Plan to Correct for Continuing Accreditation
2020 Conditions and Procedures

Institution	Texas A&M University
Name of Academic Unit	Department of Architecture
Degree(s) *(check all that apply)* **Track(s)** *(Please include all tracks offered by the program under the respective degree, including total number of credits. Examples:* *150 semester undergraduate credit hours* *Undergraduate degree with architecture major + 60 graduate semester credit hours* *Undergraduate degree with non-architecture major + 90 graduate semester credit hours)*	☐ **Bachelor of Architecture** Track: ☒ **Master of Architecture** Track: Track: ☐ **Doctor of Architecture** Track: Track:
Year of Previous Visit	2023
Current Term of Accreditation *(refer to most recent decision letter)*	Continuing Accreditation (Eight-Year Term with a Plan to Correct)
Program Administrator	Dr. Gregory A. Luhan
Chief Administrator for the academic unit in which the program is located *(e.g., dean or department chair)*	Dr. Gregory A. Luhan
Chief Academic Officer of the Institution	Dr. Alan Sams
President of the Institution	General (Ret.) Mark A. Welsh III
Individual submitting the APR	Dr. Gregory A. Luhan
Name and Email Address of Individual to Whom Questions Should Be Directed	gregory.luhan@tamu.edu

INSTRUCTIONS AND TEMPLATE GUIDELINES

A Plan to Correct is required in cases when the NAAB board determines that the program is not in compliance with one or more of the Conditions for Accreditation, either at the time continuing accreditation is granted or as a result of a Special Report review. Programs with a Plan to Correct will have two years to demonstrate compliance with Conditions for Accreditation noted to be out of compliance. Programs submitting a Plan to Correct will be required to provide a narrative response with supporting documentation and evidence of compliance for each Condition noted to be out of compliance.

Review of the Process. The Accreditation Review Committee (ARC) reviewers will make one of the following recommendations to be acted upon by the board:

- In the event a program has demonstrated compliance with all the Conditions for Accreditation previously noted to be out of compliance, accept the Plan to Correct and approve the program for the remainder of the term of accreditation.

- In the event a program has not demonstrated compliance with the Conditions for Accreditation previously noted to be out of compliance, defer action and require a revised Plan to Correct to address all remaining areas of non-compliance. (Submission timelines are December 15 and June 30.)
- In the event a program's Plan to Correct does not demonstrate compliance with Conditions for Accreditation within two years, continue the Plan to Correct, place the program on notice for a period not to exceed one (1) year, and inform the institution's Chief Academic Officer.
- In the event a program's Plan to Correct does not demonstrate compliance with Conditions for Accreditation within one (1) year of notice, place the program on probation for a period not to exceed one (1) year, require a focused visit on remaining areas of noncompliance within six months, and inform the institution's Chief Academic Officer. All accreditation decisions to place a program on probation will be made public on the NAAB website.

Decisions by the NAAB board regarding the program's Plan to Correct are not subject to reconsideration or appeal.

Instructions

1. Type all responses in the designated text areas. Add additional rows as needed to include all conditions not met.
2. Reports must be submitted as a single PDF following the template format.

Deadline and Submission

Programs determined to be out of compliance with one or more Conditions for Accreditation identified at the spring board meeting will be required to submit a Plan to Correct on or before December 15 of the same year.

Programs determined to be out of compliance with one or more Conditions for Accreditation identified at the fall board meeting will be required to submit a Plan to Correct on or before June 30 of the following year.

Programs that fail to submit a Plan to Correct by the deadline will be placed on Administrative Probation, after notice.

All Plans to Correct should be sent to accreditation@naab.org on or before the appropriate deadline.

