



清华大学  
Tsinghua University



**AGREEMENT FOR  
THE DUAL MASTER DEGREE PROGRAM OF ARCHITECTURE  
BETWEEN  
TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY, BEIJING, CHINA  
AND  
TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN, GERMANY**

This Agreement (hereinafter referred to as 'Agreement') is entered into by Technische Universität Berlin (hereinafter referred to as 'TU Berlin') in Berlin, Germany and Tsinghua University (hereinafter referred to as 'Tsinghua') in Beijing, China. TU Berlin and Tsinghua (hereinafter referred to as 'parties') agree to extend the Agreement for a dual master degree program of architecture (hereinafter referred to as 'Program') in accordance with the terms as follows.

**1. Aim of agreement**

- 1) The aim of this Agreement is for Tsinghua and TU Berlin to extend the Agreement for a dual master degree program of architecture. The Program must abide by the terms stipulated in this Agreement. The details of the Program have been developed by the corresponding school and institute of the parties, i.e. School of Architecture (SA) of Tsinghua and Institute of Architecture (IfA) of TU Berlin, and must also be clearly stipulated in the agreement signed by the school and the institute of the parties as Appendix to this Agreement.
- 2) In general, this Agreement is aimed at enabling students of the parties to acquire a double international scientific and cultural education in architecture. The Agreement sets forth the terms under which students from TU Berlin to Tsinghua and from Tsinghua to TU Berlin may be granted, upon successful fulfillment of the bilateral agreement signed by the corresponding school and institute, master degrees of both universities.

**2. Subject of agreement**

- 1) This Agreement shall set forth the terms of the Program under which students from Tsinghua SA to TU Berlin IfA and from TU Berlin IfA to Tsinghua SA may be granted, upon successful fulfillment of all requirements for graduation at each party, master degrees of both universities, and include the fundamental requirements of both parties in order to be valid as a legal documents in both countries. These terms and requirements include, but are

not limited to:

- a) necessary curricular and degree requirements, such as timetable, credit requirements, course arrangement, credit transfer regulation and thesis requirements
  - b) arrangements for thesis defense
  - c) language requirements
  - d) number of students sent and received each year by each party
- 2) The Program shall have supplementary documents attached to this Agreement as an Appendix. The Appendix may include, but is not limited to:
- a) the study plans
  - b) the names and addresses of the academic and administrative representatives

### **3. Study programs and degrees affected**

This Agreement applies to:

- 1) Students from Tsinghua enrolled in the Master of Architecture program at the Tsinghua School of Architecture.  
When participating in the program, students will be additionally enrolled in the Master of Architecture program at TU Berlin Institute of Architecture and awarded the degree "Master of Science in Architecture" upon successful completion.
- 2) Students from TU Berlin enrolled in the Master of Architecture program at the TU Berlin Institute of Architecture.  
When participating in the program, students will be additionally enrolled in the Master of Architecture program at Tsinghua School of Architecture and awarded the degree "Master of Architecture" upon successful completion.

### **4. Academic regulations**

#### **4.1 Acknowledgement of academic record**

On the assumption of fundamental equivalence and based on mutual trust in the academic quality of the host university's curriculum it is agreed that:

Tsinghua acknowledges the qualification for university entrance to TU Berlin, the completed Bachelor program in Architecture or any comparable degree relevant to Architecture and the completed two semesters of studies in the Master of Architecture program as the entry requirement for the Master of Architecture program at Tsinghua.

TU Berlin acknowledges the qualification for the university entrance to Tsinghua, the completed bachelor program in Architecture or any comparable degree relevant to Architecture and the completed two semesters of studies in the Master of Architecture program as the entry requirement for the Master of Architecture program at TU Berlin.

