MASTERS IN LANDSCAPE, BUILT HERITAGE AND DESIGN

Throughout the world, the interrelationships between built heritage, design and landscape can be complex; particularly when it comes to anticipating, managing and making decisions about change, development and progress. Important decisions about the character and heritage of our cities, neighbourhoods and rural areas are often made in technical, political and bureaucratic settings which many communities, developers, citizens and even specialists find difficult to engage with. Drawing on the principles of the European Landscape Convention and other high level instruments, this MA develops the kind of real world and cross disciplinary skills and competencies that will enable people to become effective and persuasive participants in these processes so that, everywhere, more robust and sustainable decisions can be made about built environments, heritage and landscape assets.

With some of Ireland's most interesting and culturally important landscapes and settlements on its doorstep, this programme is suitable for early-career graduates from a wide variety of subject areas and for anyone with a general interest in heritage and the environment. It will also appeal to established practitioners who have professional development needs in this subject area.

The course looks at landscape context, open space, landscape character and landscape change at both strategic and local levels. It addresses city planning, rural planning, and the legal processes that govern decision-making about the environment. The course also includes problem-solving modules that cover urban design and conservation of built heritage as well as a range of skills such as effective communication, presentation and community engagement. Optional modules from cultural geography, ecology, planning and architecture may also be taken. The final semester includes a major research dissertation that focuses on a real-life practical case study.

Details of entry requirements, fees and application procedures are available on www.ucc.ie/en/ckd06/ or from the UCC Postgraduate Admissions Office Tel: +353 21 490 2645. The Course Director can be contacted at Tel +353 21 490 4356 or at brendan.osullivan@ucc.ie

A professional, two year internationally-accredited Masters in Planning and Sustainable Development (M.Plan) is also offered by the Centre: www.ucc.ie/en/CKE69/
New M.A. at the UCC Centre for Planning Education and Research

University College Cork, which is ranked among the top 2% of universities worldwide, has set up a new taught Masters in Arts in Landscape, Built Heritage and Design within its College of Arts, Celtic Studies and Social Sciences. Based in the Centre for Planning Education and Research (a full member of the Association of European Schools of Planning) this one-year course commences in Autumn 2013 and welcomes participants from many different academic backgrounds and subject areas.

This 90-credit M.A. is taken on a full time basis over 12 months. It is taught through a mixture of classroom, field and studio sessions that cover theoretical, practical and design work. Graduates will have an understanding of how issues of landscape change in urban, rural and coastal settings can be addressed in effective ways by various stakeholders and be comfortable with the basic principles of conservation, protection and preservation of built heritage. They will also have a rounded sense of how new development can respect the character, traditions and quality of existing places while in appropriate circumstances - facilitating change, improvement and development.

Modules / subjects covered

The programme covers the three main subject areas (landscape, built heritage and design) through a set of inter-connected teaching modules that give it a practical, decision-making focus.

Students take these 5-credit core modules in the first two semesters:

- PD6120 Landscape Character, Context and Change
- PD6121 Open Space, Landscape and Design
- PD6122 Planning and Design for Built Heritage
- PD6132 Observation, Drawing and the use of Spatial Data
- PD6133 Engagement and Communication Skills
- PD6134 Introduction to Processes and Participation in Planning
- PD6136 Introduction to Spatial planning at the City scale
- PD6138 Introduction to Urban Design
- PD6227 Planning and Landscape in Rural Environments
- LW6106 Legal Concepts for Heritage and the Environment

A further two modules are chosen from a list which, subject to availability, covers subjects such as human ecology, architectural contextual studies, strategic environmental assessment, geography of heritage, infrastructure and transport in planning and others.

In the third (summer) semester, a major 30-credit research project / dissertation (PD6123) is carried out which focuses on a real-life practical case study. This draws together all of the skills and learning from the earlier modules into a solid and creative piece of individual work.

People who graduate with this M.A. will have the capacity to be effective in the non-governmental sector, the government or local government sector, the community sector, the property and business sector and other fields that have a stake in the management and design of built heritage, landscapes and the quality of places. The MA will be a useful complementary qualification for specialists in architecture, planning, building, environmental science, public policy, infrastructure, energy, community development, archaeology, cultural geography and a range of other fields. Although it is offered only on a full-time basis at present, we welcome enquiries about taking individual modules as CPD (continuing professional development) subjects. Also, students who pass all of the taught modules, and who do not wish to undertake the dissertation, may opt to be conferred with a UCC Higher Diploma in Landscape, Built Heritage and Design.

Further information

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