Plan to Correct Form
2020 Conditions and Procedures

Conditions Not Met *List the number and title of each condition that must be addressed in the Plan to Correct.*	Corrective Actions *Provide a narrative describing the corrective actions that have been taken and those that are planned but not yet implemented. For all actions taken, provide supporting evidence as described under the relevant Condition in the 2020 Conditions and 2020 Guidelines for the Accreditation Process.*	Timeline *List the timeline for all corrective actions, including actual or planned start and completion dates.*
SC.6 Building Integration	**Program Narrative:** The Texas A&M University Department of Architecture established the following "Plan to Correct" to strengthen its response to SC.6 Building Integration. As outlined in the NAAB Decision Letter to Dr. Alan Sams, Provost of Texas A&M University dated 04 December 2023, *"Not Met	The program did not provide sufficient information to meet the requirements of this criterion. The program provided sufficient evidence of integrated structural, life safety, accessibility and materials, but did not provide evidence of performance and measurable outcomes."* The Texas A&M University Department of Architecture "Plan to Correct" includes the following remediations: Aligned faculty who teach ARCH 405 Integrated Design Studio (Undergraduate BS in Architecture) with ARCH 606 Building Integration Design Studio; Incorporate digital building performance evaluation software into ARCH 606; Adjust curriculum sequencing; and Strengthen the calibration of portfolio review through additional norming sessions.	Spring 2024	Drafted May 2024, submitted June 2024.
	● **Aligned faculty who teach ARCH 405 Integrated Design Studio (Undergraduate BS in Architecture) with ARCH 606 Building Integration Design Studio	** To maintain continuity and coherence in Building Integration pedagogy, the Department of Architecture identified a group of faculty members who were assigned to teach ARCH 405 Integrated Design Studio at	Fall 2023	To maintain continuity and coherence in pedagogy, a group of faculty members were assigned to teach ARCH 606 (Architectural Design for M.Arch degree before the thesis project). Like in ARCH 405, the operational structure involved making

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	the Undergraduate level in the fall 2023 semester and also to teach the ARCH 606 Building Integration Design Studio (Architectural Design for M.Arch degree before the thesis project) in the spring 2024 semester. The intent of this shift was to align specific teaching actions in the ARCH 405 that synthesize and integrate all SC 6 criteria into the curriculum as a pilot study that would inform the ARCH 606 studio in the spring 2024 semester. Throughout the semester, the faculty met regularly to review the effectiveness of these actions and made necessary adjustments. At the end of the semester, the faculty collected and reviewed learning portfolios from all ARCH 405 students, then met to reflect on prospective improvements to better address the condition. The lessons learned from ARCH 405 served as the basis of the revised syllabi and lesson plans for ARCH 606 in the spring 2024 semester. The Department will repeat this process in the fall 2024 ARCH 405 and spring 2025 ARCH 606 as an integral part of its Action Plan. ● **Incorporate digital building performance evaluation software into ARCH 606 |** In the spring 2024 semester, the Department of Architecture developed a pilot study for ARCH606 Design Studio (Building Integration) that integrated building performance analysis software into the curriculum. Faculty taught students how to utilize the software to inform their decision-making processes and impact their design. Students were required to submit digital	updated plans before the semester, carrying out the plans with continuous adjustments and reviewing student learning portfolios and reflections at the semester's end. Spring 2024 | Conducted a pilot study for ARCH606 Design Studio (Building Integration) and the evaluation on design portfolios to incorporate enhanced building performance metrics and assessment.

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	outcomes, test fits, enhanced building performance metrics, assessment criteria used, performance metrics, and their overall evaluation and make them evident in the submitted design portfolios. Prior to the spring 2024 ARCH 606 software integration, the Department of Architecture developed a pilot study for its ARCH 405 (Undergraduate Integrated capstone Studio) fourth-year pre-professional program in the fall 2023 semester. Detailed aspects of the M-ARCH "not met" condition from the NAAB review were studied, leading to specific teaching actions in the ARCH 405 studio. Throughout the fall 2023 semester, the faculty met regularly to review the effectiveness of these actions and made necessary adjustments. At the end of the semester, the faculty collected and reviewed learning portfolios from all ARCH 405 students, then met to reflect on prospective improvements to better address the condition at the graduate level using lessons learned from the Fall 2023 ARCH 405 Integrated Design Studio. The ARCH 405 pilot study incorporated a sequence of digital tools to analyze, evaluate, and connect data from simulations into the design solutions. Specifically, the ARCH 405 faculty introduced energy modeling at the conceptual stage of projects to incorporate energy performance considerations from the outset. The implementation strategy involved providing datasets that students could use to evaluate the energy consumption of their proposed conceptual schemes.	

