

MSc Urban Design and Planning

One Year Full Time (September start)



Introduction

Urban design lies at the interface of architecture and urban planning, with both disciplines contributing contrasting but complementary approaches to urban design theory and practice. The delivery of this master's programme draws on the distinct methodologies, professional perspectives and pedagogies of both urban planning and architectural disciplinary areas within the school. It provides specialist knowledge and skills in urban design theory and practice, urban conservation, nature-based solutions, and the relationship between research and design. The programme will enable graduates to work as part of a multidisciplinary team to create better places through urban design. Students will also have the opportunity to

draw upon the School's research expertise to place urban design centre stage in tackling a range of pressing environmental and other issues. The programme will appeal to graduates from closely related disciplinary backgrounds wishing to specialise in urban design, including those with qualifications in architecture, landscape architecture, and planning. Applications will also be considered from graduates with other related disciplinary backgrounds (e.g. geography, engineering, property economics, surveying) where the applicant has a particular interest the specialist area of urban design (as opposed to planning more broadly). This programme is accredited as a specialist qualification by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).

Course Highlight

The UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy has an established international track record as a leading research centre in spatial planning. The School is a member of the Association of European Schools of Planning.

Course Content and Structure

● 90 total credits

- 60 credits taught modules
- 30 credits thesis/design thesis

All students undertake modules worth 90 credits. These establish the context and theory for urban design, provide the opportunity for engagement with core themes within a studio-based context, introduce key research skills, and allow students to pursue their own specialist interest through the completion of a thesis. Please note that some modules listed may not be available in a given year.

Modules include:

- Conservation History, Theory & Policy
- Nature-Based Solutions Postgraduate
- Studio
- Urban Design Studio
- Research Design & Methods
- Placemaking
- Planning, Environment & Public Policy
- Housing, Planning & Sustainability
- Urban and Regional Development
- Planning Law
- Rural & Landscape Planning
- Urban Design Theory
- Thesis or Design Thesis

Why study at UCD?



Graduate education

12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



Global community

9,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



Global Profile

UCD is ranked in the top 1% of higher education institutions worldwide



Global careers

Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland





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Career Opportunities

The MSc Urban Design and Planning is aimed at graduates from related disciplinary and professional backgrounds wishing to specialise in urban design and planning. The programme is therefore designed to train, mentor and support graduates in developing their specialist knowledge and understanding, along with transferable skills and tools, for careers related to the field. These include roles in the public, private and community sectors, including planning and urban design consultancies, local authorities, development firms, regeneration companies, environmental and other NGOs, as well as research and teaching.

Graduate Profile

Róisín Cahill
Henry J Lyons



Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a primary degree with minimum upper second class honours award (NFQ level 8) or international equivalent in planning, architecture or landscape architecture. Applications from graduates with a degree in another related subject area will also be considered, including geography, engineering, property economics, and surveying.
- Applicants whose first language is not English must also demonstrate English language proficiency of IELTS 6.5 (no band less than 6.0 in each element), or equivalent.
- Students who do not meet the IELTS requirement may wish to consider taking the Pre-Sessional or Pre-Masters Pathway. Full details <https://www.ucd.ie/alc/programmes/pathways/>

International Fees and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on www.ucd.ie/fees. Please note that UCD offers a number of graduate scholarships for full-time, self-funding international students, holding an offer of a place on a UCD masters programme. Please see www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships/ for further information.

Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- Master of Regional & Urban Planning
- MSc Environmental Policy
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

"The MSc in Urban Design and Planning is well balanced in both structure and content providing a strong foundation for the workplace. I found the masters supportive of developing a range of skills and interests throughout each term. The design studio modules provide a space for testing and investigating the learnings from the theory modules. The final term thesis allows for an in-depth study into an area of interest that you have already explored through theory and studio modules in the previous terms. The mixed disciplinary faculty and students in the programme offer additional perspectives and knowledge while regular in class presentations allow for strengthening graphic communication and presentation skills. Since graduating from MSc Urban Design and Planning I have worked as a research assistant in an Architecture practice in Dublin and have found the critical analysis and graphic communication skills I developed during my masters in UCD to be a great benefit."

CONTACT US

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This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at www.ucd.ie/apply