

## MSc/PGDip

# International Real Estate and Planning

This programme offers a unique opportunity for students to focus on real estate and on property development processes and their relationship with urban planning systems. It explores market mechanisms and urban planning from the standpoint of investors, developers, occupiers of buildings and policy makers, and the relationship between markets and policy at various levels, equipping students with an understanding of the variations in planning and real estate practices across national boundaries and with the theoretical and practical apparatus to apply their knowledge internationally.



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## Overview

The programme aims to equip students with theoretical and practical preparation to practise across international boundaries in the fields of planning and urban policy, real estate market analysis and property development. It draws students from a variety of professional and academic backgrounds who wish to acquire or develop their knowledge in those fields. Students in past years include graduates and professionals from urban planning, architecture, economics, estate management, surveying, sociology, political science, civil engineering, business studies, law and management. Their nationalities cover more than 20 countries from all 5 continents. What unifies the diverse group of people attending the course is their passion for the topic of real estate and urban planning and their keenness to engage with and affect real estate practices and the development of cities.

The programme covers both disciplines of real estate and urban planning: real estate appraisal and valuation, basic principles of real estate as investment asset, the economic and institutional structures of property development, the relationship between real estate development and planning and regulatory mechanisms at city and project level and international variations in that relationship. Elective courses allow students to complement the core knowledge offered by the programme to suit their individual interests. Teaching is based on our in-depth academic and professional understanding of the issues, delivered in various formats (lectures, seminars, project work, tutorials, workshops, field trips).

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## Structure/Content

The programme can be completed in either 1 year of full-time study, 2 years of part-time study or in 2 to 5 years of modular/flexible study (which can be structured around your employment). Timetables for core courses are arranged so that part-time and modular students can normally attend on one day per week during the teaching terms, depending on the elective courses chosen.

The components of the programme are:

- BPLN0013 Planning Practices in Europe (15 credits)
- BPLN0015 Comparative Urban Projects (15 credits)
- BPLN0017 Real Estate Development(15 credits)
- BPLN0014 Critical Debates in Real Estate and Planning (15 credits)
- BPLN0010 Real Estate Appraisal (15 credits)
- BPLN0011 Real Estate Investment (15 credits)
- Elective / optional module(s) (30 credits in total)
- BPLN0039 Dissertation in Planning (60 credits)

Students seeking RICS membership can select the 30 credits of elective postgraduate modules from any offered as elective modules at UCL, or even outside UCL in other University of London institutions. The choice of these electives must be approved by the Course Director.

Students seeking RTPI membership are required to take the following modules in place of the

30-credit elective work:

- BPLN0055 Planning Practice (15 credits)
- And, a choice of one of the following two modules:
- BPLN0037 Spatial Planning: Concepts and Context (15 credits)
  - BPLN0038 Comparative Planning Systems and Cultures (15 credits)

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## Field Trip

We are committed to combining rigorous teaching with field experience of actual real estate and urban planning projects. All students in the programme participate in a field trip to mainland Europe in mid-February. The field trip combines talks from key local practitioners and academics with visits to on-going projects, and students find them a great educational and social experience. Recent destinations include Brussels, Amsterdam, Athens, Turin, Hamburg, Berlin and Madrid.

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## 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 real estate or 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. All applicants are normally expected to have a good grounding in at least one language in addition to English.

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## Careers

Graduates of this programme who were not already employed have taken jobs in public and private offices in the UK and abroad in real estate and planning. First destinations for recent graduates have included: CBRE, Savills, Investment Property Databank, Tarmac, Jones Lang Lasalle, Knight Frank, BNP Paribas and Tibbalds Monro in London; OECD Urban and Environmental Directorate, IAURIF, Hammerson SA, DTZ and Matthews and Goodman in Paris; King and Co in Barcelona; Kolpron of Berlin; Savills in Greece; SEB Asset Management in Frankfurt; and a large number of smaller private companies in real estate across the world.

| Term 1<br><i>Oct-Dec</i>                    | Term 2<br><i>Jan-Mar</i>                                       | Term 3<br><i>Apr-May</i>             | Summer<br><i>Jun-Sep</i> |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| BPLN0013<br>Planning Practices<br>in Europe | BPLN0015<br>Comparative Urban<br>Projects                      | BPLN0039<br>Dissertation in Planning | (PT yr 2)                |
| BPLN0010<br>Real Estate<br>Appraisal        | BPLN0011<br>Real Estate<br>Investment                          |                                      |                          |
| BPLN0017<br>Real Estate<br>Development      | BPLN0014<br>Critical Debates<br>in Real Estate and<br>Planning |                                      |                          |
| Elective A                                  | Elective B   |                                      |                          |