

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

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*

One of the following electives:

- 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 community

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



Global profile

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



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. More detailed information will be available in due course on this page or to find out more information please email eamarketing@ucd.ie.



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 Phillips 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

Hannah Breshears
Tom Phillips and Associates



As an international student, I found the classes in Irish planning law, European property markets and comparative planning from the MRUP program to be particularly helpful, as they gave me the foundation I needed to engage with an unfamiliar industry and understand some of the cultural context at play in Irish policy making. The program also provided excellent opportunities to network with professional planners in Ireland, which gave our class a very helpful snapshot of the various career paths available in the area. I completed an internship with a large private planning consultancy in Dublin that was offered by one of the UCD guest lecturers over the summer and accepted a permanent position there shortly after graduation. My job has evolved somewhat since then, and I now lead the research efforts at the firm as a Geospatial Analyst, a position which combines traditional town planning expertise with more technical data management skills.

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

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