

MSc/PGDip International Planning

The International Planning MSc is a one-year full-time professionally accredited planning programme, which is accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). It is intended for students who want an international perspective on planning systems and cultures, or are likely to work outside the UK after their studies. It is open to graduates of any discipline who wish to make a career in planning or related fields.



Overview

The MSc International Planning provides a strong international and comparative focus on planning and urban theory and practice. It aims to provide students with a broad range of skills and knowledge in planning and urban theory in a global context, while offering them the opportunity to develop a specialisation. It provides an initial education in planning, with an international focus, and offers a mix of lecture and seminar-based modules, project work, site visits and the preparation of a 10,000 word dissertation.

The programme will help the student develop critical thinking beyond regulatory considerations, and embraces wider social, economic, environmental and political concerns.

More specifically, the MSc International Planning will:

- give students a critical appreciation of the commonalities and differences among a variety of national planning approaches and systems;
- enhance understanding of planning as a culturally specific, context dependent activity which takes different forms in different countries and regions of the world;
- raise awareness of the impacts of processes of globalisation on planning;
- give students the opportunity to study the planning system, policies and practices of a particular country in depth through an International Planning Project and through their individual dissertation.

The international scope of the MSc primarily encompasses Europe, North America, Australia, South Africa and the Far East, and increasingly China and South-East Asia. Less emphasis is put on the urban development issues and planning systems of

developing countries of the Global South (e.g. Africa and Latin America) as there is specific expertise and dedicated MSc programmes offered in the Development Planning Unit, another part of The Bartlett Faculty at UCL.

Structure/Content

The programme can be completed in either 1 year of full-time study or in 2 to 5 years of modular/flexible study (which can be structured around your employment).

The core modules are:

- BPLN0038 Comparative Planning Systems and Cultures (15 credits)
- BPLN0040 Critical Debates in International Planning (15 credits)
- BPLN0042 Urban Design: Place-making (15 credits)
- BPLN0046 International Planning Project (15 credits)
- BPLN0002 Pillars of Planning (30 credits)
- BPLN0039 Dissertation in Planning (60 credits)

The specialisms are (students pick one specialism, which comprises two linked modules of 15 credits each):

- Governance for Sustainability and Inclusion (BENVGPLL + BPLN0049 **OR** BENVGPLL + BPLN0054)
- Historic Cities (BPLN0067 + BPLN0068)
- Housing (BPLN0044 + BPLN0045)
- Infrastructure Planning (BPLN0024 + BPLN0027)
- Smart Cities Theory and Practice (CASA001 + CASA008)
- Urban Design (BPLN0056 + BPLN0057)
- Urban Regeneration (BPLN0065 + BPLN0063)

Field Course

All students joining the International Planning MSc will participate in a short field trip in Term 2 of their first year. The trip will be based in a European city outside the UK and will link directly to the International Planning project which students have to prepare in Term 2.

Entry Qualifications

Applicants must have obtained a minimum of a good second-class Bachelor's degree or other qualification of equivalent standard (preferably 2.1 or higher, but 2.2 with appropriate experience or equivalent will also be considered). Some practical experience in addition to academic qualifications is welcomed but not required (the course is designed for graduates of all disciplines and those with no planning background at all, as well as welcoming those with some experience).

A high level of competence in both spoken and written English is also required. Overseas students whose first language is not English will be asked to provide evidence of competency in English. A minimum overall IELTS score of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each of the sub-tests is required.

Careers

International Planning graduates have been very successful in gaining subsequent employment in various sectors. At present, there is a growing demand for our graduates from a wide range of both public and private employers in the UK and abroad. They are employed in both local and central government internationally, in global planning related consultancies, and in a wide range of other related sectors, such as housing, transport and urban regeneration, as well as in public and private utility companies, teaching and research.

Term 1 Oct-Dec	Term 2 Jan-Mar	Term 3 Apr-May	Summer Jun-Sep
BPLN0038 (PT yr 1) Comparative Planning Systems and Cultures	BPLN0040 (PT yr 1) Critical Debates in International Planning	BPLN0039 (PT yr 2) Dissertation in Planning	
BPLN0042 (PT yr 1) Urban Design: Place-making	BPLN0046 (PT yr 1) International Planning Project		
BPLN0002 (PT yr 2) Pillars of Planning			
(PT yr 2) Specialism Part 1	(PT yr 2) Specialism Part 2		