Architectural Technology

As you begin your architectural education at Allan Hancock College you are opening the door to many exciting careers. Each career in turn has many different opportunities within it. Whether your interest lies in theoretical problem solving, artistic creations, working with your hands, or creating something practical, a degree in architectural drafting will help you satisfy that interest. An architectural technology degree can lead to a career as a drafter, designer, model maker, interior designer, architect, or engineer. Once you have completed the curriculum at Allan Hancock College, you will be well on your way to a successful career in the engineering and design industry.

Architectural drafters create technical drawings and plans for architectural and structural features of buildings and other structures. As a drafter you may choose to specialize in certain types of structures, either commercial or residential, or even in the kind of material used, such as timber, masonry, steel, reinforced concrete or a combination.

Using industry standard Computer Aided Design and Drafting (CADD) software and hardware, you will create two and three-dimensional drawings and models that provide a visual guideline for how to construct a structure.

For more information

Architectural drafting is one of the career technical education programs at Allan Hancock College within the department of Industrial Technology. It resides in the Engineering and Design industry sector.

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Allan Hancock College is a California public community college in northern Santa Barbara County serving more than 11,000 credit students each semester. The college offers degrees and certificates in more than 100 fields of study from accounting to welding. The college has a campus in Santa Maria and centers in Lompoc, Solvang, and at Vandenberg AFB.
Architectural Technology

Master the basic techniques of architectural graphics, including orthographic, paraline, mechanical perspectives with shades and shadows, and three-dimensional representations using various media to render architectural designs. Learn how to utilize computer aided drafting and design in the production of architectural designs. Also emphasized is the process to develop a set of residential plans including plan check approval with the structural details, energy and mechanical requirements. Fire resistive materials and finishes will also be studied. During your course work you will gain experience in planning and design, time management and understanding of basic components of residential structures using common materials.

An associate in science degree in architectural drafting can prepare you to complete a bachelor’s degree at a four-year institution or prepare you for an entry-level position in the building industry.

Throughout the architectural drafting program at Allan Hancock College, all architectural and related fields are explored and various careers in architecture/drafting are examined.

Employment Opportunities:
Earning an associate in science degree or a certificate in architectural drafting from Allan Hancock College will provide you with the skills necessary to pursue a successful career in entry level positions such as:

- Drafter
- Inspector
- Materials Technician
- Construction Field Technician

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, architectural and civil drafters held 46 percent of the 253,000 jobs industry wide in 2006. Of the available jobs, roughly 49 percent are for drafters in architectural, engineering and design firms in the construction or building industry.

Entry level positions in architectural drafting have hourly rates from $15-$21/hr. Pay increases with experience.

Architectural Drafting
(A.S. & Certificate of Accomplishment)

A major of 30 units is required for the associate in science degree. Courses marked with an asterisk (*) are required for the certificate.

Required core courses (23 units):

- ARCH 111*  Architectural Graphics  3 units
- ARCH 112*  Architectural Delineation  3 units
- ARCH 121*  Architectural Drawing 1  4 units
- ARCH 122*  Architectural Drawing 2  4 units
- ARCH 131*  Materials of Construction 1  3 units
- ARCH/ET 160  Digital Tools in Architecture  3 units
- ART 110  Design 1  3 units

Plus a minimum of 7 units selected from the following:

- ARCH 321  International Building Code  3 units
- ART 113  Three Dimensional Design  3 units
- ART 127  Painting in Watercolor 1  3 units
- ART 128  Painting in Watercolor 2  3 units
- ART 103  Art History Survey (Ancient to Medieval)  3 units
- ART 104  Art History Survey (Renaissance to Modern)  3 units
- ART 105  Art History Survey (Art of Mexico)  3 units
- ET 100  Computer Aided Drafting  3 units
- ENGR 152  Statics  3 units
- ENGR 161  Materials Science  3 units
- ENGR 162  Materials Science Lab  1 unit
- GEOL 100  Physical Geology  4 units

Equipment and Facilities:

Our facilities include a fully equipped Computer Aided Drafting and Design (CADD) lab with up-to-date hardware and software, a state-of-the-art 3D printer, a 42” wide plotter for larger CAD prints and colored images, three laser printers, and copier.