

# School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy (Ireland)

## Institutional Information (Last update at: 29/11/2016)

School/Department name (Native language)	School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy
AESOP reg Number	F-353-01
AESOP Member Status	Full Member
University	University College Dublin
Address	University College Dublin School of Architecture, Planning and Environmental Policy Richview, Clonskeagh 14 Dublin Ireland
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Web site	<a href="http://www.ucd.ie/aep/">www.ucd.ie/aep/</a>

## Contact persons

### Head of School / Department

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### AESOP Contact person

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## School Information

Full time academic staff members	23
Part time staff members	19
Staff members engaged in research	15
Staff members engaged in professional activities	25

## Degree Programmes and Educational Provision

### Undergraduate/first cycle degree(s) offered at School/Department

#### Bachelor of Arts - Planning, Geography & Environment

Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)	3
Part time option	No
Delivery mode	On campus
Number of ECTS	180
Teaching languages	English
Specialisation within in this Degree/the curriculum	No
The degree requires an assessed period of work in practice	No
Programme accreditation by a professional body/other institution	Yes
Curriculum/approach description	<p>If you are interested in both the built and natural environment, and how human interaction impacts on that environment, a degree in Planning, Geography &amp; Environment offers you a unique opportunity to further your interests. The degree integrates subjects that will deepen and broaden your understanding of environmental, social and economic issues, and set these in a practical policy.</p> <p>A degree in Planning, Geography &amp; Environment provides you with strong analytical skills, as well as the ability to think critically about the built and natural environment. This degree provides the first steps to pursuing a career as a professional planner.</p>

### (Post)Graduate/masters or second cycle degree(s) offered at School/department

#### Masters in Regional and Urban Planning

Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)	2
Part time option	No
Delivery mode	On campus
Number of ECTS	120
Teaching languages	English

	Total students	National students	EU students	Non EU students
Number of students graduated 2007	43	41	1	1
Number of students graduated 2008	28	26	2	0

Number of students graduated 2009/10	Total students	National students	EU students	Non EU students
Masters in Regional and Urban Planning	36	2	0	

Specialisation within  
in this Degree/the  
curriculum

The degree requires  
an assessed period of  
work in practice

No

Programme  
accreditation by a  
professional  
body/other  
institution

Yes - RTPI and IPI

This is an Erasmus  
mundus programme

No

Curriculum/approach  
description

Who is the Masters in Regional and Urban Planning for?

Applications are welcome from graduates from any discipline, though undergraduate disciplines with a thematic link to Planning are preferred. The programme would also be suitable for those with a professional background in a field related to Planning who might wish to develop and broaden their skillset.

What will I learn?

The Masters in Regional and Urban Planning equips you with generic skills that will be valuable in many areas:

Spatial analytical skills  
Project management skills  
Negotiation, mediation and advocacy skills  
Organisational management and leadership skills  
Problem solving and decision making skills  
Communication skills - written, oral, graphic, and multi-media  
How will I benefit?

The Masters in Regional and Urban Planning is highly regarded by prospective employers and gives you a competitive advantage in the job market  
The course is taught by academic staff and planning practitioners. All of the staff of the School are active researchers and their research informs their teaching. The School has excellent links with planning practice and many part-time lecturers and studio staff are practitioners. This allows a unique interplay between academic and practitioner input.

What is the programme about?

The programme aims to produce graduates who are able to:

Think and act strategically with regard to the variety of spatial scales and spatial relationships that exist  
Think and act in an integrated fashion with regard to the interrelationships between different elements of spatial planning as well as the multi-faceted influences that impact on and influence spatial planning  
Think and act in an inclusive manner thus recognising the dynamic and complex nature of society in terms of its economic, social, political and cultural makeup  
Think and act in a sustainable manner thus seeking to manage environmental change in the short, medium and long terms and to deliver sustainable communities, settlements and places

MSc Environmental Policy

Number of years  
normally used to  
complete this  
degree(FT)

1

**Part time option** No  
**MSc Environmental Policy**

<b>Delivery mode</b>	On campus
<b>Number of ECTS</b>	90
<b>Teaching languages</b>	English
<b>Specialisation within in this Degree/the curriculum</b>	No
<b>The degree requires an assessed period of work in practice</b>	No
<b>Programme accreditation by a professional body/other institution</b>	Yes
<b>This is an Erasmus mundus programme</b>	No

Who is the MSc in Environmental Policy for?

Societies and governments across the globe are faced with increasingly complex environmental challenges, from climate change to local environmental quality in our cities and regions. Within this context, there is a growing demand for graduates with a capacity to develop environmental policy choices, to analyse them critically and to provide guidance in policy implementation.

