The Bartlett Development Planning Unit

MPhil/PhD Research programme

The MPhil/PhD research programme-collaborative Algeria and facilitating student research projects. This programme offers the opportunity to develop knowledge and understanding of development, with a special focus on the Global South. It is aimed at students who are interested in the politics, economics, and social structures that shape development and who wish to contribute to the understanding of development challenges and opportunities in the Global South. The programme is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct research on a variety of topics related to development, such as political, economic, and social factors. It is open to students from a wide range of disciplines who are interested in exploring the complex issues that arise in the context of development. Participants will develop skills to advance knowledge on the interrelationships between formal and informal sectors, and to critically reflect on design research projects to ensure that they contribute to sustainable development. A key feature of the programme is its emphasis on collaborative research, which encourages students to engage with researchers and practitioners in the field of development. The programme is designed to produce graduates who are equipped to work in a range of environments, including academic, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, and who are prepared to contribute to the development of sustainable and equitable societies.

MSc Social Development Practice

This programme is designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills to engage with the complex issues of development, with a special focus on the Global South. The programme offers a range of courses that cover topics such as political, economic, and social factors, and provides students with the opportunity to develop research projects and conference papers. Participation in field trips is encouraged, and students will have the opportunity to work with practitioners and researchers in the field of development. The programme is designed to provide students with the necessary skills and knowledge to conduct research on a variety of topics related to development, such as political, economic, and social factors. It is open to students from a wide range of disciplines who are interested in exploring the complex issues that arise in the context of development. Participants will develop skills to advance knowledge on the interrelationships between formal and informal sectors, and to critically reflect on design research projects to ensure that they contribute to sustainable development. A key feature of the programme is its emphasis on collaborative research, which encourages students to engage with researchers and practitioners in the field of development. The programme is designed to produce graduates who are equipped to work in a range of environments, including academic, governmental, and non-governmental organizations, and who are prepared to contribute to the development of sustainable and equitable societies.

MSc Social Development Practice (International)

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MSc Urban Economic Development

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MSc Urban Development Planning

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MSc Urban Health and Development

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MSc Building and Urban Design in Development

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MSc Environment and Sustainable Development

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MSc Development Administration and Planning

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The Bartlett Development Planning Unit conducts world-leading research and postgraduate teaching that helps to build the capacity of national governments, local authorities, NGOs, and agencies and businesses working towards socially just and sustainable development in the global south. We are part of The Bartlett: University College London’s global faculty of the built environment. The DPU has over 65 years of experience in academic teaching, research, policy advice and capacity building in the field of international development.

As part of our mission to build the capacity of professionals and institutions, the DPU undertakes a range of action-oriented work with partners in different parts of the world. Regular contact with policy and planning practice through capacity building and advisory work is viewed as an important part of challenging and developing the theoretical and methodological debates pursued in our teaching and research.

A central focus of the DPU’s work, since it was established in 1954 under the leadership of Prof Otto Koenigsberger, has been on innovative and socially just approaches to planning in dynamic urban contexts. The DPU has been at the forefront of the development of models of planning, including Action Planning and Urban Development Planning, which contest the static and time-bound city master plans, and instead seek to enable collective initiatives to bring about social and spatial justice in cities of the Global South.

Where we are

- Beijing
- Shanghai
- Hangzhou
- Yogyakarta
- Da Nang
- Vinh
- Action Planning and Urban Development Planning
- Building capacity in the field of international development.
- Mission to build the capacity of national governments, local authorities, NGOs, and agencies and businesses working towards socially just and sustainable development in the global south.

How we work

- Our activities are:
  - Development education, training, research, and consultancy.
- Experience in academic teaching, research, policy advice and capacity building in the field of international development.
- Knowledge situated by concerns,
- Knowledge production as a common endeavour pursued through networks.
- Cultivating collective imaginations sensitive to multiple perspectives through revealing multiple diverse voices.
- Trans-disciplinary: Complexity is celebrated, new possibilities of frameworks, producing transformative change.
- Active: Knowledge situated by concerns, embedded.
- Reflective: Knowledge located at a convergence of mind, emotion and action.
- Embedded: Knowledge located at a convergence of mind, emotion and action.
- Relational: Questioning theoretical and methodological debates pursued in our teaching and research.
- Collective: Knowledge production as a common endeavour pursued through networks.

Who we are

- Tel: +44 (0)20 7679 1111 - Email: dpu@ucl.ac.uk
- 34 Tavistock Square - London - WC1H 9EZ
- The Bartlett Development Planning Unit
- Engagement map
- Four Research Clusters
- Diversity, social complexity & planned intervention
- Environmental justice, urbanisation & resilience
- Urban transformations
- State and market

Thinking and practice across Four Research Clusters

- Diversity, social complexity & planned intervention
- How do issues of social diversity and citizenship play out in the urban setting, when rapid pace of social change makes established planning paradigms for social fragmentation and conflict, too slow for the acceleration?

Environmental justice, urbanisation & resilience

- How can planning support transformative synergies between urban resilience and environment policy?

Urban transformations

- What can design and planning contribute to collective initiatives that seek transformative change, and societality and solidarity in cities of the global South?

State and market

- How can planning promote productive interactions between state, society, and market actors and institutions?