



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



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Master's degree



Urban Design Master's Programme

Technische Universität Berlin • Berlin

Overview

Degree	Master of Science in Urban Design
Teaching language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">English
Languages	All the compulsory courses are held in English. You can choose between English and German in the compulsory electives and optional courses.
Full-time / part-time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">full-time
Programme duration	4 semesters
Beginning	Winter semester
Additional information on beginning, duration and mode of study	https://www.tu.berlin/en/planen-bauen-umwelt/urban-design/urban-design-msc
Application deadline	15 May for the following winter semester
Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Combined Master's degree / PhD programme	No
Joint degree / double degree programme	Yes
Description/content	<p>The Master's degree programme in Urban Design at the Technische Universität Berlin encourages critical reflection when regarding cities in relation to their design. It is applied to urban systems and spaces from district to regional level. The Urban Design programme deals with urbanisation processes in an international context and covers both historical and current developments.</p> <p>The Master's course of study is aimed at students from different disciplines who wish to prepare for a career in a creative and scientific field of work, or who seek a key role in urban planning and public administration. The objective is to develop the skills of critical research-design: creative solutions for contemporary urban problems need to be scientifically sound and justified and to take into account the cultural, social and political conditions.</p> <p>Architects and planners often find that their knowledge and skills alone are insufficient for coping with the challenges and tasks involved in modern urbanisation processes. Urban design is an inter- and transdisciplinary field of knowledge at the interface of architecture, urban and regional</p>

planning, urban sociology, landscape architecture and environmental planning. This programme aims at the development and sharing of integrated knowledge. A wide range of courses provides access to the various disciplines. In addition, the interdisciplinary nature of urban design is reflected in the high level of student teamwork and exchanges in the context of design projects, the so-called labs and studios. Above all, methodologies are practised that reveal the high degree of complexity of tasks and enable the students to intervene in diverse contexts.

In cooperation with Tongji University in Shanghai, China, the Urban Design course of study is also offered as a dual degree Master's programme. Participants will spend the first year of study in Berlin and the second year in Shanghai.

Course Details

Course organisation

The Urban Design course of study is a consecutive Master's degree programme. Students who successfully complete the programme will be conferred the degree of "Master of Science in Urban Design". The standard period of study, including the Master's thesis, is four semesters. The study programme comprises 120 credit points (CP) after the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). The language of instruction is English.

Compulsory Courses

Urban Design Projects

The scientifically-grounded projects are practical problem-based assignments that approach current planning and design tasks holistically at the local, regional, national and international level.

The projects formulate complex tasks on the basis of specific urban development problems, through which a comprehensive urban design process can be trained as an example. These processes range from the systematic analysis of urban planning and the preparation and discussion of alternative usage and structure programmes and design concepts to exemplary design studies of the individual elements (exterior, building typology, transport, etc.) of an overall urban design.

Urban Design Methods and Tools

The Urban Design Methods and Tools module focuses on the scientific methods employed in the Master's disciplines of architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture and sociology and on possible ways of integrating these disciplines. The two modular parts are composed of sequences of methodological and theoretical input alternating with practical examples and exercises. The aim is to illustrate the interdisciplinary nature of urban design in research and practice. Critical design approaches and spatial research (i.e. research by design) will be discussed.

Introduction to Urban Design

This module focuses on planning and creative tasks that take into account the social context. Students will acquire in-depth knowledge of the history of urbanism and of the impact of social and societal structures on the image of cities and how they work. The module also provides insights into the political, economic, social and cultural conditions of urban planning processes at the national and international level. Students will develop thesis-related questions and issues according to the criteria of scientific and artistic work. They will strengthen their critical reflection skills in relation to urbanisation processes and their influencing factors. Students will learn systematic work on a topic through theoretical and analytical approaches and their textual, conceptual and design editing and specification.

Master's Thesis Colloquium

In the Master's thesis colloquium, students will learn how to do scientific and artistic work in theory and practice in order to prepare for the Master's thesis.

Compulsory Optional Courses

Students may choose compulsory optional modules from the catalogue in the Urban Design handbook. The available modules are comprised of four urban design relevant offers from the Master's courses in architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture and sociology.

Optional Courses

Optional courses may be selected from the entire curriculum of TU Berlin.

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A Diploma supplement will be issued	Yes
International elements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International guest lecturers • Study trips • Projects with partners in Germany and abroad • International comparisons and thematic reference to the international context • Content-related regional focus
Special promotion / funding of the programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DAAD
Name of DAAD funding programme	Integrierte internationale Studiengänge mit Doppelabschluss
Course-specific, integrated German language courses	No
Course-specific, integrated English language courses	No

Costs / Funding

Tuition fees per semester in EUR	None
Semester contribution	https://www.tu.berlin/en/studierendensekretariat/topics-a-z/semester-fees
Funding opportunities within the university	No

Requirements / Registration

Academic admission requirements	A condition for admission to Urban Design is a Bachelor's degree or equivalent diploma in architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture or a closely related field of study. A programme is closely related if at least 30 credits have been done in reference to architecture, urban and regional planning or landscape architecture. Of these 30 credits, 12 credits can be replaced with work experience in the above-mentioned fields.
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Language requirements

Proof of English language knowledge (minimum certificates):

- [TOEFL iBT](#), 87
- [TOEFL ITP](#), 543
- [Cambridge Certificate First \(FCE\)](#), min. B
- [IELTS Academic](#), min. 6.5
- [PTE Academic](#), min. 59
- [UNicert](#), Level II
- [English Certificate of ZEMS](#), B2 (in all areas of competence)
- [ZEMS Englisch-LV](#), B2 (successfully completed with ECTS)

All certificates may not be older than three years.

Online versions of TOEFL and IELTS (TOEFL iBT Home Edition and IELTS Indicator) are accepted.

The "Abitur" certificate will be recognised if a CEFR level for English is indicated. Otherwise the following is required:

- "Abitur, Leistungskurs Englisch", at least 11/15 points
- "Abitur," English language classes attended for at least seven years, at least 11/15 points

Exceptions:

- Citizens of countries with English as an official language
- Applicants with a graduate diploma with English as a teaching language

Application deadline

15 May for the following winter semester

Submit application to

<https://www.tu.berlin/en/i-a-office-of-student-affairs/masters-application-enrollment/application>

Services

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🌐 Course website: <https://www.tu.berlin/en/planen-bauen-umwelt/urban-design/urban-design-msc>

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Disclaimer

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