTERIOR) ARCHITECTURE

The Academy of Architecture Maastricht (AAM) has two master studies: the Master Interior Architecture and the Master Architecture. These master programs within the academy deepen and individualize the already acquired professional attitudes. To focus on this, it's important to have a solid foundation in your personal and professional portfolio. If this is not the case, we offer a Pre-master Preparation Program to acquire these skills.

The Pre-master is part of the Preparation Program (PP) of the Academy of Architecture Maastricht. This program includes various modules focused on design and research skills, professional skills, and technical competencies. Key competences to have or to develop when pursuing a master in (interior) architecture.

Furthermore, it's relevant to understand the unique didactic quality of the academy. This entails an autobiographical approach to current, relevant themes addressed in education. Autobiographical means more than just choosing for oneself: it means getting to know oneself as an architect/designer within the architectural domain and beyond. Expressing oneself in word, image, and action, and visibly and audibly growing therein. This approach to studying, shapes you not only into an architect/designer but also into an independent, critically minded cultural entrepreneur.

josef bischofs, head aam
ivo rosbeek, coordinator PP

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objective of the Preparation Program

The Preparation Program is a one year Pre-master. Only after a successful completion of the course a student can start studying at the Master Architecture or the Master Interior Architecture of Academy of Architecture Maastricht (AAM). If the student decides to study at a different master, Zuyd Hogeschool/AAM will provide a certificate with the study results.

entrance requirements

You are admissible if you are a graduate with a Bachelor's degree in architectural/interior design or another Bachelor's program in the field of architecture.

admission

To assess if you have the desired entry competencies for one of the master studies of the Academy of Architecture Maastricht, we invite you to start the admission procedure. First step is to send an e-mail to architecture@zuyd.nl.

admission procedure

As soon as we receive your e-mail we will invite you for the admission procedure, which consists of the following steps:

1. A pre-selection based on your letter of motivation, bachelor diploma in the field of architecture and a digital portfolio.
2. A motivation interview and evaluation of your portfolio.
3. A practical assignment.

When you pass the pre-selection (1) we will invite you for an interview. During this interview you will be tested on your suitability for the Pre-master program. You can show and discuss examples of the work in your portfolio with the admission committee (2). The final part is a practical assignment set by the admission committee (3).

admission deadlines

- If you are a non-EU student, you have to apply before 1 June
- If you are a EU student, you have to apply before 1 July







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language of instruction

The language of instruction of the Pre-master program is English. The Pre-master is open for both Dutch and international students.

The Master Architectuur of AAM only uses the dutch language. International students need to pass an exam. (NT2 level II) More info via: <https://www.zuyd.nl/en/study-at-zuyd/get-prepared/language>

The Master Interior Architecture only uses the English language.

start of the study program

The study program starts in September.

division of the study program

The Preparation year is divided in three trimesters.

trimester 1: 12 weeks

trimester 2: 12 weeks

trimester 3: 10 weeks

calendarium

The time schedule for instruction and guidance of the study modules will be provided in advance of each trimester.

study load

In general you will study and work for about 32 hours a week. 16 hours at the academy. 16 hours at home.

week schedule

Instruction and guidance for the modules, with a few exceptions, take place on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

This allows you to autonomously schedule the accompanying self-study and work on assignments, taking into account your personal situation.

For students who plan to proceed studying at the Master Architecture, this means they can already start looking for a job at an architecture office.



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study modules

The modules of the Pre-master program are thematically grouped:

art architecture and theory (aat1, aat2, aat3)

Knowledge of art and architectural history.
Critical reflective competencies.

technical skills (ts1, ts2, ts3)

Applying building engineering and constructional insight not only in a technical but also in an conceptual and architectural way.

professional skills (ps1, ps2, ps3)

Working with materials, drawings, models, and text.

case studies (c1, c2, c3)

Applying and combining skills and knowledge in small architectural design projects.

study trips

AAM is located in the South of the Netherlands in the province Limburg, close to the borders with Belgium and Germany. This Euregional context provides subtle cultural differences between the three countries. Every trimester one or two one-day study trips are part of the curriculum to experience these differences and architectural highlights. The sites we visit in the Netherlands and its neighboring countries are also beneficial in relation to the content of the study modules.

lectures

AAM provides a comprehensive lecture program. We offer Thursday evening lectures with international keynote speakers, round table discussions with architects and artists (Thought arcade) and Friday lunch lectures where teachers talk about architectural topics. Part of the theory program is reflecting on the lecture program. Therefore attending the Thursday evening lectures is part of the PP curriculum. The Friday lunch lectures are not obligatory but strongly advised.



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evaluations

The last two weeks of every trimester a reflective and intersubjective evaluation is planned. Students present their results of the separate study modules and the total scope of their work in a physical portfolio and presentations. All relevant work produced during the trimester that shows the development process is part of the evaluation. Each presentation ends with a Q&A session with teachers and or fellow students.

The teaching staff will assess the work per trimester and provide a reflective narrative.

At the end of trimester 1 the teaching staff will evaluate the development of the student in relation to the results for the study modules aat1, ts1, ps1, c1. If the student is unable to successfully complete two modules in the first trimester, the student will have to discontinue the Pre-master's course.