#### **4.2 Grading systems**

- 1) All credits acquired under this program will be mutually recognized.
- 2) Courses and the master thesis shall be graded according to a system that makes the Chinese and the TU-Berlin system compatible, according to the following table:

<b>Tsinghua</b>	<b>TU Berlin</b>
96 – 100	1,0 (sehr gut) excellent
92 – 95	1,3 (sehr gut) excellent
88 – 91	1,7 (gut) good
84 – 87	2,0 (gut) good
80 – 83	2,3 (gut) good
76 – 79	2,7 (befriedigend) satisfactory
72 – 75	3,0 (befriedigend) satisfactory
68 – 71	3,3 (befriedigend) satisfactory
64 – 67	3,7 (ausreichend) adequate
60 – 63	4,0 (ausreichend) adequate
< 60	5,0 (ungenügend) fail

#### **4.3 Exchange contingent**

- 1) Each academic year, the program directors of both parties will inform each other of projected student flows (i.e. number of students) for dual-degree students. The parties agree to the following student flows:

From Tsinghua SA to TU Berlin IfA: 2-5 students

From TU Berlin IfA to Tsinghua SA: 2-5 students

- 2) The parties should aim at a balanced exchange. Any imbalance of numbers of participants should be balanced within three years.
- 3) The number of students each party may send and/or accept in the program can be modified yearly by mutual consultation between the corresponding school and institute of the parties.

#### **4.4 Selection procedure**

- 1) The students participating in the program under the terms of this Agreement must be registered as regular graduate students at the home university.
- 2) The students participating in the program shall be selected initially by the program directors of the home university and proposed to the host university. The host university reserves the right to accept or refuse the selected applicants in cooperation with the International Office. In case of problems the partners will make consensual regulations via their International Offices.
- 3) Academic scores, language level, motivation to attend a program, intercultural competences, capability for intercultural learning, and comprehensive abilities should be important factors for selection. The candidates are asked to submit all necessary documents requested by the host university.
- 4) The result of the selection should be approved by both parties in writing. In case of necessity, a tele-conference could be organized.

#### **4.5 Language requirements**

Courses of the program will be held in English.

For this reason, students must be well-versed in the English language and demonstrate their fluency during the selection procedure, either by the TOEFL (550 pbt, 213 cbt, 85 ibt), CET 6, or equivalent procedure determined by the home or host university.

## 5. Curricular conditions

### 5.1 Semester plan

- 1) Participating students from Tsinghua SA or TU Berlin IfA who are enrolled in the master of Architecture program and have completed two semesters of studies at their home university will be entitled to continue their curriculum at the host university in the 3rd and 4th semesters.

Semester	University	Master Studies
1+2	home university	Compulsory and elective courses
3+4	host university	Compulsory and elective courses and graduate project (proposal, study site in Germany for Tsinghua students, in China for TU Berlin students)
5 (+6 in case of necessity) - Tsinghua students only	home university	Graduate project (continued), degree thesis

- 2) It is acknowledged that semesters at Tsinghua and TU Berlin are not synchronized.  
Tsinghua University:  
1st (Fall) semester: mid September to mid January  
2nd (Spring) semester: mid February to mid July  
TU Berlin:  
1st (Winter) semester: early October to mid February  
2nd (Summer) semester: early April to mid July
- 3) It has been decided to allocate adequate buffer time before and after each exchange of students.
- 4) Variations from the proposed schemes are possible upon mutual agreement.

### 5.2 Study plans

- 1) Both Tsinghua students as well as TU Berlin students will spend at least one year at the host university and must fulfill the degree requirements of both universities.
- 2) All curricular details not set out in this Agreement are handled by the authorities of both parties concerned, i.e. the examination boards (Prüfungsausschüsse) of TU Berlin and Graduate School of Tsinghua.
- 3) Each change of the curriculum and/or of the Appendix has to be agreed upon by both universities in writing.
- 4) Each student enrolled in this program should work out a personal study plan based on the proposed study plans stated hereby and get it approved by the supervisors of both parties.
- 5) Courses selected at both universities should overlap only slightly.

#### 5.2.1 Study plan for students of Tsinghua University

- 1) Students must obtain a minimum of 36 Chinese credits for graduation from Tsinghua University. Students must obtain a minimum of 120 ECTS for graduation from TU Berlin.
- 2) At least 50% of the required credits, i.e. 18 Chinese credits, must be obtained at Tsinghua University. At least 50% of the required credits, i.e. 60 ECTS, must be obtained at TU Berlin.