The aim of the MSc in Environmental Policy is to provide students with the professional knowledge, skills and tools to equip them for a career in the environmental field while contributing to a more sustainable and resilient future. The MSc provides both introductory and specialised modules in Environmental Policy, and as such we welcome applicants from a diverse range of academic backgrounds including social sciences and arts, environmental sciences, law and business studies, and engineering.

What will I learn?

The MSc in Environmental Policy is designed to develop professional knowledge, skills and tools for environmental problem solving and for a successful career in the environmental field:

Professional Knowledge: environmental processes and change, policy and legal frameworks, social movements and the environment;

Professional Skills: leadership, problem-solving, team-working, research methods, communication and media skills, project management, strategic planning;

Professional Tools: policy analysis, GIS, environmental assessment, cost benefit analysis, environmental mediation, public participation, risk management.

How will I benefit?

**Curriculum/approach description**

The MSc in Environmental Policy will provide you with the skills and knowledge to understand environmental challenges and to provide innovative, creative and socially just solutions for managing environmental change. Within the degree programme you will develop practical and transferable skills including environmental assessment, policy evaluation, GIS, project management and strategic planning skills. The programme aims to combine theoretical knowledge and professional skills development and this is reflected in our teaching approach, which draws on lectures, seminars, project-based learning, lab-based instruction and independent study with experienced academic staff and input from policy-makers and industry.

What is the programme about

The MSc Environmental Policy is specifically aimed at those people wishing to gain expertise in relation to contemporary environmental challenges and potential policy solutions. You will gain insights into understanding a range of environmental issues at different spatial scales including:

At the global scale: debates surrounding climate change and transitioning to a low carbon future;  
 At the city and regional scale: challenges in developing more sustainable and resilient cities and regions, the management of environmental risks and the relationship between the environment

<b>MSc Environmental Policy</b>	<p>and quality of life; At the ecosystem scale: issues surrounding the management of land-use, natural resources, biodiversity and habitats.</p> <p>You will develop an understanding of the practical dimension of policy-making, implementation and evaluation, and gain an ability to apply cutting edge policy solutions to range of environmental challenges. This includes understanding key legal and governance frameworks for environmental policy, environmental economics, applying concepts of environmental justice, and public participation and environmental mediation. Key features of the MSc include the transfer of leading edge research into our teaching and the development of an interdisciplinary learning environment to provide you with a holistic and integrated perspective on environmental policy-making.</p>
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## MSc in Urban Design and Planning

<b>Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)</b>	1
<b>Part time option</b>	No
<b>Delivery mode</b>	On campus
<b>Number of ECTS</b>	90
<b>Teaching languages</b>	English
<b>Specialisation within in this Degree/the curriculum</b>	
<b>The degree requires an assessed period of work in practice</b>	No
<b>Programme accreditation by a professional body/other institution</b>	Yes, Royal Town Planning Institute
<b>This is an Erasmus mundus programme</b>	No

## Curriculum/approach description

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. This Masters programme is focused on the role of urban design in the context of urban planning, and is delivered with an emphasis on the distinct methodologies, professional perspectives and pedagogies of that discipline.

It provides specialist knowledge and skills in: urban design theory; urban conservation; risk, resilience and sustainability; as well as social science research methods applied to the built environment. 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 specialist research and teaching in environmental policy, to place urban design centre-stage in tackling wider environmental risks.

This programme will equip planners and others working in related areas with the capacity to develop urban design solutions, to analyse them critically and to provide guidance in regards to their implementation one for which there is a growing demand. This includes traditional urban design concerns surrounding the urban public realm, residential quality etc., but also emerging challenges surrounding the role of urban design in mitigating or adapting to climate change, the role of design in promoting 'healthy' cities or neighbourhoods, and the incorporation of 'nature' into design (e.g. bio-mimicry) to address biodiversity loss.

**MSc in Urban Design and Planning** The MSc Urban Design & Planning is accredited as a specialist qualification by the Royal Town Planning Institute.

## Doctoral/PhD education offered at School/department

### PhD Geography / Planning / Environmental Policy

**Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)**

4

**Part time option**

No

**Delivery mode**

On campus

**Number of ECTS**

**Teaching languages**

English

**Specialisation within in this Degree/the curriculum**

**Curriculum/approach description**

The School of GPEP operates a Structured PhD programme which is the default programme in the College of Human Sciences. This has proven to be highly successful and enables our PhD students to achieve the best possible experience of graduate research and training. Making a substantial and original contribution to knowledge, normally leading to peer-reviewed publications, remains the core objective of doctoral studies in the School. We offer structured PhDs in each of the major disciplinary areas of the School