

Master of Regional & Urban Planning

One Year Full-Time



Introduction

In today's complex and rapidly changing world, with the threats posed by climate change, economic crisis, energy security and rapid urban growth, planners face the challenge of creating places that combine environmental quality with a vibrant economy, quality of life and distributive justice.

This one-year professional planning degree develops the requisite conceptual knowledge and practical skills required by planners in this increasingly complex environment. Students will develop an understanding of the administrative, legal and policy

frameworks in which spatial planning operates and the social, political, economic and environmental challenges facing planning. In addition, students develop practical skills for plan and policy making, including environmental assessment, retail assessment, public participation methods, development and project management, and GIS. Students will also engage with understanding the role of planning in public policy and sustainability and can avail of independent research or internship opportunities which are assigned on a competitive basis.

Course Highlights

The UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy has an established international track record as a leading research centre in spatial planning and is in the Top 150 QS World University Rankings by subject area. The School is a member of the Association of European Schools of Planning.

Course Content and Structure

- **90 credits** taught masters
- **60 credits** taught modules
- **30 credits** research project

or

- **30 credits** planning practice internship & practice project

The MRUP actively engages students in their own learning utilising a mix of lectures, workshops, group projects in a studio setting, field trips, regular student presentations, and independent research.

Internship or Research Project

Students may choose to undertake an independent research project or an internship during the summer trimester (subject to availability).

Modules Include:

Autumn and Spring Trimester

- Planning Institutions and Governance
- Planning Methods, Skills & Techniques
- Planning, Design and Development
- Environment and Sustainability
- Planning Studio: Plan Making

Summer Trimester

- Thesis
- Internship & practice project

One elective which may include:

- Healthy and Sustainable Cities
- Sustainable Cities
- Rural and Landscape Planning
- Placemaking and Conservation
- Advanced GIS

* Please note that internships are assigned on a competitive basis and the number of internships available in any given year may vary. Students who are not offered an internship will be required to undertake the Thesis module as an alternative.

Why study at UCD?



Tradition

Established 1854, with 160 years of teaching & research excellence



Global profile

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



Global community

Over 6,000 international students from over 120 countries study at UCD



Global careers

Degrees with high employability; dedicated careers support; 1 year stay-back visa



* Please note this is a new programme structure for September 2024 entrants and the modules may be subject to change.



Career Opportunities

Graduates of the MRUP are to be found working as professional planners in the public and private sector, as GIS consultants, as policy advisors, property development consultants, and as community & rural development coordinators. Our graduates have found employment with: national and international planning agencies, government departments, local authorities including urban and rural authorities in Ireland, the UK, Australia and New Zealand; transportation agencies including the National Transport Authority; planning consultancy firms including Tom Philips and Associates, Brock McClure Associates, KPMG and Future Analytics Consulting; urban regeneration companies, large house builders including Glenveagh Properties; wind and solar energy companies including Eirgrid and ABO Wind, and environmental NGOs including An Taisce.

Graduate Profile



Ciara Shevlin

I graduated from the Master of Regional and Urban Planning in UCD in 2022. Before undertaking the MRUP, I completed a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and History in Trinity College Dublin. Although I had no previous academic experience of planning, it was something I was always drawn to. During my undergraduate degree I took part in an Erasmus year in Utrecht. During this time, I realised the differences in how cities operate and their different housing and transportation systems. This led me to decide to apply for the Masters in UCD to pursue a future career in planning. The modules on the MRUP were a great way to introduce students who did not come from planning backgrounds to gain a rounded understanding of the planning system in Ireland.

This knowledge really helped me to understand national, regional and local policies which were then utilised in modules such as Placemaking and Plan Making. I personally really enjoyed the Plan Making module as it allowed students to utilise their academic knowledge of planning policy to create new policies, objectives and ideas for the chosen case study sites. The MRUP provided students with opportunities to network throughout with guest speakers from the planning institutes and private and public sector planning organisations. These talks and events were really helpful to see the range of career possibilities which are available to you as a planner, of which there are plenty! I partook in a summer internship in a private planning consultancy and accepted a permanent position with the consultancy the following year. I now work as a planner in South Dublin County Council on the Development Management Team, making decisions on planning applications in the county.

Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a minimum upper second class honours or international equivalence in a cognate discipline including Geography, Sociology, Economics, Politics, Social Science, Law, Engineering, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Property Economics, Surveying and/or equivalent relevant professional experience. Those with other degree qualifications may apply but will be required to undertake an interview.
- 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 & 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/international/scholarships for further information.

Accreditation

We are seeking accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Irish Planning Institute for the Master of Regional and Urban Planning (MRUP)(T399) programme. It is anticipated that accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) will be awarded in Spring 2024 and this qualification is recognised internationally.

Related Masters Programmes

- MSc Urban Design and Planning
- MSc Environmental Policy
- MSc Environmental Science
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

CONTACT US

Irish/EU Students Katie O'Neill **E.** Katie.oneill@ucd.ie **T.** +353 1 716 1781

International Students **E.** eamarketing@ucd.ie/internationalenquiries@ucd.ie **T.** +353 1 716 8500

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