A fantastic student experience on an amazing campus

Our fantastic 440 acre single-site campus, a remarkable place to live and study, will benefit from a truly unique and inspiring student experience that extends your 3 year course. Developed in partnership with the School of Architecture, Building and Civil Engineering, the course provides a unique opportunity to learn and work on projects and gain insights from our other programmes in the built environment: architecture, civil engineering and construction management. Together, we are determined to provide the best education possible, exposing students to a wide range of settings and professions. We take the process of course accreditation very seriously and have a vast wealth of experience with numerous professional bodies.

The future of planning

The UK Government-funded Connected Places Catapult has set ambitious targets for 2023 related to the future of planning:

• The first artificial intelligence assisted planning application and decision in 60 seconds
• The first machine readable National Planning Policy Framework practice

Course ethos

Multi-disciplinary approach // Residential trips // Working with practitioners

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Professional accreditation

RTPI //

Our course has been designed aligned to the educational principles of accreditation of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). We are seeking RTPI accreditation for both the BSc and MPlan course. Full accreditation is due to be granted upon the first cohort of students graduate in July 2023. However, we have already begun the process of capacity building with the RTPI to ensure that the course is proactively developed and will be ready for RTPI accreditation as soon as possible. As a result, we are confident that the course is on track to be fully accredited as soon as practicable and developed in line with our partnership with the RTPI and the wider planning and architecture professions. As such, all students will benefit from the knowledge and expertise of our partnership with the RTPI and the wider planning and architecture professions.

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Top-up loans for mature students

www.lboro.ac.uk/urban-planning

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“ There is an acute shortage of highly skilled planners. Our course not only provides our students with new skills and techniques in digital planning but also develops professionals who can lead and drive change in a fast-evolving sector.”

Andrew Timmis
Urban Planning Programme Director

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Urban Planning

Our cities and urban environments are experiencing unprecedented development and challenges. How do we adapt our cities to tackle climate change? How can we use new technology and data to create better developments? Our new Urban Planning degree has been developed in collaboration with leading practitioners, linking theory and practice, to produce graduates who are uniquely prepared to address these new challenges. This degree programme has been created to equip you with the latest knowledge and skills in digital planning.

Why Urban Planning?

Today, more than 180,000 people per day are moving to urban environments. At yesterday’s rate, there will be 500 million more, 7,000 per day, in addition to 100 million land reclamation projects worldwide each year. How will our cities change and adapt? How will we balance the competing demands for land with consideration of environmental, social, economic and political pressure? What will the future of the way we plan develop? How will we design our urban environments to be safe, attractive, healthy and resilient? And, the making of place—how do we design our built environments to be safe, attractive, healthy and resilient? Planning is concerned with the study of space and the relationships it contains. More broadly, it is concerned with the study of space—how does human activity interact with the environment, social, economic and political pressures? And, the making of place—how do we design our built environments to be safe, attractive, healthy and resilient? A degree in Urban Planning will equip you with the knowledge and skills to take a positive change and tangible impact on our cities and towns.

Gain invaluable practical experience

Gain invaluable practical experience

Integrated placement year // Career development support // Integrated placement year

Professional practice experience is important to urban planning and urban geography. For this reason, we have an opportunity to spend a year in industry as a salaried placement and develop essential practical skills, such as time management, team working, and presentation—all in a real-world urban planning context. The vast majority of modules span the entire academic year allowing you to tackle large-scale real-world urban planning challenges. To truly understand and tackle the planning challenges of our cities and urban areas, it is important to experience a variety of different planning contexts. The course includes a week-long residential stay at the University of Westminster’s schemes Park. And for those students on the MPlan programme, a European field trip is included every academic year allowing you to broaden your understanding of planning challenges in different contexts.

High quality education

Small cohorts // Year-long modules // Field trips

The course is founded on deep learning, integrated critical thinking, and the development of key, lifelong skills that will be transferable into your future career. The design of our course ensures that you will acquire the quality of education that will prepare you for your future career, enhancing your employability and performance in the workplace.

Future skills // Urban Analytics // Big Data

As a result of technology, we now have more data than ever before and data about our cities and urban environments than yesterday; tomorrow there will be more data than ever before. This data and information can be used to change the way we plan developments. These opportunities will give us new perspectives and understandings of space, and ultimately change the way we plan our cities. For this reason, the course aims to ensure that you acquire planners with new and novel digital and data skill sets. By allowing you to acquire these skills as a student, our course not only prepares you for your immediate career, but also prepares you for the future.

Practitioner engagement

Research collaboration // Guest lectures // Industrial Advisory Board

We have sought input from urban planners working in local authorities, the development sector and wider planning environments to ensure that the course reflects the needs of the planning sector. This means that the course is founded on innovative teaching and learning methods and reflects the skills and knowledge needed in practice, including communication skills. Practitioners will be actively involved in course planning through teaching, placements, and our placement boards. Our course is guided by an Industrial Advisory Board who is a group of industry leaders and teaching staff who meet regularly to ensure that the programme truly reflects the needs of the planning sector.