- 3) Credits must be distributed across course types to meet the requirements of both universities according to the study and examination regulations of both universities. These include: Design Studios; Compulsory professional courses, including but not limited to the following courses: Architectural Theory, Building Theory, Sustainable Building and Planning Strategies. The total number of credit points to be achieved is determined by the highest total required by either party.
- 4) Courses at TU Berlin are to be selected from the list of courses taught in English.

### **5.2.2 Study plan for students of TU Berlin**

- 1) Students must obtain a minimum of 120 ECTS for graduation from TU Berlin. Students must obtain a minimum of 36 Chinese credits at Tsinghua for graduation from Tsinghua University.
- 2) At least 50% of the required credits, i.e. 60 ECTS, must be obtained at TU Berlin. At least 50% of the required credits, i.e. 18 Chinese credits, must be obtained at Tsinghua University.
- 3) Credits must be distributed across course types to meet the requirements of both universities according to the study and examination regulations of both universities. These include: Design Studios; Compulsory professional courses, including but not limited to the following courses: Architectural Theory, Building Theory, Sustainable Building and Planning Strategies. The total number of credit points to be achieved is determined by the highest total required by either party.
- 4) Courses at Tsinghua are to be selected from the list of courses taught in English.

### **5.3 Student rights and responsibilities and examination regulations**

- 1) In addition to adhering to the home university's standards of conduct, students participating in the program shall comply with the rules and regulations of the host university during the entire duration of their stay. During the studies at TU Berlin, the examination regulations (Prüfungsordnung) of TU Berlin are valid in the current version. During the studies at Tsinghua, the examination regulations of Tsinghua are valid in the current version.
- 2) Students participating in the program will have the rights and obligations as students in the respective universities and will be entitled to participate in any introductory program that may customarily be arranged for international students at the host university.
- 3) Students shall take their own responsibility if there is any violation of rules and regulations of both the host and home universities.
- 4) In case of partially or completely unsuccessful results at the end of the last semester in the host university, the student will be allowed to extend his/her stay for a further year.

### **5.4 Thesis, defense and final project presentation**

- 1) Tsinghua students shall normally finish their thesis at Tsinghua University, but - upon mutual agreement of the parties - it can also be carried out at the host university. TU Berlin students shall normally complete their thesis at Tsinghua within their fourth semester, but in addition to that can also present their thesis at the home university.
- 2) Each student will be co-supervised by two supervisors, one from each university. Only professors or associate professors (Germany: Junior Professors) are eligible for thesis supervision.
- 3) The topic has to be accepted by both universities.
- 4) Students from Tsinghua should normally choose a study site in Germany. Students from TU Berlin should normally choose a study site in China. Students may choose a different study site upon agreement of the representatives of the parties.

- 5) For students from TU Berlin IfA, the thesis shall be completely in either German or English. A long abstract in English (no less than 5,000 words) shall be compulsory. For the students from Tsinghua SA, the thesis shall be in either Chinese or English; in case of a thesis in Chinese, a long abstract in English (no less than 5,000 words) shall be compulsory.
- 6) All other credits have to be achieved before submitting the proposal for the Master thesis to the supervisors.
- 7) The thesis defense at Tsinghua University should comply with the regulations of thesis defense at Tsinghua University, with at least one TU Berlin professor being present. The final project presentation at TU Berlin should comply with the regulations of TU Berlin, with at least one Tsinghua professor being present.

### **5.5 Award of degrees**

- 1) Upon completion of the program at both universities, students will receive two master degrees, indicated as jointly-awarded degrees, from both parties: the degree "Master of Architecture" of the Tsinghua University and the degree "Master of Science in Architecture" of TU Berlin. The two degrees possess validity of their own, although students may only receive the degree of the host university upon graduation from the home university.
- 2) The credits and grades obtained in the program will be recognized mutually by Tsinghua and TU Berlin according to terms stipulated in this Agreement.

