



# UCD ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

**GRADUATE TAUGHT  
COURSES ENTRY 2024**













# WELCOME TO UCD IRELAND'S GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

University College Dublin has a fantastic reputation, justified by its position as number one in Ireland across so many university facets.

As an **internationally recognised and research-intensive university**, UCD attracts talented students from around the world.

There are currently over **12,800 students enrolled** in graduate study at UCD.

UCD is Ireland's **leader in graduate education** with 25% of all postgraduate students in Ireland studying at UCD.

UCD is Ireland's most popular university for international students with more than **9,500 international students** from over 152 countries.

UCD has a **dedicated international student centre**. The UCD Global Lounge is a relaxed space for international and Irish students to meet and hang out during their time at UCD.





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# WELCOME TO UCD ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The School's graduate programmes offer a uniquely rich and varied range of approaches to the design and development of our built and natural environment, from policy formulation to the detailed design. Our programmes will prepare you for professional careers, will help you build specialised knowledge and skills, and will equip you to deal with complex challenges in a changing, globalised world. In our programmes, the depth of specialised knowledge combines with the breadth of interdisciplinary exploration to produce new ways of understanding and creatively shaping the world.



Members of our academic staff have achieved international renown for their creative work, their research and for their professional achievements. Our programmes are recognised and accredited internationally, and our graduates are held in high esteem around the world. Our School has extensive international networks and a diverse staff and student cohort. At the same time there is a strong sense of community. Our Richview campus allows students from all over the world to feel at home, even as they extend the horizons of their knowledge and their capacities.

**Assoc Prof Eoin O'Neill, Head of School**  
*UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy*



# WHY CHOOSE THE UCD SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY?

The School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy graduate taught programmes cover all aspects of the practice of architecture as well as advanced areas of conservation, design, sustainability, history, urbanism, planning and environmental policy.



Only Architecture degree in Ireland to be accredited by the professional institute in Ireland (RIAI), and by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and which also has International Certification status with the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) in the USA



Unique facilities in an historical building on Belfield campus with dedicated design studios, workshop, building laboratory, computer labs and exhibition space available for students



The RIBA Gold Medal, the world's most prestigious architecture award, has been won by 2 UCD Architecture adjunct professors (2015) and 2 UCD Architecture alumni (2020)



Home to Ireland's best Architecture, Landscape Architecture and Planning library



International study opportunities



Member of the Association of European Schools of Planning



Exposed to instruction from world renowned architectural practices and international leading experts on policy design



Ireland's Leading Research Centre in Spatial Planning and Environmental Policy



Planning programmes accredited by the Irish Planning Institute (IPI) and the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)



Ireland's only Landscape Architecture degree programme, accredited by the Irish Landscape Institute (ILI) and recognised by the International Federation of Landscape Architecture (IFLA Europe)



# Master of Architecture

Two Years Full Time (September start)



## Introduction

In 2011, the UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy celebrated its centenary. The School has long led the way in architectural study and practice in Ireland. Its undergraduate, graduate and research programmes cover all aspects of the practice of architecture and landscape architecture, as well as advanced areas of conservation, sustainability, urbanism and history and theory. The MArch programme equips students to deal with complex design problems in a challenging context. Through studio

projects, academic writing and practical experiments, it develops professional capacities while placing equal emphasis on research and critical enquiry. Its faculty includes many leading figures in architectural practice as well as internationally-recognised researchers. The programme equips graduates to work in the field of architecture anywhere across the world in architectural practice and in other forms of creative practice as well as in the areas of policy, consultancy and academia.

## Course Highlight

UCD's Master of Architecture is the only programme that is accredited, by the professional institute in Ireland (RIAI), by the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) and which also has International Certification status with the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) in the USA.

## Course Content and Structure

### 120 total credits

- 40 credits taught modules
- 45 credits architectural design
- 25 credits design thesis
- 10 credits dissertation

In Year One, it may be possible for students to spend the Spring Trimester studying in one of our partner architectural schools in Europe, Asia, America or Australia. Subject to limited availability and with approval from the Erasmus/Exchange Co-ordinator. Students may inquire about this option on registration to the Programme.