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	To achieve this, students utilized two Autodesk products: FormIt and Insight. These "test fits" provided the students with operational data from which to inform their design decisions and design integrations. As noted above, the fall 2023 ARCH 405 pilot informed the spring 2024 ARCH 606 action plan and pilot study at the graduate level. In spring 2024 ARCH 606, students were required to measure and compare efficiency of four design alternatives. This simulation required the students address window to wall ratio, glazing type, and shading percentage for each building face as well as the building occupancy and daylighting, efficiency of HVAC system, thermal performance of wall assemblies, and photovoltaic roof coverage percentages. The output in operating costs per square meter of floor area allowed for measurable comparison between mass/plan forms and orientation. Similar course activities will be implemented in future ARCH 606, with some adjustments based on the pilot study.	
	● **Adjust curriculum sequencing |** Beginning in Fall 2024, incoming M-ARCH students will take ARCH 605 (SC5 Design Synthesis studio) along with the required Building Integration Systems, Structures, and Materials + Methods courses (ARCH 631, 633, 658 respectively). Previously students were given the option of taking either course in the fall and spring along with the ARCH 605 Design Studio; however, in review of the learning portfolios, the Professional	Fall 2024 | Adjust curriculum sequencing: implemented for Fall 2024.

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	Programs Committee determined that the variable sequencing of courses caused inconsistent knowledge application in the subsequent ARCH 606 Design Studio. The purpose of this curricular change is to provide students with the critical foundational knowledge in the first semester while taking the fall ARCH 605 design studio when students synthesize information. The Department and Professional Programs Committee believes that this curricular change will enable students to synthesis knowledge at the same level, and then apply and integrate that knowledge in their second design studio ARCH 606 (SC6 Building Integration) in the spring semester. We believe this fundamental change will enable all students to bring all the requisite information into the ARCH 606 studio and lead to improved incorporation of building performance analysis learned in M-ARCH allied courses.	Spring 2025 | Deploy first calibrated design curriculum for ARCH 606 Building Integration Design Studio.
	● **Strengthen the calibration of portfolio review through additional norming sessions |** In collaboration with the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE) and the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Evaluation (OIEE), the Department of Architecture leadership and Professional Programs Committee met to establish best practices for setting aspirational standards for the curriculum, determine more precise metrics for the evaluation of all learning portfolios, and inform faculty's understanding of necessary curriculum adjustments. Specific strategies include: improve the	Summer 2024 - Fall 2024 | After the spring semester learning portfolio collection and review, the Department of Architecture Leadership and Professional Programs Committee met to evaluate the learning portfolios. In the Summer 2024 the Department met with the campus teaching (CTE) and assessment (OIEE)

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	sampling of portfolios; achieve a consistent understanding of the departmental assessment rubric; and engage students in surveys as an independent measure to compare with the faculty review. These sessions led to the planning of monthly curricular review sessions in the fall 2024 semester.

Supporting Evidence:
- **Learning Portfolio Review \|** The Department of Architecture at Texas A&M University mandates that all design studio students submit a comprehensive learning portfolio at the conclusion of each semester. This portfolio serves as a reflection of the students' abilities in design, drawing, and critical thinking. It also includes a representation from non-studio courses. The learning portfolio consists of various components such as project descriptions, diagrams, concept sketches, case studies, design iterations, final drawings and renderings, sample technical reports, and history papers. These portfolios are instrumental in assessing and demonstrating student learning outcomes. At the end of every fall and spring semester, each design studio instructor is responsible for collecting a PDF version of the portfolio from every student in their class. These portfolios are then archived securely on a tamu.edu Google Drive managed by the respective studio instructor. In summer 2024, after the Fall 2023 ARCH 405 pilot and Spring 2024 ARCH 606 pilot studies to incorporate more digital building performance evaluation into students' projects, the department sampled portfolios for the target courses as one | units to develop enhanced curricular calibration sessions.

Fall 2024 \| Learning Portfolio Norming and Calibration sessions

Spring 2024 - Spring 2025 \| Learning Portfolio Collection, Review, and Assessment |

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	way of measuring the effect of the teaching interventions. Link	ARCH 606-Spring 2024 Sample Learning Portfolios https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17x8uKWA1p3BkcPHKOAcBR4BFlqTO8xtz	Spring 2024	Learning Portfolio Collection and Pilot Study Assessment
	● **Data Analysis	** Portfolio reviews at the Department of Architecture are conducted at five distinct levels of analysis: (1) Individual Design Instructor Level: Each instructor assesses the portfolios submitted by their students. (2) Cross-Instructor Review (Same Year Level): Portfolios are reviewed collectively by instructors teaching the same year level. (3) Review Committee (Design Instructors, History, and Technology Professors): A committee composed of design, history, and technology faculty reviews sample portfolios. (4) All Faculty Review (Sample Portfolios): All faculty members participate in reviewing selected sample portfolios. (5) External Reviewers: Practitioners and professors from other universities provide feedback as external reviewers. Working with CTE and OIEE, the Department of Architecture developed metrics for inter-rater reliability and cross-instructor review, to facilitate direct connections between program assessment and curricular development. The ARCH 405 and ARCH 606 portfolios from the pilot year (AY 2023-2024) were assessed by internal Department of Architecture faculty in early summer 2024 to measure the effect of the changes made in each course	Spring 2025	Data Analysis