## **6. Finances**

- 1) No tuition fee is required at the host university for incoming students involved in the program. The students shall only pay their normal tuition and registration fees to the home university. During the term of the agreement the host university agrees to waive all tuition fees/application fee for incoming students visiting under this agreement. However, Tsinghua students will have to pay the mandatory semester fee (including a semester ticket for public transport).
- 2) Students will be responsible for the following costs, which include but are not limited to:
  - a. overseas student health cover;
  - b. travel expenses;
  - c. accommodation and food costs at the host university;
  - d. passport and visa costs;
  - e. personal expenses;
  - f. study materials and
  - g. all other incidental and non-compulsory fees incurred during the entire duration of their stay
- 3) For students that extend their stay at the host university, the first year of extension will be subject to the same financial conditions as those provided in the Article relevant to tuition fees and other costs of the Agreement. After the first year, and for all following years of extension, students will have to pay tuition fees at the host university.

## **7. Obligations and rights of the parties**

- 1) The host university will assist the incoming students with accommodation, if wanted and possible.
- 2) Both parties will provide appropriate assistance in matters of health, language and local custom that may rise as well as advices and other academic and administrative services to students participating in the dual degree programs.

- 3) The host university has the right to interrupt the program of a student in case of unsatisfactory academic results. The student will then have to return to his/her home university, where the accumulated credits will be transferred in order to allow him/her to solely continuously achieve the local diploma.
- 4) The parties agree to keep each other informed on modifications of the study programs on which the program is grounded (e.g. modifications in availability of courses).

## **8. Administration of the program**

- 1) The program should be developed and implemented by the School of Architecture of Tsinghua and the Institute of Architecture of TU Berlin.
- 2) The Graduate School and the Office of International Cooperation and Exchange are, on behalf of Tsinghua, responsible for academic and administrative support and control of the implementation of the Agreement.
- 3) The program director and the Section Student Mobility & International Students of the Department of International Affairs are jointly, on behalf of TU Berlin, responsible for academic and administrative support and control of the implementation of the Agreement.

## **9. Control of results**

- 1) The School of Architecture of Tsinghua and the Institute of Architecture of TU Berlin should evaluate the implementation results of the program on a yearly basis.
- 2) At the end of an academic year, the host university shall send the home university a copy of each student's transcript of records issued in English. The parties agree that exams/courses will be graded and credits will be awarded, according to the rules of the university where the exams/courses are carried out.

## **10. Modifications**

This agreement may be reviewed at any time. Amendments or changes to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by the duly authorized representatives of both parties. They come into effect upon such signature by both parties.

## **11. Dispute resolution**

If a dispute arises in connection with this Agreement, directors or other senior representatives of the two parties with authority to settle the dispute will, within 14 days of a written request from one party to the other, meet or discuss in good faith to resolve the dispute. If the dispute is not resolved afterwards, Tsinghua or TU Berlin may refer the matter for mediation, the procedures of which will be decided by them jointly.

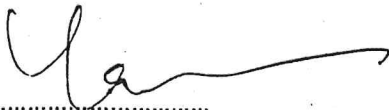
## **12. Validity and terms of agreement**

This Agreement shall come into effect on the day of signature by both parties and become valid for five years. At the end of five years, the Agreement may be renewed upon review. Either university may terminate this Agreement, provided that a written notice of the intent to terminate is given at least six months in advance. Commitments already in progress shall be fulfilled.

**Signatures:**

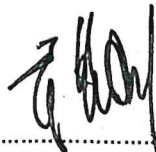
In witness whereof, the authorized representatives of the parties have executed this agreement on the date(s) indicated below:

For Tsinghua University:



.....  
Prof. Dr. YANG Bin  
Vice President and Provost  
Tsinghua University

Date:



.....  
Prof. Dr. ZHANG Li  
Dean, School of Architecture  
Tsinghua University

Date: 29/03/2021

For Technische Universität Berlin



.....  
Prof. Dr. Christian Thomsen  
President  
Technische Universität Berlin

Date: 20.4.21



.....  
Prof. Dr. Kristin Wellner  
Dean, Faculty VI  
Technische Universität Berlin

Date: 13/04/2021





清华大学  
Tsinghua University



**APPENDIX  
FOR  
THE DUAL MASTER DEGREE PROGRAM OF ARCHITECTURE  
BETWEEN  
TSINGHUA UNIVERSITY, BEIJING, CHINA  
AND  
TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN, GERMANY**

Under the umbrella of the Agreement for the Dual Master Degree Program of Architecture between Tsinghua University, Beijing, China and Technische Universität Berlin, Germany (hereinafter referred to as 'Agreement') between School of Architecture, Tsinghua University (hereinafter referred to as 'Tsinghua SA') and Institute of Architecture, TU Berlin (hereinafter referred to as 'TU Berlin IfA'), this Appendix (hereinafter referred to as 'Appendix') is provided as a supplementary document to the Agreement.