### Core modules include:

- Comprehensive Design Studio
- Architectural Design VII
- Architectural Design VIII
- Masters Design Option
- Design Technologies I
- Research and Innovation in the Designed Environment I
- Professional Studies - II
- Research and Innovation in the Designed Environment II
- MArch Architectural Dissertation
- Making is Thinking - Thesis Preparation
- MArch Design Thesis Seminar
- Reflective Portfolio Module

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate education

12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



### Global community

9,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



### Global Profile

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



### Global careers

Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland







## Career Opportunities

The MArch qualification is RIAI (and European Union), and RIBA accredited and has Substantial Equivalency with the NAAB. It will equip graduates to work in architecture anywhere across the world, whether in major global centres or in particular regional contexts. This triple accreditation makes this Master's course unique and offers unrivalled opportunities to graduates. Graduates are involved in architectural practice and in other forms of professional creative practice, as well as in areas of policy and consultancy. Many graduates also go on to further postgraduate study, in UCD and elsewhere. Past students in the course's connected programmes have gone on to become international or national experts in their selected fields.

## Graduate Profile

Chloe Loh  
Wellcome Trust



After completing my three year undergraduate in the UK I spent three years working for different architectural practices in London before deciding to do my master's. An important element distinguishing UCD from other universities is its research-based approach to most modules. These modules allow students to investigate their own interests and develop them into written arguments or effective design proposals; students at UCD are thus encouraged to be self-directed. This is something that has allowed me to project my personal interests into every project and to develop my own style and design method - an important characteristic distinguishing UCD from many other schools. It is a small course quietly producing talented and careful architects, where staff are open to nurturing the ideas of students, both in and outside of the studio environment.

## Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree in architecture or another approved equivalent degree with a minimum of upper second class honours (NFQ Level 8) or international equivalent.
- Portfolio Submission is essential.
- 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 and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://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/global/scholarships/](http://www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships/) for further information.

### Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- Master of Regional & Urban Planning
- MSc Urban Design & Planning
- Master of Landscape Architecture
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

### CONTACT US

**Irish/EU Students** - Katie O'Neill **E:** [katie.oneill@ucd.ie](mailto:katie.oneill@ucd.ie) **T:** +353 1 7161781 **W:** [www.ucd.ie/eacollege](http://www.ucd.ie/eacollege)  
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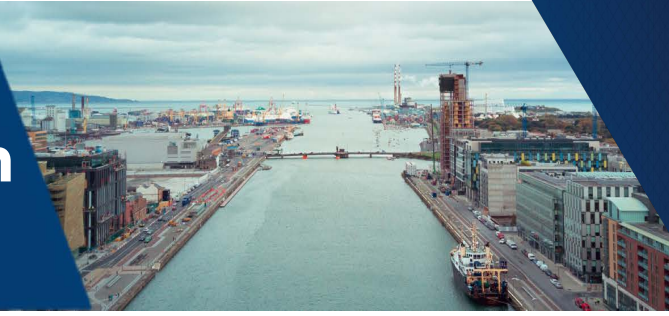
### APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at [www.ucd.ie/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/apply)



# MSc Architecture, Urbanism & Climate Action

One Year Full Time (September start)



## Introduction

Urban environments and their buildings are at once both acutely responsible for the climate crisis, and present some of the most achievable solutions. Climate action is urgently required to mitigate their environmental impact and unearth creative solutions. This MSc programme equips graduates and returning professionals with specialist skills to respond to the challenge of planning, designing, and actioning a sustainable built environment. The School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy (APEP) brings together four key disciplines to provide a unique graduate learning experience. Core modules are specifically designed to enhance

knowledge of Sustainable Development Goals, climate science and policy as well as skills for sustainable building and urban design. Options allows students choose from a wide range of architecture, planning and policy based modules, as well as energy and sustainability modules from around the University. The programme links in with prestigious national and EU funded research projects and industry collaborations. This facilitates students in furthering research and knowledge, and the programme has a track record of supporting careers in sustainable design practice, consultancy, policy and academia.

