



MSc Architecture, Urbanism & Climate Action

One Year Full Time (September start)



Introduction

Urban environments and their buildings are at once both acutely responsible for the climate crisis, and present some of the most achievable solutions. Climate action is urgently required to mitigate their environmental impact and unearth creative solutions. This MSc programme equips graduates and returning professionals with specialist skills to respond to the challenge of planning, designing, and actioning a sustainable built environment. The School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy (APEP) brings together four key disciplines to provide a unique graduate learning experience. Core modules are specifically designed to enhance

knowledge of Sustainable Development Goals, climate science and policy as well as skills for sustainable building and urban design. Options allows students choose from a wide range of architecture, planning and policy based modules, as well as energy and sustainability modules from around the University. The programme links in with prestigious national and EU funded research projects and industry collaborations. This facilitates students in furthering research and knowledge, and the programme has a track record of supporting careers in sustainable design practice, consultancy, policy and academia.

Course Highlight

The UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy has an established international track record as a leading research centre in sustainable building and city research with large national and international funded projects. It is in the Top 150 QS World University Rankings by subject area, and has long led the way in architectural study and practice in Ireland.

Course Content and Structure

90 credit taught masters

Core modules include:

- Climate, Carbon, Cities and Change
- Architecture in a Climate Emergency
- Geodesign for Urban Futures
- Urban Resilience and Ethics
- Research for Environmental Policy

Linked Research Project / Internship

This can take the following 3 forms:

- Placement with a linked employer
- Working on an established research project
- Individual study in a research area of the students choosing

Option modules include:

- Realising Built Projects
- Street Life: Urban Design Introduction
- Postgraduate Studio
- Retrofit Existing Buildings
- Energy Systems & Sustainable Environments
- Environmental Economics
- Practical Environmental Assessment
- Planning Society and Diversity
- Urban and Regional Development
- GIS for Policy and Planning
- Behavioural Economics: Policy Applications

- Carbon & Sustainability
- Urban Design Theory (UDT)
- Urban Design Studio
- Agency: Design / Build
- Concrete Research
- Air Pollution
- Tools for Sustainable Development
- Reimagining Dublin
- Remote Sensing
- Coastal Risks
- Climate Change Law and Policy
- Rural & Landscape Planning
- Housing, Planning & Sustainability

Why study at UCD?



Graduate education

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



Global Profile

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



Global community

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



Global careers

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





Career Opportunities

The range of climate change response, and environmental sustainability, related careers is broadening. This sector is set to expand rapidly in coming years. This MSc gives students a unique set of skills to allow them stay ahead of the curve and apply for exciting and fulfilling job opportunities. Potential careers include sustainable architecture and practice, sustainability consultancy, engineering consultancy, energy efficiency agency, public and environmental policy, sustainable development, energy supply and management and NGOs. This MSc has a track record of providing a springboard to exciting careers in research and academia. It allows students pursue a range of further research opportunities into architectural and urban design aspects of climate action. High achieving masters students will also be invited to continue onto PhD study in UCD either via in-house project opportunities or by applying for funding through national funding schemes.

Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a primary undergraduate degree with a minimum upper second class honours (NFQ level 8; minimum GPA 3.08) or international equivalent in subjects related to the built environment including architecture, urban design, engineering, environmental sciences, or humanity degrees involving social or natural sciences.
- 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

- ME Energy Systems
- Master of Architecture
- MSc Environmental Technology
- MSc Urban Design & Planning
- MSc Sustainable Energy & Green Technologies

Graduate Profile

Khiusha Uaila

Founder Xi Bassile & CoFounder
ASSAMBA



After years of practising architecture in a business-as-usual format, I craved a more purpose-driven career, so I decided to pursue a master's. I chose UCD because of its unique program on Architecture, Urbanism, and Climate Action and its location in vibrant and beautiful Dublin.

During this time, I explored Ireland's stunning landscapes, formed lifelong friendships, collaborated on the award-winning Ripple Project, and embarked on a profound learning journey. I fell in love with green infrastructure and nature-based solutions, concepts I now apply at Xi Bassile and at ASSAMBA, ventures I cofounded to implement and promote sustainable practices in Mozambique.

I'm grateful to UCD's lecturers, staff, and colleagues, who made this experience not just about education but a life-changing adventure. To future students considering this program, my advice is: embrace the opportunity, soak in the knowledge, and let UCD be your catalyst for change.

CONTACT US

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APPLY NOW

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