Congratulations on securing your place onto the Architecture and Environmental course at Nottingham. This is your start of an exciting education and a potential career in architecture, and we are sure this first year will be an important one on the journey to obtaining an honours degree and the initial professional qualification towards becoming an architect.

Please find enclosed your Welcome week timetable. The first event in your opening week is:

**Introductory Course Meeting**
9.30am, Monday 24 September 2018
Environmental Education Centre, Undergraduate Studio Building
(Number 14 on the University Park Campus Map).

Academic staff will give you an overview of the course and various events that will take place during the first couple of weeks. **It is essential that you attend this meeting.**

**You must also attend the Health and Safety briefing during Welcome week. You will not be allowed to begin your studies until you have done so.**

You will have the opportunity to experience the design studio, which will become your base for much of the years’ programme of activities.

During your first week and beyond, you must bring your own drawing and modelling accessories, which are detailed on the attached equipment list. You can decide to buy equipment before or once you arrive in Nottingham during the first week. We would recommend that you read at least one of the suggested texts recommended on page 4 of this letter before arriving so that you have a feel for the subject.

You are expected to be in the University on the first day of every term and should not leave until after the last day of each term otherwise you will miss important events concerning your course.

If you have any general queries prior to the start of term you can contact the Student Services UP East team, B103 Physics Building.

My colleagues and I look forward to meeting you at the introductory meeting on the 24 September. Best wishes for a very successful year and future with us.

Liz Bromley    Yupeng Jack Wu
Year 1 Studio Leader    MEng Course Director
Welcome

Studio Events

The Tour de Pasenville
As part of your induction, your first project will be the Tour de Pasenville which takes place on Thursday 27 - Friday 28 September. For this project, you will need to bring an inexpensive plain, white, short-sleeved well-fitting t-shirt (please do not wear it as it will be printed on as part of the project). Please write your name on one of the sleeves in permanent ink.

The First Studio Assignments
For your first studio project you will need to bring the following completed assignment to the first studio day on Monday 1 October:

A Visual Personal Statement.

For this first assignment, you need to reflect on the personal statement you completed as part of the university application process. Reflect on this statement while considering your life as a whole and identify the significant events that have formed who you are as a person and have brought you to this point in your life. These events are not necessarily something that has happened to you externally (such as a trip or getting a job or an academic achievement), but could be a major internal shift in the way you are as a person.

On eight panels of thin white cardboard (each panel measuring 140x140mm) you need to visually represent each of these significant events/points through drawings, collages, painting and sketches - one event per panel. One of the eight panels needs to represent why you chose to study Architecture and another needs to represent the reason you chose to study at the Nottingham. Please add a short phrase at the bottom of the panel to clarify what you want to convey in the image. Please name and number the back of each panel.

Examples of Art and Technical Drawing
You will also need to bring two pieces of work that firstly, demonstrate your current artistic ability and secondly, your current ability at technical drawing. You don’t need to create any new work just bring work that you have already completed. We would like to see these pieces of work to help your tutors ascertain your level of skill in each of these two categories.

If you don’t have technical drawings, you are not expected to bring anything. You will be taught how to draw technical drawings throughout the year.
Architectural Field Study Trip to Amsterdam

As part of your course, you will be going on a field study trip to Amsterdam from Monday 5 – Saturday 10 November 2018. The trip is a compulsory part of your studies in year 1. The details for the trip are still to be confirmed and will be given to you on your arrival. The trip will be paid for by the University and will cover the travel, accommodation including breakfast at the hostel (not lunch or dinner) as well as entrance fees to the buildings we will visit. Please ensure you bring your passport with you when you arrive as we will need a copy of the passport for the trip during week 1. Please also ensure your passport has an expiry date of at least a month after we return from our trip.

For students needing a visa

For those students who need a visa to visit Amsterdam, this will need to be completed during the second week of term. If you are not from the European Union, please check with the Dutch embassy website to check whether you will need to obtain a visa for the trip. If you do need a visa, you will need to come to the University prepared with the required information and documents.

Once you have registered as a student and have attended the introduction meetings, we will be able to give you the letter you need to get your visa (which explains that you are a student at the University Of Nottingham and attending an educational field study trip as part of your degree).

Before you start at the University, please apply for a visa appointment to visit London between 1- 5 October to get your visa. Applying for your visa during this week has previously always allowed enough time for the visa application to be processed and the passports to be returned to the students before the departure of our trip in November.

If you need to extend a current student visa for the UK you may need to apply for this during the first term. If you can apply for an appointment to extend your visa for after we return from the field study trip, this will allow you to attend the trip. You will need your passport to go on the field study trip. If you do not have your passport available for any reason, you will not be able to go on the field study trip to Amsterdam.
Reading List 2018-19

Year 1 is a foundation year. Its aim is to introduce you to the architectural design process while developing your skills in the areas needed to communicate your architectural designs through sketching, technical drawing, model-making, image processing using computers and CAD.

In preparation for the course, we recommend you choose one or two from the first two lists and read them before you arrive at the University in September. The first part of the course is all about developing your sketching skills. If you are not used to sketching, we would advise reading the first book on the list to enable you to develop your sketching skills before you start the course.

Developing your sketching and observation skills:

- **Visual Notes for Architects and Designers** Norman Crowe and Paul Laseau
- **Drawing on the Right Side of the Brain** Betty Edwards (if you wish to learn how to sketch)

About Architecture:

- **Analysing Architecture** Simon Unwin
- **101 Things I Learnt in Architecture School** Matthew Frederick
- **Architecture: Form, Space and Order** Francis D.K Ching
- **Materials, Form and Architecture** Richard Weston
- **Modern Architecture: A Critical History** Kenneth Frampton

Books recommended by previous year 1 students for the course:

- **The Architect’s Pocket Book** Charlotte Baden-Powell
- **The Metrick Handbook: Planning and Design Data** David Littlefield