## Course Highlight

The UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy has an established international track record as a leading research centre in sustainable building and city research with large national and international funded projects. It is in the Top 150 QS World University Rankings by subject area, and has long led the way in architectural study and practice in Ireland.

## Course Content and Structure

### 90 credit taught masters

#### Core modules include:

- Climate, Carbon, Cities and Change
- Architecture in a Climate Emergency
- Geodesign for Urban Futures
- Urban Resilience and Ethics
- Research for Environmental Policy

#### Linked Research Project / Internship

This can take the following 3 forms:

- Placement with a linked employer
- Working on an established research project
- Individual study in a research area of the students choosing

#### Option modules include:

- Realising Built Projects
- Street Life: Urban Design Introduction
- Postgraduate Studio
- Retrofit Existing Buildings
- Energy Systems & Sustainable Environments
- Environmental Economics Practical
- Environmental Assessment Planning
- Society and Diversity
- Urban and Regional Development
- GIS for Policy and Planning Behavioural
- Economics: Policy Applications
- Carbon & Sustainability
- Urban Design Theory (UDT)
- Urban Design Studio
- Agency: Design / Build
- Concrete Research
- Air Pollution
- Tools for Sustainable Development
- Reimagining Dublin
- Remote Sensing
- Coastal Risks
- Climate Change Law and Policy
- Rural & Landscape Planning
- Housing, Planning & Sustainability

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate education

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### Global careers

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## Career Opportunities

The range of climate change response, and environmental sustainability, related careers is broadening. This sector is set to expand rapidly in coming years. This MSc gives students a unique set of skills to allow them stay ahead of the curve and apply for exciting and fulfilling job opportunities. Potential careers include sustainable architecture and practice, sustainability consultancy, engineering consultancy, energy efficiency agency, public and environmental policy, sustainable development, energy supply and management and NGOs. This MSc has a track record of providing a springboard to exciting careers in research and academia. It allows students pursue a range of further research opportunities into architectural and urban design aspects of climate action. High achieving masters students will also be invited to continue onto PhD study in UCD either via in-house project opportunities or by applying for funding through national funding schemes.

## Programme Academic

Dr. Oliver Kinnane



I established this masters programme because I believe strongly that we need to act now to dramatically reduce the unsustainable stresses we are placing on our planet. To achieve this we need graduates who will act for change. Particularly we need to change how we design, construct and live-in our buildings and cities. We need to establish an urbanism that is sparing of energy and natural resources. I am an avid researcher and educator. I studied both engineering and architecture and have worked in energy, industrial and product design. I run national and international research projects that evaluate unsustainable practice and design and develop solutions. My teaching is primarily research led particularly at graduate level. My research is essentially transdisciplinary, drawing on a wide range of interests and a multidisciplinary background.

## Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a primary undergraduate degree with a minimum upper second class honours (NFQ level 8; minimum GPA 3.08) or international equivalent in subjects related to the built environment including architecture, urban design, engineering, environmental sciences, or humanity degrees involving social or natural sciences.
- 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.
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## Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- ME Energy Systems
- Master of Architecture
- MSc Environmental Technology
- MSc Urban Design & Planning
- MSc Sustainable Energy & Green Technologies

### CONTACT US

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**W:** [www.ucd.ie/global](http://www.ucd.ie/global)

### APPLY NOW

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# Master of Regional & Urban Planning

Two Years Full Time\*



## Introduction

In today's complex and rapidly changing world, with the threats posed by climate change, economic crisis 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 two-year professional planning degree develops the requisite conceptual knowledge and practical skills required by planners in this increasingly complex environment. You 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. The Master of Regional and Urban Planning (MRUP) is accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Irish Planning Institute (IPI) and these qualifications are recognised internationally.

## Course Highlight

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 and has an exchange programme with the University of Illinois in Chicago.

## Course Content and Structure

- 120 credits taught masters
- 100 credits taught modules
- 20 credits research project
- or
- 20 credits professional work experience

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 chose to undertake either an internship, or an academic research project during the Summer trimester.

