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UNIVERSITY

**News**

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## Philadelphia University Launches M.S. in Architecture to Prepare Graduates for Emerging Specialties in Architecture, Engineering and Construction Industries

**PHILADELPHIA, February 5, 2014**— Philadelphia University is launching a new M.S. in Architecture, a post-professional research-based program that will prepare graduates for specialty and consulting positions in the architecture, engineering and construction industries.

The one-year, 36-credit program includes courses in sustainable design, research methods and electives, as well as a unique opportunity to do research while working in a firm as an employee or intern, which together are designed to give students the knowledge and experience to be leaders in their fields.

The master's program will offer its first concentration in high-performance buildings, followed by one in environments for health, as well as others in the future.

With an increased focus on sustainability, reducing energy costs and environmental health of buildings, there is a growing need for building and design professionals specializing in high-performance environments, said James Doerfler AIA, CSI, director of the M.S.in Architecture program, as well as PhilaU's architecture and architectural studies programs.

"Clients are demanding this expertise of architects and builders," Doerfler said. "Our strategy is to develop master's level programs that meet both the current and future needs of the built-environment professions."

The opportunity to do research, under the guidance of professors, is a critical component of the program. Students can investigate a wide range of topics, Doerfler said, such as those related to building façade functions, multi-layer skins, energy conservation and post-occupancy analysis.

The M.S. in Architecture will start in fall 2014. Applicants with an accredited undergraduate degree in architecture, landscape architecture, construction management or related area of design are encouraged to apply, and graduates with degrees in other fields also are welcome to apply. Applicants with a degree from a non-architectural or design discipline must take a summer Bridge Design Studio foundation course to prepare for the program.

The M.S. in Architecture is a part of Philadelphia University's College of Architecture and the Built Environment, which is distinguished by a dedication to excellence in design, focus on educating students for practice in the global market and emphasis on sustainability, collaboration and innovation through project-based learning.

Real-world challenges are an integral part of PhilaU's Nexus Learning approach to higher education. The University's proximity to Philadelphia lets students partner with major corporations and nonprofit organizations in the city's thriving design and construction industries for professional, hands-on experience that gives graduates a competitive advantage.

For more information on the M.S. in Architecture, [click here](#). To attend an open house for graduate architecture programs on Feb. 8, 1 to 3 p.m. in the SEED Center at Philadelphia University, 4201 Henry Ave., East Falls, Philadelphia, 19144, [click here](#).