

School of Planning and Geography (United Kingdom)

Institutional Information (Last update at: 24/01/2014)

School/Department name (Native language)	School of Planning and Geography
AESOP reg Number	F-044-03
AESOP Member Status	Full Member
University	Cardiff University
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Contact persons

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School Information

Full time academic staff members
Part time staff members
Staff members engaged in research
Staff members engaged in professional activities

Degree Programmes and Educational Provision

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

BSc in City and Regional Planning

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**

**The degree requires
an assessed period of
work in practice** Yes One year

**Programme
accreditation by a
professional
body/other
institution** Yes

**Curriculum/approach
description**

The BSc City and Regional Planning is a spatial planning degree that is recognised by both the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

The degree provides the essential foundations for anyone working in planning, development and the built environment. It covers essential introductory material covering the social, economic and environmental dimensions of planning, and equips students with the knowledge and skills for planning practice.

The BSc in City and Regional Planning is available from September 2012 as both a three-year degree and as a four-year sandwich degree with a placement year in practice in the third year. The practical experience gained during the placement contributes towards the minimum practical experience requirements of the professional bodies for their Assessment of Professional Competence (APC).

Students who successfully complete the BSc City and Regional Planning are eligible to register as a licentiate member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Students also seeking membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute can apply to one of the School's Specialist Masters in an area of City and Regional Planning, specialising in urban design, transport, housing, regeneration or sustainability. The undergraduate degree and specialist masters together provide the requirements to register as a licentiate member of the Royal Town Planning Institute.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/undergraduate/bssccityandregionalplanning/index.html>

BSc Geography (Human) and Planning

**Number of years
normally used to
complete this
degree(FT)** 3

Part time option No

Delivery mode On campus

Number of ECTS

Teaching languages

**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** No

**Curriculum/approach
description**

The BSc Geography (Human) and Planning offers students the opportunity to study a combination of human geography and planning at degree level. The course has been designed to provide students with a solid grasp of planning trends and processes and their geographical contexts. Students will gain an understanding of global, national and local processes of change, key environmental, social, cultural, political and economic trends and the role that planning plays in shaping their effects on different places. The course examines the changing nature of spaces and places, the relationship between society and space, and the roles of the state.

The course teaches a number of conceptual and practical skills, which will enable graduates to enter a range of professions in the public and private sectors.

The design of this course is linked to the research expertise of the School. It is possible to develop certain specialisms as the course unfolds, such as cultural geography, economic development, housing or transport.

BSc Geography (Human) and Planning The combination of a general overview of human geography and planning linked to a research specialism allows students to cover a wide academic range while also following their own particular interests. Students take a range of core geography and planning modules.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/undergraduate/bscgeographyplanning/index.html>

BSc in Geography (Human)

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

3

Part time option

No

Delivery mode

On campus

Number of ECTS

Teaching languages

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

Curriculum/approach description

Geography is one of the most popular social sciences because it addresses pressing global, social and environmental trends, and engages with the major intellectual issues and policy questions of our age. This new degree, available for entry from September 2012, allows students to specialise in human geography without the need to study physical geography.

The first year provides a foundation in human geography as well as skills in research methods. Students learn about the historical development of human geography and its key contemporary themes. This provides the building blocks for years two and three. The first year also has an introductory field trip.

In the second year students are introduced to geographical ideas, philosophies and concepts that inform current human geography, as well as issues concerned with cultural, economic, social, and political geography. Training is also provided to enable students to undertake their research dissertation. The second year has a UK field trip.

In the third year students will complete their research dissertation and engage with contemporary debates in human geography. Students will then have a choice of several optional modules, enabling them to specialise in particular areas of human geography. The third year includes an overseas field trip.

Good graduates will be eligible to proceed to Masters degrees offered by the School, including the MSc Geography, Policy and Practice, or PhD study.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/undergraduate/bscgeography/index.html>

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

Geography, Policy and Practice (MSc)

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

1

Part time option

No

Delivery mode

On campus

Number of ECTS

Teaching languages

English

Specialisation within

**in this Degree/the
Geography, Policy and Practice (MSc)
curriculum****The degree requires
an assessed period of
work in practice** No**Programme
accreditation by a
professional
body/other
institution****This is an Erasmus
mundus programme** No

Study critical debates on policy and civil society from the local to the global.