### Modules include:

- Urban Design Studio
- Planning Studio: Plan Making
- Planning, Society and Diversity
- Placemaking
- Geographical Information Systems for Policy and Planning
- Economics and Property Markets
- Research Design & Methods
- Urban and Regional Development
- Leadership, Development and Project Management
- Rural and Landscape Planning
- Planning Law
- Governing Nature
- Sustainable Cities
- Transport, Environment & Sustainability
- Planning, Environment & Public Policy
- Planning Methodology
- Housing Policy, Planning, & Sustainability

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate education

12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



### Global community

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### Global Profile

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



### Global careers

Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland



IRISH PLANNING  
INSTITUTE  
Institiúid Pleanála Na hÉireann

\* Please note this programme is currently undergoing a structural review and will be changing to a 1 year full time programme. Further information will be available in due course at [www.ucd.ie/graduatestudies.ie](http://www.ucd.ie/graduatestudies.ie) or to find out more please email [eamarketing@ucd.ie](mailto: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, John Spain 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 bachelor's degree with a minimum upper second class honours (NFQ Level 8) or international equivalent in any academic field, but with a preference for fields of study related to planning.

- 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 and Scholarships

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### Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- MSc Urban Design and Planning
- MSc Environmental Policy
- MSc Environmental Science
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

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#### APPLY NOW

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# MSc Urban Design and Planning

One Year Full Time (September start)



## Introduction

Urban design lies at the interface of architecture and urban planning, with both disciplines contributing contrasting but complementary approaches to urban design theory and practice. The delivery of this master's programme draws on the distinct methodologies, professional perspectives and pedagogies of both urban planning and architectural disciplinary areas within the school. It provides specialist knowledge and skills in urban design theory and practice, urban conservation, nature-based solutions, and the relationship between research and design. The programme will enable graduates to work as part of a multidisciplinary team to create better places through urban design. Students will also have the opportunity to

draw upon the School's research expertise to place urban design centre stage in tackling a range of pressing environmental and other issues. The programme will appeal to graduates from closely related disciplinary backgrounds wishing to specialise in urban design, including those with qualifications in architecture, landscape architecture, and planning. Applications will also be considered from graduates with other related disciplinary backgrounds (e.g. geography, engineering, property economics, surveying) where the applicant has a particular interest the specialist area of urban design (as opposed to planning more broadly). This programme is accredited as a specialist qualification by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).

## Course Highlight

The UCD School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy has an established international track record as a leading research centre in spatial planning. The School is a member of the Association of European Schools of Planning.

## Course Content and Structure

### ● 90 total credits

- 60 credits taught modules
- 30 credits thesis/design thesis

All students undertake modules worth 90 credits. These establish the context and theory for urban design, provide the opportunity for engagement with core themes within a studio-based context, introduce key research skills, and allow students to pursue their own specialist interest through the completion of a thesis. Please note that some modules listed may not be available in a given year.

### Modules include:

- Conservation History, Theory & Policy
- Nature-Based Solutions Postgraduate
- Studio
- Urban Design Studio
- Research Design & Methods
- Placemaking
- Planning, Environment & Public Policy
- Housing, Planning & Sustainability
- Urban and Regional Development
- Planning Law
- Rural & Landscape Planning
- Urban Design Theory
- Thesis or Design Thesis

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate education

12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



### Global community

9,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



### Global Profile

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### Global careers

Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland







UCD.TG.W332.2023.A

## Career Opportunities

The MSc Urban Design and Planning is aimed at graduates from related disciplinary and professional backgrounds wishing to specialise in urban design and planning. The programme is therefore designed to train, mentor and support graduates in developing their specialist knowledge and understanding, along with transferable skills and tools, for careers related to the field. These include roles in the public, private and community sectors, including planning and urban design consultancies, local authorities, development firms, regeneration companies, environmental and other NGOs, as well as research and teaching.