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	using a rubric designed especially for this purpose. The findings showed that "measurable outcomes of building performance" was the lowest scored criterion among the five Building Integration criteria, informing the actions described above. The findings from the spring 2024 ARCH 606 pilot study will serve as the baseline data for future data comparison.	
	● **Updated Course Materials, Lesson Plans, and Syllabi |** Following the ARCH 405 and ARCH 606 pilot studies, the Department of Architecture Leadership team and Professional Programs Committee reviewed the integrated studio curriculum, course materials, lesson plans, and syllabi. All revisions, based upon lessons learned, will inform the ARCH 405 Integrated Studio in the fall 2024 and ARCH 606 Studio in the spring 2025.	Summer 2024 - Spring 2025
	● **Rubrics |** Rubrics and a summary of the pilot study analysis is available upon request. Link | Spring 2024 ARCH 606 Learning Portfolio Review Rubric https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1h6wA7MTzRpKuyxWWfor-dtzdxlM7BRYE	Summer 2024 - Spring 2025

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Special Report	On 24 May 2024, the Department of Architecture received, via email, the NAAB Board Acceptance of the 2023 Annual Report for the M-ARCH program at Texas A&M University but required a Special Report to address the following areas: Condition 6.2 - Access to 2020 NAAB Conditions and Procedures; Condition 6.3: Access to Career Development Information; and Condition 6.4: Public Access to Accreditation Reports and Related Document. As listed below is a narrative response and supporting evidence that demonstrate compliance with these Conditions.	Spring 2024
Condition 6.2: Access to 2020 NAAB Conditions and Procedures	**Condition 6.2: Access to 2020 NAAB Conditions and Procedures |** The program website provides a link to the 2020 Conditions and Procedures for Accreditation with links connecting the Department of Architecture – NAAB files. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/gradua te-programs/master-of-architecture/ M-ARCH Website linking to the 2020 NAAB Conditions and Procedures: Link	Spring 2024
Condition 6.3: Access to Career Development Information	**Condition 6.3: Access to Career Development Information |** The program website provides a link to the program's website of career development information. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/gradua te-programs/master-of-architecture/ M-ARCH Website linking Career Development Information: Link	Spring 2024

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Condition 6.4: Public Access to Accreditation Reports and Related Documents	**Condition 6.4: Public Access to Accreditation Reports and Related Documents |** The program's website links all Interim Progress Reports since the last team visit, with links connecting the Department of Architecture—NAAB files. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-architecture/ M-ARCH Website linking to all Interim Progress Reports since the last team visit: Link	Spring 2024
NAAB responses to Plan to Correct since the last team visit	**NAAB responses to Plan to Correct since the last team visit |** The program website links all NAAB responses to any Plan to Correct since the last team visit, if applicable. We are including the link to the 2014 Plan to Correct for this action item. The Department of Architecture is developing a Plan to Correct, due 30 June 2024. Once approved by NAAB, the Department of Architecture website will reflect the 2024 Plan to Correct information. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-architecture/ M-ARCH Website link with links to any Plan to Correct since the last team visit: Link	Spring 2024
NAAB Decision Letter (2023)	**NAAB Decision Letter (2023) |** The program website links to the most recent decision letter from the NAAB. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-architecture/	Spring 2024

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Architecture Program Report for the last visit (2023)	M-ARCH Website link with links to the NAAB Decision Letter (2023): Link **Architecture Program Report for the last visit (2023) |** The program website links to the Architecture Program Report submitted for the last visit. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-architecture/ M-ARCH Website link with links to the Architecture Program Report for the last visit (2023): Link	Spring 2024
Visiting Team Report (2022/2023)	**Visiting Team Report (2022/2023) |** The program website links to the final edition of the most recent Visiting Team Report, including attachments and addenda. M-ARCH Website link: https://www.arch.tamu.edu/academics/graduate-programs/master-of-architecture/ M-ARCH Website link with links to most recent Visiting Team Report, including attachments and addenda: Link	Spring 2024
NAAB Optional VTR Response	**NAAB Optional VTR Response |** No Optional response was necessary NA - No Optional response was necessary.	Summer 2023