The MSc in Geography, Policy and Practice offers a unique opportunity to study human geography at postgraduate level in a context intimately connected to current policy developments and debates. The degree is informed by contemporary critical theory, and focuses on a range of scales from the domestic and local, the urban and the regional, the national to the global.

This new postgraduate degree is designed to capitalise on the distinctive capacities of the School of City and Regional Planning as a leading centre of expertise in research and teaching in both human geography and spatial policy. The school's staff and students are actively engaged in geographically-related policy development for a range of governmental, corporate, and voluntary bodies, as well as critically investigating broader forms of political and civil society activity.

The degree will develop an integrated and critically aware understanding of geography, policy and practice. It offers:

**Curriculum/approach
description**

- * the advanced study of geography as an academic discipline and the changing external context in which it engages;
- * preparation for and/or development of a career in business, local government, academia, or broader civil society;
- * a critical understanding of geography and its relationship with policy, particularly in the fields of: Economy; Environment and Sustainability; Housing; Planning, Development, and Regeneration; Society; and Transport;
- * development of the ability to apply knowledge and understanding of geography to complex issues, both systematically and creatively, to improve the functioning of policy and practices within society;
- * enhancement of lifelong learning skills and personal development so students can strengthen their ability to work with self-direction and originality and to contribute to geography, policy, and society at large.

This MSc is suitable for graduates with at least a 2:1 in geography or a related social science discipline. A minimum standard in English language of IELTS 6.5 or equivalent will be required from students whose first language is not English.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/geogpolicyandpractice/index.html>

Housing (MSc)**Number of years
normally used to
complete this
degree(FT)** 1**Part time option** Yes**Number years
usually required for
completing the
degree part-time (PT)** 2**Delivery mode** On campus**Number of ECTS****Teaching languages** English**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 - Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH)**This is an Erasmus
mundus programme** No

Housing (MSc)	Understand what is happening in housing today - and contribute to developing tomorrow's solutions.
Curriculum/approach description	The MSc Housing is suitable for those wishing to pursue further academic study in the housing field, and for those intending to pursue professional careers in local authorities, housing associations, private and voluntary sector organisations or central government agencies. It provides a stimulating educational experience for people wishing to develop housing expertise as a basis for working in policy and research or other areas of related professional activity. The course aims to engage students with the complexities of housing problems and provide them with the range of skills required to become reflective and responsive practitioners.
	Students who fail to achieve a sufficient standard to be awarded the qualification of MSc, may be awarded a Diploma, provided they achieve the necessary standard for such an award.
	This MSc is professionally recognised by the Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH), which means that students successfully completing the programme are fully exempted from the examinations for the Professional Qualifications of the CIH. Students who meet the CIH practical experience criteria for membership (currently 400-600 hours) are eligible to become corporate members of the Institute by the end of the programme.
	The course is recognised by the Royal Town Planning Institute as a 'specialist' masters for those who have completed at least a three year RTPI recognised undergraduate spatial planning degree, allowing completion of the RTPI's educational requirements for membership. For further details visit the Royal Town Planning Institute website.
	The course is accredited by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), allowing completion of the educational requirement for RICS membership. For further details visit the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors website.
	This MSc is suitable for graduates with a good degree in a relevant discipline or those with at least two years housing experience in a position of responsibility. A minimum standard in English language of IELTS 6.5 or equivalent will be required from students whose first language is not English.
	http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/housing/index.html

International Planning and Development (MSc)

Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)	1
Part time option	No
Delivery mode	On campus
Number of ECTS	
Teaching languages	English
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
This is an Erasmus mundus programme	No

