MSc/PGDip
Urban Regeneration

The MSc in Urban Regeneration was created in response to a great challenge facing Britain and the world: urban decline and the planned renaissance of our cities. The challenge is greater than restoring and rebuilding the physical fabric. We need to provide a new economic base to replace the one that has been lost, to restore hope to communities that have been shattered and to provide urban citizens with a better quality of life.
Overview

The MSc in Urban Regeneration combines inputs from globally distinguished theorists and practitioners to offer a hands-on, multidisciplinary education drawing on the best of UK and international experience. Urban Regeneration is a massive task that requires ‘out of the box’ thinking, intellectual rigour, collaboration and contributions from disciplines like urban design, urban planning, sociology, economics, finance and management.

The aim of the programme is to equip you with three important qualities necessary if you, as an urban professional, wish to engage with the challenges of urban regeneration:

- the ability to understand and critically analyse complex urban issues;
- the boldness to address those issues in a creative, strategic manner;
- the confidence to propose appropriate and realistic implementation plans.

The programme draws students from a variety of academic backgrounds: urban planning, economics, architecture, sociology, anthropology, political science, civil engineering, art studies, history & the humanities, management, as well as professionals with design, property, political science, civil engineering, art studies, history and the humanities, management, as well as professionals with design, property, administrative, business, housing and community experience. Past students have hailed from more than twenty countries across all five continents. This diversity will foster your ability to co-operate and negotiate creatively with others. What unites the diverse group of people attending the course is their passion and enthusiasm to engage with and affect the course of urban transformations.

Structure/Content

To graduate from the programme you will need to take and pass 180 credits (120 for the Diploma). More specifically, you will take six modules of core studies (8x15=90 credits) and another 30 (2x15) credits of elective courses to develop your own particular interests. You will also write a dissertation (60 credits). The table below indicates the programme structure for each term.

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<th>Term 1 Oct-Dec</th>
<th>Term 2 Jan-Mar</th>
<th>Term 3 Apr-May</th>
<th>Summer Jun-Sep</th>
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<tr>
<td>BPLN0065 Urban Problems and Problematics</td>
<td>BPLN0062 Development Projects</td>
<td>BPLN0039 Dissertation in Planning (PT yr 2)</td>
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<td>BPLN0042 Urban Design: Place-making</td>
<td>BPLN0063 Preparing Re-generation Projects</td>
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<td>BPLN0066 Critical Debates in Urban Regeneration</td>
<td>BPLN0064 Implementing Re-generation Projects</td>
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<td>Elective A</td>
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Depending on which electives you choose you can pursue:

(a) the RTPI stand-alone accreditation route. You will need to take BPLN0055 Planning Practice and either BPLN0037 Spatial Planning: Concepts and Context or BPLN0038 Comparative Planning Systems and Cultures as electives.

(b) the liberal studies route. You can select electives from a wide range of modules taught throughout The Bartlett School of Planning and the Faculty of the Built Environment, UCL. Indicatively, these may include modules on economic development, the Global South, urban sociology, politics, the environment, sustainability and management (subject to approval by the Programme Director and Module Tutor).

(c) the specialisation route. You can choose a specialism from those offered in The Bartlett School of Planning such as sustainability, real estate, housing, international planning, transport, urban design, historic cities etc.

The programme can be completed in either 1 year of full-time study or in 2 to 5 years of modular/flexible study. We make every effort to bundle teaching for the core modules so that part-time students could attend lectures on one day per week. Our ability to offer this, is subject to timetabling and venue availability restrictions. Individual modules may also be taken as CPD elements.

In addition, the programme offers optional seminars on making films about the built environment (usually combined with the field trip and/or the BPLN0063 module) as well as the opportunity to join regeneration workshops and internship schemes with academic and professional partner organisations in the UK and overseas. Please check the programme webpage for up to date information on the latest opportunities available.

Field Trip

The programme combines rigorous teaching with field experience of actual regeneration projects. As a student you can participate, free of charge, in the field trip to mainland Europe (Term 2), the Regeneration Away Day (Term 1) and in several UK site visits. These activities combine talks from key local stakeholders with visits to regeneration projects and workshops dealing with actual regeneration challenges. Students find them to be rewarding educational and social experiences. Recent field trip destinations include Paris, Amsterdam, Athens, Turin, Hamburg, Madrid and Düsseldorf/ the Ruhr Region.

Entry Qualifications

You are welcome to apply if you have a keen interest in urban issues and would like to make a difference for yourselves, your employers and the communities you will engage with as urban professionals. 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 welcome 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

After you graduate you could take jobs in a wide variety of public, private and third sector organisations in the UK and around the world, dealing with urban planning and regeneration issues: private consultancies, local authorities, real estate firms, NGOs, housing associations and local, regional or national agencies. First destinations of recent graduates include:

- Foster & Partners: Urban Strategist
- Regeneris Consulting: Research Consultant
- Fudan University Urban Planning and Architectural Design Institute (Shanghai): Planner
- Santiago (Chile): Freelance Planning and Regeneration Consultant
- Municipal Art Society of New York: Project Manager
- Savills: Graduate Planner
- Circle Anglia Housing Association: Business Growth Communications Manager
- Colombian Green Building Council: Technical Director
- BuroHappold Engineering/Cities: Consultant