The Architectural Engineering Department is an integral part of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design, and it shares and supports the mission of the College. The department has several overall program objectives, which are: to advance in a career path primarily in structural engineering or a building industry field, attain a graduate degree, engage in lifelong learning, and meet increasing professional demands to communicate effectively.

To eventually attain these overall program objectives, the following student learning outcomes must be satisfied. At the time of graduation, we expect our graduates to be able to: apply knowledge of mathematics, science and engineering to building structures; design and conduct experiments, as well as to analyze and interpret data; design a building system, component, or process to meet desired needs within realistic constraints such as regulatory, economic, environmental, social, political, ethical, health and safety, constructability, and sustainability; function in interdisciplinary teams for the design and construction of buildings; identify, formulate and solve structural engineering problems; understand professional and ethical responsibility; communicate effectively; have the broad education necessary to understand the impact of engineering solutions in a global and societal context; have a recognition of the need for and an ability to engage in life-long learning; have a knowledge of how the built environment is related to contemporary issues; use the techniques, skills and tools necessary for structural engineering practice; and apply construction and constructability issues in buildings. To attain these outcomes, the program provides a balance of theoretical (analytical) and experimental courses.

The Architectural Engineering program carefully addresses architectural design, constructability issues, life safety and economy of construction. In addition, course projects address realistic design criteria, such as economic implications and environmental, social, ethical and sustainability issues. Using integrated design projects, modern technological tools, and the latest design codes to address these goals, the department emphasizes the advantages of a close, interdisciplinary team-based approach to design and construction.

The use of interdisciplinary projects allows students to hone their communication, critical thinking, and project management skills by working in multi-disciplinary teams. As students learn more about building design, they become cognizant of the ethical implications of design, specifically of how political and societal issues affect the engineering of the built environment, both on a local scale and on a broader international scale. These larger societal issues motivate students to engage in life-long learning, allowing them to use their skills in professional structural engineering practice.