## Graduate Profile

Róisín Cahill  
Henry J Lyons



## Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a primary degree with minimum upper second class honours award (NFQ level 8) or international equivalent in planning, architecture or landscape architecture. Applications from graduates with a degree in another related subject area will also be considered, including geography, engineering, property economics, and surveying.
- 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 and Scholarships

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### Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- Master of Regional & Urban Planning
- MSc Environmental Policy
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

"The MSc in Urban Design and Planning is well balanced in both structure and content providing a strong foundation for the workplace. I found the masters supportive of developing a range of skills and interests throughout each term. The design studio modules provide a space for testing and investigating the learnings from the theory modules. The final term thesis allows for an in-depth study into an area of interest that you have already explored through theory and studio modules in the previous terms. The mixed disciplinary faculty and students in the programme offer additional perspectives and knowledge while regular in class presentations allow for strengthening graphic communication and presentation skills. Since graduating from MSc Urban Design and Planning I have worked as a research assistant in an Architecture practice in Dublin and have found the critical analysis and graphic communication skills I developed during my masters in UCD to be a great benefit."

### CONTACT US

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# MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

One year full time / Two years part time



## Introduction

The capacity to develop planning and urban design solutions, to analyse them critically and to provide guidance in regard to their implementation is one for which there is a growing demand. Furthermore, urban design lies at the interface of architecture and urban planning, with both disciplines contributing complementary but contrasting approaches to urban design theory and practice. In this context, the MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design has been specifically tailored to enable fully-qualified architects to further develop, build upon and enhance relevant pre-existing professional knowledge,

understanding, and skills, to specialise in both spatial planning and urban design. The programme also draws upon the particular research strengths of the School, providing students with the opportunity to engage with innovative approaches to sustainable and resilient urbanism, exploring emerging challenges surrounding the role of urban design in mitigating or adapting to climate change, in promoting 'healthy' cities or neighbourhoods, and the incorporation of 'nature' into design (e.g. nature-based solutions) to address habitat fragmentation and biodiversity loss.

## Course Highlight

The School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy offers dedicated studio space for its students, a dedicated architecture library and map room, access to fully equipped computer facilities, a building laboratory space with a wide range of equipment including laser cutters and a CNC router, and access to monitoring and simulation equipment in the Earth Institute.

## Course Content and Structure

### 90 total credits

### 60 credits taught modules

### 30 credits thesis

This is an intensive, taught graduate programme (90 ECTS), comprising core modules in spatial planning, and in the specialist area of urban design, encompassing key areas of theory and practice, three major studio modules, research methods training, a thesis/design thesis, and professional development skills training. For full-time students, the programme is one year's duration (three semesters/12 months), and lectures, studios, etc., take place throughout the week. For part-time study options, please contact the college admissions office ([eamarketing@ucd.ie](mailto:eamarketing@ucd.ie)) for further details.

### Modules may include:

- Planning Methodology
- Planning Society and Diversity
- Urban and Regional Development
- Street Life: Urban Design Intro
- Plan-Making Studio
- Planning Law
- Urban Design Studio
- Nature-Based Solutions
- Research Design and Methods
- Thesis or Design Thesis

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## Career Opportunities

Graduates will have the option of continuing a career in architectural practice, but with a specialism in the sought-after areas of spatial planning and urban design. However, alternative career paths include roles in the public, private and community sectors, including planning and urban design consultancies, local authorities, development firms, regeneration companies, and environmental and other NGOs.

## Programme Director

Dr. Arthur Parkinson



## Applicant Profile

- ◆ The programme is open to Architects on the RIAI Register of Architects or persons eligible to seek registration as an architect in Ireland without further assessment.
- ◆ 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.

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- MSc Urban Design and Planning
- MSc Environmental Policy

The MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design aims to educate, train, mentor and support qualified architects to up-skill through specialisation in both urban design and spatial planning. A mix of learning and assessment strategies are employed, notably including studio-based learning, which will also include the involvement of leading practitioners to ensure that students acquire key 'industry-ready' urban design skills. Given that the programme may be of interest to mid-career architects, the programme is offered on a part-time basis, in recognition of the demands of professional practice, allowing these students to continue practising part-time alongside their studies.

