



City Planning &  
Environmental Policy  
Open Day

15th January 2022  
Register at  
[www.myUCD.ie](http://www.myUCD.ie)



# UCD CITY PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

**UNDERGRADUATE  
COURSE ENTRY 2022**





# 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 an employment focused programme, so if you are considering a career as a professionally qualified planner, urban designer or environmental policy analyst this degree is for you.

This exciting programme is about solving complex issues that we experience in our everyday lives. Where should we build our schools, shops and stadiums? What can we do to conserve our unique natural environment? How can we protect our cultural heritage? Planners, environmental policy experts and urban designers tackle such issues on a daily basis. They do so by promoting sustainable development to improve our quality of life and enhance the natural environment. If you would like to make a positive difference to how our world works, then this programme is for you.

## 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).

## 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

### Minimum CAO Points Required

2020: 390

2021: 424

### Length of Course

3 Years (BSc)(Hons)

+ 1 Year CPEP International (optional)

+ 1 Year Master's programme (optional)

### Places

31

### Entry Requirements

- English
- Irish
- Mathematics
- Three other recognised subjects

### A-Level/GCSE

Yes, see [www.ucd.ie/myucd/alevel](http://www.ucd.ie/myucd/alevel)

### Open Learning Pathway

Yes, see [www.ucd.ie/openlearning](http://www.ucd.ie/openlearning)

### Mature Entry Route

Yes, see [www.ucd.ie/maturestudents](http://www.ucd.ie/maturestudents)

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

Most of this programme is delivered in the scenic Richview Campus. Here you will experience a lively environment of inspiring creativity and stimulating diversity. 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.

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

The lecture programme can be grouped under two themes:

**Planning:** urban and rural planning; community planning; transportation; GIS; understanding landscape; placemaking

**Environment:** sustainability; environmental change and management; working with natural processes

Field trips, studios and interactive guided discussions are employed across these themes and in both parts of the programme. A combination of continuous assessment and end-of trimester written examinations is used.

### 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.

If you are thinking about a career as a planner, you would only need to complete a one-year specialist Master's Programme following this degree. 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.



### Sally O' Sullivan, Graduate

I have always had a keen interest in the urban environment, how the world surrounding us works and the impact it has on our daily lives. For that reason, studying Planning & Environmental Policy at UCD was a perfect choice for me. The course exposed me to a wide range of topics including planning policy, housing, transport planning, urban economics and many more. Two years into my degree, I chose to study abroad for a year at the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign which was a life changing experience. Following my undergraduate degree, I went on to do the one year Master of Regional and Urban Planning degree. The knowledge and skills that I gained throughout my studies at UCD have been invaluable in preparing me for my current career as a Planning Consultant.



### Paris Farren, Graduate

From a young age I have been fascinated by cities and how they function. Studying at UCD has allowed me to explore my interest by providing a wide range of subjects in environmental policy, planning and urban design. The course is very practical, with a lot of work taking place in studio and several field trips throughout the year. One of the modules, Comparative Planning, allows you to go to another European city, in my case it was Barcelona, and learn about their planning system. The degree in planning has fully equipped me with the essential skills and knowledge to start my career on the right foot.



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