

Master of Science in Urban Planning and Design



About the Program

The Master of Urban Planning and Design (MUPD) is tailored to address issues of importance to the urban environment in Qatar, the GCC region, and beyond.

It aims to provide students with key knowledge on every aspect of urban planning and design, including urban sustainability, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), landscape planning in arid regions, integrated land use, transport planning, environmental impact assessment and more.

About the Curriculum and Coursework:

Based on a series of core and elective courses, the MUPD develops over 4 semesters culminating with the writing-up of the thesis and/ or project. The goal of the Master of Urban Planning and Design Program-MUPD is to educate future planners and urban designers to guide the development of the social, economic, natural and built environments with the general goal of improving the quality of life in cities. A typical duration of the pr ogram is four semesters (two years) and the maximum duration is eight semesters (four years). The Program is offered for both part- and full-time students.

Degree Requirements:

The program is structured in four semesters involving 45 credit. The first year includes core courses, and the second year includes a specialized track in either Urban Design or Urban Planning and a thesis project. A minimum of 45 credit hours are required to complete the Master of Urban Planning and Design, including the following:

- A minimum of 18 credit hours in Core Requirements.
- A minimum of 9 credit hours in Focus Area Requirements.
- A minimum of 9 credit hours of Thesis Option Requirements.
- A minimum of 9 credit hours of Major Electives.

Research Interests/Emphasis:

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Main research interests focus on the main theme of Liveable Environments including (but not limited) to the following research topics: Metropolitan Urban Policies, Urban Legislations, Urban Upgrading Policies, Community Development, Resilient and sustainable urban policies, Economic globalization and multiculturalism, Eco zones and districts, Civic ecologies, Urban conservation strategies, urban sustainability assessment, environmental impact assessment and modelling, Environmental urban design, GIS applications, and more.

Facilities:

Our facilities include: Four Design Studio Spaces; Two Exhibition Spaces; CAD and Visualization Lab; Architectural Media and Documentation Laboratory; GIS Lab, The Learning Resource Centre "A-LRC": A selection of around 1,200 titles of which 900 in architecture, architectural design, history and theory, technology and architectural sociology and 300 titles in urbanism and urban planning are available for use by all students.

Potential Careers:

Graduates of the Master of Urban Planning and Design will be able to:

- Engage in research about urban development in MENA countries and beyond.
- Apply urban analysis methodologies to explore developmental issues.
- Demonstrate skills in land use planning, strategic planning, and participatory techniques.
- Practice sustainable urban development.

Financial Support:

A number of funding opportunities are available for graduate students through external and internal sources such as the National Priority Research Program (NPRP) of Qatar Foundation and Qatar University internal grants. Qualified graduates can also apply for graduate assistantships that are provided by Qatar University.

