

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

Tiger Tracks

Studies and career options for
Hampden-Sydney students
interested in architecture

*“Hampden-Sydney
is the right place
if a student wants to
become a good architect.
If he can think, draw,
and communicate,
he can do well.
With some true
knowledge of history
and an understanding
of the human condition,
he can have a solid
impact on the world
of design.”*

DAVID PREVETTE '97
Architect, Roanoke Virginia

PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN Architecture

MINDSET

Architecture requires a strong sense of the physical world and keen spatial intelligence. The profession can appeal to those students who excel at geometry and those who think systematically. It is a cooperative, practical, and applied art form. Strong communication skills are essential, as architects are required to turn abstract concepts into real world spaces where people live, work, and play. Oral Rhetoric is a key part of building effective client relationships. The growth and contraction of architectural work is very closely tied to economic cycles, which offers opportunity for growth and change that correspond with the ebb and flow of financial markets. Careers that engage with the built environment also include landscape architecture, urban and environmental planning and development, construction, and real estate. This advice is meant as guidance; it is not a formal program in architecture, so you'll want to ensure you're staying on track with College-wide requirements.

COURSES

Our curriculum will prepare you for graduate study in the field of architecture regardless of which undergraduate major you pursue. In fact, for success in graduate studies we encourage you to find an undergraduate major that you truly enjoy as good grades are a better way to ensure entrance to the graduate program of your choice than a specific major. However, if you identify your interest in architecture early in your career, the following classes will be helpful in your application to graduate school:

- 2 semesters of Physics; consider Fundamentals of Physics I as your lab science.
- Calculus I and II
- History of Western Art I or History of Western Art II
- Roman and Greek Art and Architecture and/or Medieval Art and Architecture
- Introduction to Photography
- Beginning Drawing
- Color and Two-Dimensional Design
- Theatre Design and Technology
- FINA304 Topics in Art History (American Domestic Architecture)

PROGRAMS AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Join the Architectural Society, which is a student organization that meets regularly, organizes guest lectures, and takes field trips to architectural sites
- Volunteer your time and talents on set design and construction for H-SC Theatrical productions
- Volunteer your time and talents to the Atkinson Museum of the College by joining the Student Museum Board
- Consider study abroad experiences. Study-abroad trips are great avenues through which to study architecture. Additionally, knowledge of French or German can be very helpful in studying architectural history

Stay in touch with your academic advisor and Professor Mary Prevo. It's best to contact her during your first or second semester at H-SC. Contact Professor Prevo at mprevo@hsc.edu.

PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

Develop a course of study with your major advisor and faculty advisors in the Fine Arts Department, both in visual arts and art history. Faculty members can also be good sources of advice on internships. Work with the Career Education and Vocational Reflection Office to explore the architecture field, create a resume, get advice on seeking internships, and prepare for life after college. Career Education can also help you establish contact with alumni in the field. Finally, seek out and attend alumni panels in Architecture, History, and Fine Arts.

GRADUATE STUDY

The Master's in Architecture degree (MArch) is the recognized credential for advancement in the field. Applying to MArch programs requires that you take the Graduate Record Exam, or GRE. The Office of Career Education offers a number of GRE preparation resources, as does the Bortz Library. You can schedule a GRE test date online and take it at a number of test centers nationwide. Seeking further education in Historic Preservation is another way to explore architecture. The Hampden-Sydney campus is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, so you will have a good start! Some schools offer full graduate degrees in Historic Preservation; others offer just courses or certificates. The focus of programs varies from History to Conservation Science. We have also had students pursue graduate work in urban and environmental planning and development. If this is your potential focus, check out the Public History Tiger Track.

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

Forming good
men and
good citizens
since 1776



JOHN JEANES '79

*Housewright, director of the
restoration of James Madison's
Montpelier*

Admiring and learning ancient craftsmanship while repairing his family farm, John Jeanes built a reputation as an artisanal housebuilder—a reputation so impressive that the National Trust for Historic Preservation chose him over professional architects to manage the restoration of Montpelier from its 20th-century form back to the building that President James Madison and his wife Dolley knew. “In the preservation and restoration world,” he adds, “craftsmanship often means identifying the characteristics of the original construction and evoking those same qualities in the new work in such a way that James Madison himself might recognize his lifelong home.”



C. THOMAS HOGGE '03

Senior Designer, Nelson Byrd Woltz Landscape Architects, Charlottesville, VA

At Hampden-Sydney, Tom was a Phi Beta Kappa and ODK inductee, a brother of Sigma Nu, editor-in-chief of *The Tiger*, and an Academic All-ODAC captain of the tennis team. He also studied at Oxford and Aix-en-Provence. More recently, he has been an adjunct faculty member in the architecture department at the University of Virginia School of Architecture, where he earned degrees in architecture and landscape architecture, along with awards for design. He has lectured on design and preservation, and served as critic for several design studios. His professional work includes a national scouting reserve on a former coal mining site in West Virginia; educational spaces at a storm-water reclamation pond in North Carolina; and a masterplan for a botanic garden in Maine. Current projects at NBW include designs for a botanic garden in Michigan and a former sand filtration site in Washington DC.

DAVID PREVETTE '97

Senior Architect, AECOM, Roanoke, VA

With a double major in classics and history, David discovered early in his courses at Hampden-Sydney that the themes of architecture, building, and planning had a recurring significance in history, but what he tended to overlook was the relevance of writing, presenting, and communicating in the actual practice of architecture. He is grateful for his training in rhetoric and public speaking at Hampden-Sydney, which gave him an advantage over other architects who were not prepared to give presentations. For many years, David was an associate with Grimm+Parker Architects in McLean, Virginia, and served on the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects in Northern Virginia. He received a Master's of Architecture from Virginia Tech in 2002. Most recently, David is a senior architect with AECOM in Roanoke, Virginia.



JOHN UNDERWOOD '78

Principal, Island Architecture, Kauai, Hawai'i

While at Hampden-Sydney, John was an economics major and brother of the Theta Chi fraternity. Beyond classes, he worked in the H-SC development office and from time to time produced a late-night show on WWHSFM. After graduating, he worked for a design-build general contractor for twelve years, gaining experience in commercial, multi-family, and residential construction management. At 34 years old, he entered a 5-year Bachelor of Architecture program at Hampton University and graduated with honors. After a two-year internship with Hanbury Evans in Norfolk, he then joined Tidewater Hotels and Resorts in Virginia Beach as vice-president of construction; there he developed Marriott, Sheraton, and Holiday Inn brand hotels. A few years later, he began a private practice specializing in design-build projects and moved to Kauai Island in Hawai'i. His firm designs and develops commercial and high-end residential properties.

ROSS WILSON, LEED A.P. '03

Director of Community Development, PSW Real Estate, Austin, TX

While at Hampden-Sydney, Ross briefly wrote for the Hampden-Sydney paper, *The Tiger*. He was also a loyal brother of the Chi Phi fraternity. Ross spent much of his time during school focusing on a double major in Fine Arts and History, and couple with Rhetoric training prepared him well for a career in architecture. After Hampden-Sydney, Ross attended the University of Houston School of Architecture, and in 2007 received a Masters in Architecture. He worked for several years as an architectural designer at Page Southerland Page in his hometown of Austin, Texas. After leaving Page Southerland Page and moving to PSW Real Estate Ross spent time as an architectural designer and construction manager before moving into his current role as the director of community development. Ross's current role focuses on the design of projects, from a land planning perspective, or managing a third party architectural design project.