### CONTACT US

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**W:** [www.ucd.ie/global](http://www.ucd.ie/global)

### APPLY NOW

This programme receives significant interest so please apply early online at [www.ucd.ie/apply](http://www.ucd.ie/apply)

# MSc Environmental Policy

One Year Full Time / Two Years Part Time



## Introduction

Societies, governments, and businesses across the globe are faced with increasingly complex environmental challenges, in areas such as climate change and adaptation and local environmental quality in our cities and regions.

The UCD MSc in Environmental Policy arms graduates with the capacity to develop environmental policy choices, analyse them critically, and to provide guidance in regard to their implementation and evaluation. The programme introduces graduates to research-based economic and environmental tools and insights to enable graduates to be effective change management leaders and

management leaders and environmental and sustainability experts in both the public and private sectors.

Also for professionals who want to balance their passion for the environment while advancing their career this programme is offered as a two-year part-time degree. The part-time program is scheduled to be completed over two years with one or two modules (10 credits per module) per semester. Part-time students join the full-time students for the classes and hence can meet two cohorts of the full-time MSc programme.

## Course Highlight

UCD Environmental Policy has an established international track record as a leading research centre in environmental policy and is in the Top 150 QS World University Rankings by subject area. Students may also choose to undertake either a thesis, an internship, or an academic research project during the Summer trimester.

## Course Content and Structure

### 90 total credits

60 credits taught modules

30 credits thesis, internship or academic research project

All students undertake 90 credits across a range of modules that help them develop foundational knowledge and skills in policymaking, and equip them to employ these new skills to manage a diverse range of contemporary environmental challenges. In addition to taught modules, students undertake a practice-based studio module, and can also pursue their own specialist interest through completion of a thesis, an internship, or an academic research project.

Part-time students have 4 trimesters to complete the 6 taught modules and complete their Thesis/internship/Research Project in the summer of the second year.

### Core Modules include:

- Tools for Sustainable Development
- Environment and Development
- European Environmental Policy
- Environmental Economics and Climate Policy
- Research for Environmental Policy
- Tools for Sustainable Development

Please see [www.ucd.ie/graduatestudies](http://www.ucd.ie/graduatestudies) for full module descriptions.

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate education

12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



### Global community

9,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



### Global Profile

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



### Global careers

Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland

\* The accredited version of this programme, MSc Environmental Policy (W271) is a 'Specialist Degree' accredited by the UK's Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and is only available to UCD students progressing from UCD's Planning, Geography and Environmental Policy or City Planning & Environmental Policy degrees. All other eligible applicants should apply for the non - accredited version, MSc Environmental Policy (W269).





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## Career Opportunities

To date, our graduates have been very successful in gaining employment in environment related fields in a diverse range of public and private organisations and NGOs. Recent graduates are now working nationally and internationally for example at Ernst & Young, KPMG, Arup, EnvEcon, ERM, Environmental Efficiency, MyCarbon, AECOM, Kingspan, ERINN Innovation, Wind Energy Ireland, Irish Water, IDA Ireland, Irish Green Building Council, An Post, An Taisce, daa, CRH, European Climate Foundation, and County Councils. The alumni are working in a range of environmental positions such as Sustainability Analyst, Graduate Sustainability Consultant, Sustainability Project Officer, Agricultural Social Researcher, Senior Energy Consultant, Risk Consulting Associate, Carbon Consultant, Sustainable Construction Officer, and Transport Analytics Executive. Our graduates have also gone on to pursue further study (PhDs).

## Graduate Profile

Jiaqi Wu



Academically, this master's programme allowed me to think about contemporary environmental issues from an international perspective. I had the opportunity to meet many students and professors from different backgrounds and countries, driving me to understand the environmental issues in diverse regions and from different viewpoints. My classmates also come from different professional backgrounds, including architecture, economics, computer science, linguistics, etc. We came together to try methods to alleviate future climate change and environmental problems. This is very similar to real society because environmental issues are complex and diverse, which means that we need multiple departments to cooperate. Therefore, students after graduation can go to administrative departments, legal institutions, design companies or NGOs.

