



City Planning &
Environmental Policy
Open Day

14th January 2023
Register at
www.myUCD.ie



UCD CITY PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

**UNDERGRADUATE
COURSE ENTRY 2023**



UCD CITY PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY (DN130)

BSc (Hons) (NFQ Level 8), MRUP or MSc (NFQ Level 9)

INTRODUCTION

UCD Planning is part of the oldest, largest and most respected School of Architecture, Planning & Environmental Policy in Ireland. Planning and Environmental Policy at UCD enjoys a strong international reputation with the BSc in City Planning & Environmental Policy accredited by both the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Irish Planning Institute (IPI).

Our degree in City Planning & Environmental Policy is about solving complex issues that we experience in our everyday lives. How can we provide housing for everyone? How can we reduce our climate impact and conserve our natural environment? Where should we build our schools and shops?

This unique degree brings together a focus on the city, the environment and design and links them with clear routes to professions and careers. So, if you are considering a career as a qualified planner, urban designer or environmental policy analyst this degree is for you. These professions allow you to visualise new patterns and ideas for cities and to bring this vision to reality by activating social change and promoting sustainable development. This course gives you the skills to enable real world change.

INTERNATIONAL STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Students have the opportunity in their third year to spend a year studying abroad either inside or outside Europe. Students who opt for this international experience will complete their undergraduate studies in four years (rather than three).

Minimum CAO Points Required

2022: 455 (*Round 1*)

2021: 420 (*Final Round*)

Length of Course

3 Years (BSc)(Hons)

+ 1 Year CPEP International (optional)

+ 1 Year Master's programme (optional)

CAO Places Available

29

Entry Requirements

- English (O6/H7)
- Irish (O6/H7)
- Mathematics (O6/H7)
- Three other recognised subjects (O6/H7)

HEAR/DARE Access Routes

Yes, see www.ucd.ie/all/cometoucd/applying/heardare/

A-Level/GCSE

Yes, see www.ucd.ie/alevel

Level 5/6 QQI-FET Entry Route

None

Level 6/7 Progression Entry Route

None

Mature Entry Route

Yes, see www.ucd.ie/maturestudents

Open Learning Entry Route

Yes, see www.ucd.ie/openlearning

KEY FEATURES



Accredited by both the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Irish Planning Institute (IPI)



Unique facilities including dedicated planning & design studios, computer labs and the Geospatial Analysis Lab (GeoSAL)



Home to Ireland's best Architecture, Planning and Map Library



Home to 30+ years of Environmental Policy programmes



Leading Research Centre in Spatial Planning and Environmental Policy



Celebrating 50 years of Planning education



Member of the Association of European Schools of Planning

WHAT'S ON OFFER THROUGH CITY PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IN UCD?

As this is a programme focused on tackling real world issues, you will engage with real world topics from the outset. This involves field trips, studio work and pioneering case study analysis. Emphasis is placed on integrating understanding with imagination so that students learn to formulate and test innovative solutions to the planning and environmental challenges facing society. A small class size and the interactive learning environment ensures an enjoyable experience that stimulates creativity and ownership of your career path.

UCD produces planners, designers and environmental policy experts skilled at addressing pressing global, national and local social, political, economic and

environmental issues. Therefore, we continually review and update the content of our programme to maintain the high calibre of graduates produced by the School. The School promotes a research-led teaching approach whereby cutting-edge research undertaken by staff feeds seamlessly into lectures. This process is advanced by a teaching team that enjoys an international reputation for consistently producing path-defining research. A key feature of the programme is the delivery of lectures by practising planners and environmental policy experts at the vanguard of their professions. The inclusion of teaching by such field-shaping practitioners ensures that students are continually exposed to leading-edge practice, thereby favourably positioning the School's graduates in the employment market.

EDUCATIONAL MODEL

The City Planning & Environmental Policy degree integrates subjects which will deepen and broaden your understanding of the environmental, social and economic dimensions of sustainable development. The programme is delivered in two parts:

In **Part 1** you will be provided with a comprehensive introduction to Spatial Planning and Environmental Change & Policy by taking an array of core modules. You will begin to develop your awareness of the physical layout and design of urban areas while you deepen your knowledge of environmental policy and the tools to effect change.

Part 2 is the time for acquiring practical knowledge and skills. You will develop a more in-depth understanding of the how to plan for positive change by exploring the interactions and interdependencies of land use, transportation and urban design, as well as social and economic issues.

You will also acquire practical communication and analytical skills, in addition to competency in geographic information systems (GIS).

First Year: Introduction to Spatial Planning • Environmental Change & Policy • History of City Planning • Urban Design • Environmental Economics • Inequality & Social Justice in Irish Society • Planning & Development Studio

Second Year: Local Planning Studio • Community Development & Planning • Geographical Information Systems • Smart Cities • Urban & Regional Economics • Case Studies in Environmental Policy • Social Spatial Dynamics • Rural Change, Development & Planning

Third Year: Environmental Management • Climate Policy & Politics • Place Making • Planning Law • Rural & Landscape Planning • Energy Transitions • Planning, Society & Diversity

Career & graduate study opportunities

A degree in City Planning & Environmental Policy provides you with both strong analytical skills and the ability to think critically about the built and natural environment. In addition, this degree has received 'spatial' accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute and is accredited by the Irish Planning Institute and thus provides a route to becoming a professional planner.

The final step towards your career as a planner, urban designer or environmental policy analyst is to complete a one-year specialist Master's in Planning at UCD. The School provides three Master's Programme options that fulfill this purpose:

- Master's in Regional and Urban Planning
- MSc in Environmental Policy
- MSc in Urban Design and Planning

Graduates of UCD City Planning & Environmental Policy can find employment both in Ireland and internationally.

While the traditional employers of graduates are city and county councils, many graduates have found rewarding employment in private sector consultancies, multinational businesses, a variety of governmental bodies and NGOs. Salaries equal and commonly exceed those of other built environment professions.

Planners are currently in high demand, meaning that those who graduate as a fully qualified planner can expect to quickly find well paid employment.



Evan Rossiter

Current Student

Why did you choose to study at UCD? I chose this course because I had a wide array of interests, particularly in geography and the environment, and there was no other course that combined my interests as well as this one. UCD has amazing facilities and the staff seemed friendly and helpful. Also, class size was a big thing for me because I came from a very small secondary school, so having only about 30 in my whole year has really

helped me settle into university life. I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience here at UCD and hope to complete a masters here next year.

Does this course have good career opportunities? There is a vast array of careers that can potentially come out of this degree such as being a planner or urban designer but personally, I'm looking into environmental consultancy as environmental policy has always been a big interest of mine. There are jobs both in the private and public sector associated with this degree as sustainable development and the impact of the built environment is increasing in importance. UCD also provides multiple opportunities for you to establish connections with potential future employers such as career fairs, internships, and guest lecturers.

Does UCD provide enough supports to students? During my time at UCD I have been extremely well supported as a student. The university provides counselling services, writing centres and numerous other services which assisted me greatly throughout my degree. The staff are also incredibly approachable, understanding and assisted me through many difficult situations.

Did you get involved with any student clubs and societies? Yes, the multitude of sports clubs and societies helped me to immerse into the college experience, develop my thoughts and character and pursue my passions. The planning and environmental policy society, UCD Ultimate Frisbee and the Triathlon clubs were particularly pivotal.



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