Both Tsinghua SA and TU Berlin IfA (hereinafter referred to as 'parties') agree to the terms stipulated in the Agreement for the Dual Master Degree Program of Architecture between Tsinghua University, Beijing and Technische Universität Berlin.

**1. Study plans**

<b>Study plan for Tsinghua SA students</b>		
	<b>Course requirements</b>	<b>MinimumCredits</b>
<b>Semesters 1 + 2 at Tsinghua</b>	Design Studios	
	Architectural Theory	
	Building Theory	
	Sustainable Building and Planning Strategies	
	Elective professional courses with architectural relevance	
	Open courses	
		<b>total: more than 18 CC</b>
<b>Semesters 3 + 4 at TU Berlin</b>	Design studio	15 ECTS
	Advanced seminar on construction or urban design or scientific research	9 ECTS
	Elective professional courses (research paper = WP-HA)	6 ECTS
	Elective professional courses (proved by calculation = WP-RN)	3 ECTS
	Open courses (e.g. German language course)	6 ECTS
	Master-Thesis	18 ECTS

	Master-Colloquium	3 ECTS
		<b>total: 60 ECTS</b>
Semesters 5 (+ 6 if necessary) at Tsinghua	Thesis	4 CC

<b>Study plan for TU Berlin IfA students</b>		
	Course requirements	Minimum Credits
Semesters 1 + 2 at TU Berlin	Architectural design studios	15 ECTS
	Urban design studios	15 ECTS
	Advanced seminar on construction or urban design or scientific research	9 ECTS
	Architectural Theory	3 ECTS
	Building Theory	3 ECTS
	Sustainable Building and Planning Strategies	3 ECTS
	Elective professional courses (research paper = WP-HA)	3 ECTS
	Elective professional courses (proved by calculation = WP-RN)	3 ECTS
	Open courses (e.g. Chinese language course)	6 ECTS
		<b>total: 60 ECTS</b>
Semesters 3 + 4 at Tsinghua	Design studio	6 CC
	Elective professional courses (research paper = WP-HA)	1 CC
	Elective professional courses with architectural relevance, including a cultural course, for example History of East Asian Cities or similar	4 CC
	Open courses, including but not limiting to the following courses: Chinese language course Chinese history and culture	4 CC
	Thesis	4 CC
		<b>total: 19 CC</b>

## 2. Administration of the Program

At Tsinghua SA, the Vice Dean in charge of teaching affairs and the Vice Dean in charge of international affairs are responsible for academic and administrative support and control of the implementation of this agreement. The contacts are as follows:

International Affairs Office  
School of Architecture  
Tsinghua University  
Beijing 100084, China  
Tel.: 86-10-62785693  
Fax: 86-10-62770314  
E-mail: archi-fao@tsinghua.edu.cn

The program director at TU Berlin IfA is the Professor of Sustainable Planning and Urban Design. He is responsible for academic and administrative support and control of the implementation of this agreement. The contacts are as follows:

Prof. Raoul Bunschoten  
Institute of Architecture, Room 806  
Technische Universität Berlin  
Strasse des 17. Juni 152,  
10623 Berlin  
Germany  
Tel.: 49-30-31421934  
Fax: 49-30-31421931  
E-mail: raoul.bunschoten@tu-berlin.de

In case Prof. Raoul Bunschoten cannot act as program director Prof. Dr. Hermann Schlimme will be acting director.

In witness whereof, the authorized representatives of the parties have executed this agreement on the date(s) indicated below:

.....  
Prof. Dr. ZHANG Li  
Dean, School of Architecture  
Tsinghua University

Date: 29/03/2021

.....  
Prof. Dr. Kristin Wellner  
Dean, Faculty VI  
Technische Universität Berlin

Date: 13/04/2021