Combining theory, practice and personal research

At Master’s level, students follow an integrated teaching program encompassing current issues, architectural theory, discussions ranging across the full spectrum of design and construction – from design details through to urban planning, and guidance as they embark on their personal research. The course is structured around the production of a dissertation (where the focus is theoretical) and a Master’s project, developed with a supervision panel selected by the student.
Adrien Alberti: “I have used algorithms inspired by nature and integrated them into a program that generates architecture.”

Nicolas Pierret: “Pour moi, l’architecture représente un très bon compromis entre des études scientifiques, comme présentes sur le reste du campus, et quelque chose de peut-être plus artistique, plus esthétique.”

Mexico City and its millions of inhabitants are facing a massive overexploitation of the local water resources. The underground aquifer that is the city’s main source of supply is in a critical state of depletion with little hope of recharge. To offset this shortfall the city needs to make better use of the available local resources such as wastewater and rainwater by creating new wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs).

This programme is unique in Switzerland, examining the ways in which realising complex projects questions and engages knowledge and practical expertise specific to three areas – law (UNIFR - University of Fribourg), socio-economics (UNINE – University of Neuchâtel) and architecture (EPFL).

http://complexdesign.epfl.ch

Urban Recharge Area
Steffan Heath and Edouard Philippe

Urbanising the Alps – Fiona Pia

Switzerland's urban area is currently undergoing a process of transformation: the distinction between leisure resort in the mountains as merely a seasonal appendage for skiing purposes and the “real” city has become obsolete – as evidenced by the fact that many urban functions are relocating to the mountains.
Master of Science in ARCHITECTURE

2-year program - 120 ECTS

Students must choose among one of the following orientations:
A Form - Data
B Habitats - Housing
C Cities - Territories
D Sauvegarde - Resources
E Types - Typologies

An orientation is composed of mandatory courses and projects depending on its subject.

Possibility to choose a 30 ECTS minor in:
• Engineering for sustainability (EngS)
• Integrated design, architecture and sustainability (IDEAS)
• Urban planning and territorial development (DTU)

Prerequisites for admission:
• Bachelor in Architecture
• Practical experience of 12 months
• An excellent command of French or English, and a good command of the other language are recommended
• Present a portfolio (A4 size) including several projects made by the candidate in the course of his/her studies and possibly practice

Career prospects

Studying architecture is the natural pathway towards a career as an architect, and it can also open up opportunities in many related professions – and in other, more unexpected areas, too:
Architect – freelance or in a practice; Government official in a department dealing with the built environment (heritage conservation, regional/landscape planning, urban planning, etc.); Set designer (for shows and exhibitions); Project manager; Logistics specialist; Involvement in a humanitarian project; Real-estate manager; Real-estate expert; Researcher; Teacher; University lecturer; and Publisher.