Curriculum/approach description	Meeting the challenges of change and development in an urbanising world, promoting excellence in professional practice.
	The MSc International Planning and Development is designed for all those interested in the challenges of urbanization in the 21st century. For the first time, in 2008, more than half the world's population live in cities – the year 2008 was also the half-way point to the targets of the Millennium Development goals.
	It is a professionally accredited course, suitable for mid-career professionals working in planning, development or related fields, and for recent graduates from planning, architecture, engineering, management or other suitable disciplines wishing to gain a professional qualification. The course is appropriate for international students, and for UK students interested in comparative planning.
	The course spans the disciplines of spatial planning and development studies, enabling students to acquire the knowledge and critical understanding to make a significant contribution to the management of human settlements and urban systems. Modules focus on issues relating to the growth and development of emerging cities and on planning practice and the management of urban change. They provide a foundation for understanding processes of urban growth, economic development, globalisation, and space and society, within different political, cultural, economic and environmental contexts.

International Planning and Development (MSc)

Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)	1
Part time option	Yes
Number years usually required for completing the degree part-time (PT)	2
Delivery mode	On campus
Number of ECTS	
Teaching languages	English
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
This is an Erasmus mundus programme	No

Curriculum/approach description

The starting point for taking on the professional challenges of helping make liveable, prosperous places.

The MSc Planning Practice and Research is available one year full-time or two years part-time. It recruits students from a variety of backgrounds, including, in recent years, geography, architecture, sociology, engineering, history and science. The course is specifically aimed at those people wishing to gain a professionally accredited qualification in planning.

The principal aims of the course are:

- * Provide a basis for understanding what kinds of objectives planning might be used to pursue, and what methods of intervention might be effective and appropriate in different social, and political, contexts.
- * Develop core planning skills, applicable at a range of spatial scales.
- * Develop specialised skills, in undertaking, analysing and using research in the planning process.

The course is underpinned by a recognition that planning is undertaken in diverse (and sometimes unjust) societies, and that objectives and approaches to planning are subjects of debate and struggle. The course attempts to provide students with resources to be sensitive to, and to be able to form independent judgements on, these ethical, political and professional matters. While its focus is on planning in developed capitalist societies, especially the UK/Europe, its understanding of planning is comparative, and the skills taught are applicable in many planning contexts. However, students with a particular interest in planning in rapidly developing countries are better served by the MSc International Planning and Development.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/planningpracticeresearch/index.html>

Regeneration Studies (MSc)

Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT)	1
Part time option	No
Delivery mode	On campus
Number of ECTS	
Teaching languages	English

Regeneration Studies (MSc)
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

This is an Erasmus
mundus programme

No

Understand more about regeneration theory and practice - and help meet the policy challenge.

The MSc Regeneration Studies is jointly run by the School of City and Regional Planning and the School of Social Sciences. Following the successful launch of the Regeneration Institute, which provides a focus for the regeneration-related research activities of the two schools, the MSc aims to add a teaching dimension to the research collaboration. It offers knowledge and expertise to take you on to a variety of careers including principal graduate employment destinations in UK and international organisations, including national, regional and local economic development agencies / consultancies and public, private and third sector organisations.

The aim of the course is to provide students with an opportunity to examine the range of issues covered by regeneration studies, especially the interplay between economy, state and civil society. The programme of study will also furnish students with an opportunity to review debates, investigate substantive issues, acquire problem-solving skills through project-based teamwork and develop the analytical and social skills which are increasingly being sought in today's rapidly growing regeneration-related professions.

Curriculum/approach
description

As well as addressing a state-of-the-art public policy agenda, the MSc also aims to engage with leading-edge theoretical issues in the social sciences, including a critical assessment of:

- * Globalisation
- * States, Markets and Networks
- * Devolution
- * Multi-level Governance
- * Sustainable Development
- * Regional Systems of Innovation
- * The 'Knowledge-Driven' Economy
- * Community Planning
- * The nature and role of the European Union and its role in promoting regeneration

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/regenerationstudies/index.html>

Sustainability, Planning and Environmental Policy (MSc)

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

1

Part time option

No

Delivery mode

On campus

Number of ECTS

Teaching languages

English

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 - RTP1

This is an Erasmus
mundus programme

No

Sustainability, Planning and Environmental Policy (MSc)

Understand more about sustainability theory, principles and practice - and help meet the policy challenge.