## Applicant Profile

- Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree with a minimum upper second class honours (NFQ level 8) or international equivalent in a social science or a cognate discipline such as environmental science, law, business or engineering.
- 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 and Scholarships

Tuition fee information is available on [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://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/global/scholarships/](http://www.ucd.ie/global/scholarships/) for further information.

### Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- Masters of Regional & Urban Planning
- MSc Environmental Science
- MSc Urban Design & Planning
- MSc Planning, Development & Urban Design

### CONTACT US

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# ProfDip Foundations of Sustainable Development

1 trimester (Sept start) or 2 Trimesters (Sept or Jan start)

## Introduction

The stability of the Earth as a system is currently at risk as five of the nine planetary boundaries - describing the environmental limits within which humanity as a species may continue to thrive - have now been exceeded. The practice of sustainability is crucial to our management of life under water, life on land, the environment, and for societal health and wellbeing now and in the future. Utilising the digital resources of the SDG Academy and the sustainability expertise of UCD academic staff, the Professional Diploma in

Foundations of Sustainable Development is taught through the lens of the SDGs and has the unique ability to address the large range of issues covered by the 2030 agenda. Ultimately, it will equip students to solve some of the most pressing issues of our times. Students who complete the programme will emerge with a holistic understanding of the core tenets of sustainable development across the four pillars of the Sustainable Development Goals - economic, social, and environmental, and governance.

## Course Highlight

The programme is flexible and delivered online. It also provides students who complete the programme with a pathway for entry onto UCD's online MSc Sustainable Development programme.

## Course Content and Structure

The Professional Diploma in Foundations of Sustainable Development is a 20-credit programme consisting of two core 10-credit modules

The programme is fully online ensuring a flexible learning environment for students.

The programme also utilises the best available online sustainability education resources from global experts and is delivered in partnership with the UNSDSN SDG Academy (<https://sdgacademy.org/>)

### Modules offered

- **Global classroom:** a module specifically designed to introduce students to sustainable development issues in developed and developing nations across the globe.
- **Fundamentals of Sustainability:** a module comprised of three SDG Academy MOOCs that will be delivered and delivered as an on-demand educational offering via the edX platform (<https://www.edx.org/>).

## Why study at UCD?



### Graduate education

12,800 graduate students; 17% graduate research students; structured PhDs



### Global community

9,500 international students and a 300,000 alumni network across 165 countries



### Global Profile

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



### Global careers

Dedicated careers support; 2-year stayback visa to work in Ireland





## Career Opportunities

Graduates of the Professional Diploma in Foundations of Sustainable Development may have the following career opportunities:

- As a sustainability expert in corporate entities
- Almost all NGOs now require expertise in sustainability
- Environmental corporate governance (e.g. ESG)
- Education for sustainable development careers
- Sustainability consultant

## Module Coordinator

Prof Patrick Paul Walsh

*VP of Education at SDSN and  
Director of its SDG Academy*



## Entry Requirements

- A primary degree with at least Second Class Honours Grade II (2H2) or equivalent in a relevant subject such as planning, political science, international relations, social science, sociology, history, geography, economics, global studies, public policy, development studies, EU studies, law.
- 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.

### Tuition Fees

Tuition fee information is available on [www.ucd.ie/fees](http://www.ucd.ie/fees).

### Related Masters Programmes of Interest

- MSc Sustainable Development
- MSc Environmental Policy

"The global labour force needs to re- and upskill at speed to put the world on a pathway to sustainable development, and professionals need to understand the intersection of science, policy, and practice. That's why University College Dublin and the SDG Academy have created this innovative online Master's pathway for all learners across government, corporates and civil society to earn a Professional Diploma in Foundations of Sustainable Development. You can enter the pathway with or without professional experience in the field of sustainable development, and emerge ready to take part in the transition to a sustainable future."

### CONTACT US

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**RISING**  
TO THE  
**FUTURE**  
UCD Strategy 2020-2024

**UCD ARCHITECTURE,  
PLANNING &  
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**



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