University College Dublin
Ireland's Global University

MSc PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT & URBAN DESIGN (ONE YEAR FULL TIME / TWO-FOUR YEARS PART TIME)

The capacity to develop planning and urban design solutions, to analyse them critically and to provide guidance in regard to their implementation is one for which there is a growing demand. Furthermore, urban design lies at the interface of architecture and urban planning, with both disciplines contributing complementary but contrasting approaches to urban design theory and practice. In this context, the MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design has been specifically tailored to enable fully-qualified architects to further develop, build upon and enhance relevant pre-existing professional knowledge, understanding, and skills, to specialise in both spatial planning and urban design. The programme also draws upon the particular research strengths of the School, providing students with the opportunity to engage with innovative approaches to sustainable and resilient urbanism, exploring emerging challenges surrounding the role of urban design in mitigating or adapting to climate change, in promoting 'healthy' cities or neighbourhoods, and the incorporation of 'nature' into design (e.g. nature-based solutions) to address habitat fragmentation and biodiversity loss.

FACILITIES AND RESOURCES

The School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy offers dedicated studio space for its students, a dedicated architecture library and map room, access to fully equipped computer facilities, a building laboratory space with a wide range of equipment including laser cutters and a CNC router, and access to monitoring and simulation equipment in the Earth Institute.

WHY STUDY AT UCD?

Tradition
Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching and research excellence

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

Global community
Over 8,500 international students from over 130 countries study at UCD

Global careers
Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 2 year stay-back visa (for non-EU students)

Safety
Modern parkland campus with 24 hour security, minutes from Dublin city centre

COURSE CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

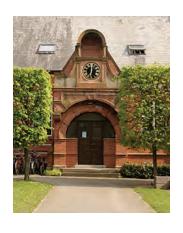**90 credits** taught masters   **60 credits** taught modules   **30 credits** thesis

This is an intensive, taught graduate programme (90 ECTS), comprising core modules in spatial planning, and in the specialist area of urban design, encompassing key areas of theory and practice, three major studio modules, research methods training, a thesis/design thesis, and professional development skills training. For full-time students, the programme is one year's duration (three semesters/12 months), and lectures, studios, etc., take place throughout the week. For part-time study options, please contact the college admissions office (eamarketing@ucd.ie) for further details.

The programme includes modules from the following indicative list:

- Planning Methodology
- Planning Society and Diversity
- Planning, Environment & Public Policy
- Plan-Making Studio
- Planning Law
- Urban Design Studio
- Nature-Based Solutions
- Research Design and Methods
- Thesis or Design Thesis

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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates will have the option of continuing a career in architectural practice, but with a specialism in the sought-after areas of spatial planning and urban design. However, alternative career paths include roles in the public, private and community sectors, including planning and urban design consultancies, local authorities, development firms, regeneration companies, and environmental and other NGOs.

APPLY NOW

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

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- The programme is open to applications from fully qualified architects, i.e. applicants must have completed their architectural education and be listed on the RIAI register of architects, or fully qualified and registered as an architect in accordance with EU Directive 2005/36/EC (recognition of professional qualifications), or eligible to seek registration as an architect in Ireland without further assessment.

- 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.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- Dedicated scholarships for non-EU students
  - Apply for University Scholarship
  www.ucd.ie/global/study-at-ucdscholarshipsfinances/scholarships/
  - Apply for College scholarship
  www.ucd.ie/eacollege/study/noneuscholarships
- Approved by US Dept of Education for federally supported loans

FEES

Fee information is available at www.ucd.ie/fees

WORK IN IRELAND

Option to stay in Ireland to seek employment and/or work for 2 years after graduating.

RELATED MASTER'S PROGRAMMES OF INTEREST

- Masters of Regional & Urban Planning
- MSc Urban Design and Planning
- MSc Environmental Policy

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Asst. Professor Arthur Parkinson

The MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design aims to educate, train, mentor and support qualified architects to up-skill through specialisation in urban design, whilst also providing the opportunity to pursue a professional career in spatial planning. A mix of learning and assessment strategies are employed, notably including studio-based learning, which will also include the involvement of leading practitioners to ensure that students acquire key 'industry-ready' urban design skills. Given that the programme may be of interest to mid-career architects, the programme is offered on a part-time basis, in recognition of the demands of professional practice, allowing these students to continue practising part-time alongside their studies.

RTPI
Planning School

CONTACT US

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