Curriculum/approach description

The MSc Sustainability, Planning and Environmental Policy is suitable for graduates in subjects such as geography, sociology, politics, economics or other suitably qualified candidates. The course is specifically aimed at those people wishing to gain expertise and a critical perspective of research and practice on contemporary sustainability issues. Students gain an insight into problem definition and the application of leading edge solutions to those problems by business, government and regulatory bodies. The course offers knowledge and expertise for developing a career along a research-based route or taking advantage of the increasing professionalisation of jobs in the private and public sectors, including:

- * Corporate environmental policy;
- * Environmental pressure groups;
- * Government departments and environmental agencies;
- * Consultancy.

The course links together theoretical debates about sustainability at different spatial scales with the practical dimensions of environmental policy formulation and its implementation. The planning system is taken as a reference point because it provides one of the most sophisticated mechanisms for regulating environmental change. It is, moreover, a particularly suitable vehicle for exploring themes related to sustainability (e.g. public participation, Local Agenda 21). The modules in the course address three key dimensions:

- * Principles and processes - how policy goals may (or may not) achieve more sustainable development;
- * Resource sector studies - comparative and in-depth sectoral analysis;
- * Research training - the development of sustainability and planning research practice.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/sustainability/index.html>

Transport and Planning (MSc)

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

1

Part time option

No

Delivery mode

On campus

Number of ECTS

Teaching languages

English

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 - see course details

This is an Erasmus mundus programme

No

Curriculum/approach description

Transport touches almost every aspect of our day-to-day lives. Help face the challenge ahead for developing the transport systems of tomorrow.

The MSc Transport and Planning aims to develop in students the capability to make an effective contribution at the highest level to the planning, policy making and management of transport in both the UK and overseas. The course is unique in offering students an opportunity to study different aspects of transport (planning, operation and management) as well as other areas of urban planning in general.

Transport planning has gained a much higher public profile in recent years. This reflects increasing concerns over unbridled growth in private car use and the key problems associated with it: congestion and environmental problems both at the local level (air pollution) and global level (climate change). Within planning, the significance of the interactions between transport and wider questions of land use are increasingly recognised. The historic view that land uses happen in isolation and transport planning is essentially concerned with providing facilities has been found wanting. A wider perspective is desirable, which starts from the premise that land-use decisions both influence and are influenced by transport objectives and performance. The growing concern, national and international, with the relationship between transport, land use and the environment is reflected in the interest of academics within the School.

This MSc is professionally recognised by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT). This means that all graduating students are exempt from the qualifying examinations of the Institute. After the relevant required periods of practical experience, they will be eligible for Membership (MILT) and Chartered Membership (CMILT) of the Institute. The course is also recognised by the Royal Town Planning Institute as a 'specialist' masters for those who have completed at least a three year RTPI recognised undergraduate spatial planning degree, allowing completion of the RTPI's educational

Transport and Planning (MSc) requirements for membership. For further details visit the Royal Town Planning Institute website.

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/transportplanning/index.html>

Urban Design (MA)

Number of years normally used to complete this degree(FT) 1

Part time option No

Delivery mode On campus

Number of ECTS

Teaching languages English

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

This is an Erasmus mundus programme No

Urban Design - the knowledge and skills necessary to design and deliver better urban places.

The MA Urban Design uses design practice, theory, development and control practices to inform design processes, and uses studio teaching focused on local development possibilities to develop creative, practical and sustainable solutions to a range of typical urban design problems.

The course seeks to produce students who can:

- * Think three-dimensionally and creatively manipulate space at the intermediate scale between architecture and planning
- * Analyse the qualities of localities and places and respond to complex and often contradictory community aspirations
- * Critically appraise development (built and proposed) and make suggestions for improvement, and develop improved policy and control practices
- * Conceptualise and draw development proposals at the settlement, neighbourhood and block scales
- * Be able to recognise and add quality in all development situations
- * Test developments for their sustainability, economic viability and constituency
- * Understand how to approach implementation through inter-professional and inter-agency collaboration and consensus building

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/cplan/degreeprogrammes/postgraduate/mastersprogrammes/urbandesign/index.html>

Curriculum/approach description