For modules that have not been successfully completed, a resit will be offered until the end of the Preparation year. (End of the third trimester.) It's the responsibility of the student to plan and execute the additional resit task(s). The student can ask the teaching staff for guidance during this process.

At the end of the Pre-master year the evaluation forms will be signed by the PP teaching staff/Zuyd Hogeschool and serve as a 'proof of participation' for the course.

The minimum final competencies for the Pre-master course are the same as the entry competencies of the Master Architecture and the Master Interior Architecture, as described in the Education and Examination Regulations of these studies and at the end of this information booklet.



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professional attitude

We expect a professional attitude from students who want prepare themselves to study at the Master (Interior) Architecture. A professional attitude means in all cases: attending all modules of the curriculum (including lectures and study trips), informing teachers when the student is unable to attend, completing work according to the provided planning and the ambition to excel.

tuition fee

If you send an e-mail to architecture@zuyd.nl you receive the information about the tuition fee of the Pre-master.

autodidactical, autobiographical attitude

We expect an autodidactical attitude from students who want prepare themselves to study at the Master (Interior) Architecture. This autodidactical aspect is linked to the autobiographical attitude: it means getting to know oneself as an architect/designer within the architectural domain and beyond. Expressing oneself in word, image, and action, and visibly and audibly growing therein. This approach to studying shapes you not only into an architect/designer but also into an independent, critically minded cultural entrepreneur.

workshops

The Academy of Architecture Maastricht and the Academy of Fine Arts share their facilities. Several workshops for wood, steel, ceramics, graphics etc are part of the institute. Students can only work in these workshops after attending a safety instruction.



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extra costs

You may need to purchase some study materials or equipment during the course of the program. Examples are:

Course materials and other study aids, estimated at € 1.500 per year:
text books/reading material;
study trips;
additional academic tools
(e.g. software licenses and presentation materials).

It is necessary that students bring or own a laptop/computer with relevant software. After you have been accepted as a student for the AAM you can purchase software programs with a considerable discount. Information will be sent separately.

Educational facilities, such as study trips and work visits, may be part of your study program and therefore might involve extra costs for you. In the program booklets you can find which activities it concerns.

tips for international students

Tips for e.g. housing, health care, insurance, registration at the municipality of Maastricht will be sent to you in a separate mail before the start of the program.

for more information

Send an e-mail to: architecture@zuyd.nl
or to the coordinator Preparation Program: ivo.rosbeek@zuyd.nl
instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/architectureacademymaastricht/>



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entry Competencies Master (Interior) Architecture

competency 1 creative ability (ca)

The student can develop a concept for a space based on his or her own ideas and artistic vision and can realise that concept.

1.1.1 The student bases the design of a space or spatial object on his or her own concepts as well as the choices and requirements of the intended user and/or client.

1.1.2 The student uses knowledge of and insight into the features of building and finishing materials, current technical installations, constructions and the physical construction aspects for finishing, decorating and furnishing the interior.

1.1.3 The student uses knowledge of and insight into the factors that protect and promote the safety, health and well-being of users of buildings and interiors and the related laws and regulations.

1.1.4 The student uses knowledge of and insight into the organisational, financial and legal aspects that relate to the design and realisation of the design.

1.1.5 The student uses knowledge of and insight into the possible applications of existing design elements and can use these in his or her own design.

1.1.6 The student can interpret and assess complex architectural information and use this to create a better design.

competency 2 ability to critically reflect (cr)

The student can examine, analyse, interpret and evaluate his or her work and that of others.

2.1.1 The student can independently conduct innovative research on all aspects that are important for a design.

2.1.2 The student deals constructively with giving and receiving feedback.



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competency 3 ability to grow and innovate (gi)

The student can develop and deepen his or her design skills, personal interpretation of the professional situation and artistic talent.

3.1.01 The student demonstrates ambition to excel.

competency 5 communication skills (cs)

The student can acquire and interpret an assignment, effectively present and describe the work and negotiate about it with clients and others involved.

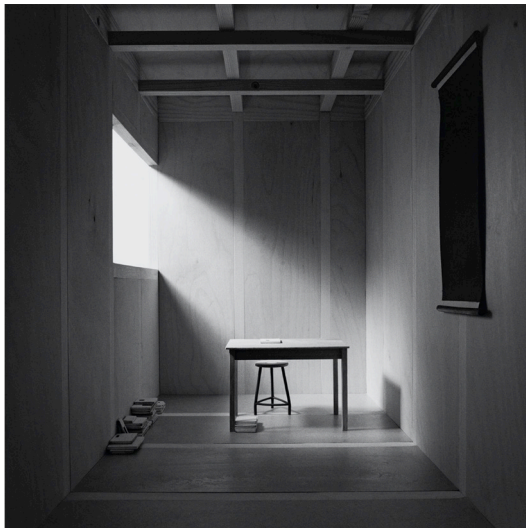
5.1.01 The student can present and describe his or her own design in images, in writing and verbally.

5.1.02 The student can present and describe his or her own work-process and design-process in images, in writing and verbally. (Only required for Master Architecture)

competency 6 focus on environment (fe)

The student is able to draw connections between his or her own work and that of others and between his or her own work and the audience.

6.1.01 The student focuses on the user in his or her designs and collects, analyses and uses all the necessary information to do that.



images: 8 rooms Ingeborg Meulendijks