

“TRANSFORMING  
PLACE QUALITIES  
AND ENLARGING  
THE CAPACITY TO  
ACHIEVE SUCH A  
TRANSFORMATION  
DEMANDS THE  
ACTIVE WORK OF  
MANY PEOPLE.”

HEALEY, 2012:215



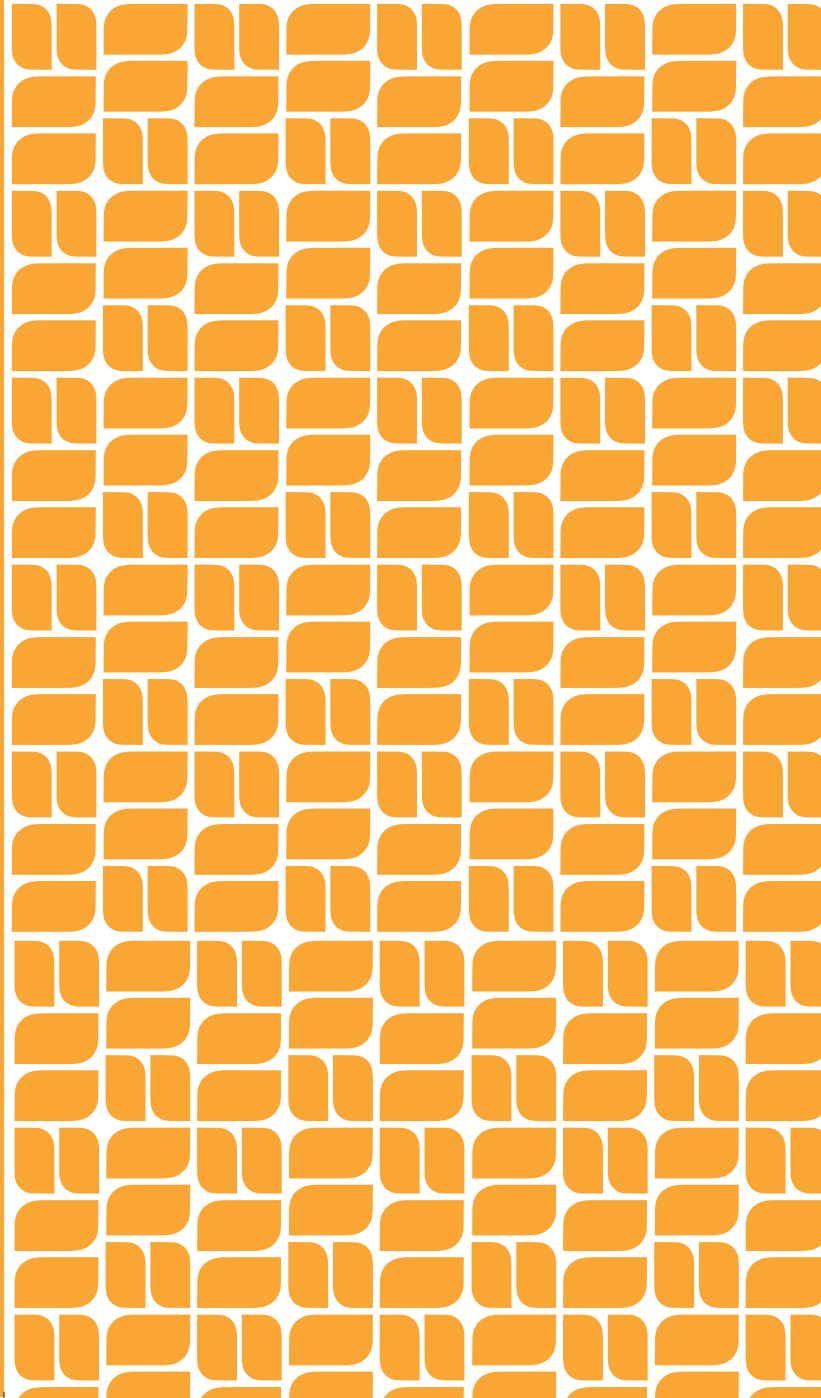
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FACULTY OF  
ARCHITECTURE  
ART & DESIGN

—LOUAIZE—

## THE DEGREE OF MASTERS OF ARCHITECTURE IN ENVIRONMENTAL & URBAN PLANNING

NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY-LOUAIZE



# WHAT IS THIS PROGRAM ABOUT?

There is an ever increasing demand for dealing holistically with urban and environmental issues at various extents and scales of complexity. These issues are often related to demographic, economic, environmental, ecological, technological, institutional and political changes. Solutions to such issues are based on systemic and systematic, collaborative and inter-disciplinary processes, and responses to contextual social, economic, cultural, and environmental specificities and needs.

## STRUCTURE

Based on the above scope and objectives of this two year masters program, the structure comprises three main parts: a multi-disciplinary platform, specialization in the core disciplines of the program, and a practical application of what has been learned in a trans-disciplinary approach.

Platform courses prepare program participants of different backgrounds and levels of expertise with the necessary understanding of main principles and key issues in the core disciplines. Specialized courses further develop the understanding of the multiple facets of planning and the interrelations among them (from the theoretical, methodological, and operational aspects). The practical application in its trans-disciplinary approach is divided into group work with the large case study, and individual work resulting in the masters thesis. This third part would allow participants to master and apply the knowledgebase acquired in the previous program parts. This structure is further clarified in the presented program.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the university admission requirements for graduate students, refer to:

<http://www.ndu.edu.lb/admissions/requirements.htm#gradadm>

the candidate must submit a letter of intent (in which the candidate's background, reasons for selecting this program, future utilization of this degree and other expectations are clearly stated), and schedule an interview with the faculty graduate committee.

Moreover, applicants for the graduate program may be granted a maximum of nine transfer credits of graduate studies taken at another accredited institution of higher education provided that the transfer course(s) correspond to NDU (as per the NDU catalog), and MAP course requirements.

## PROGRAM AIMS

This program builds on the inter-disciplinary approaches of urban planning, landscape, ecology, environment and urban design, and integrates their concepts, and methodologies within a trans-disciplinary learning environment manifested in the large case study and program thesis. The inter-disciplinary approach seeks to achieve a more comprehensive learning environment through the combination of knowledge and methods acquired in the various fields covered in the program. This approach stands in contrast to a multi-disciplinary one that provides multiple views based on the various disciplines, while the output remains limited, and separate to each individual discipline. Therefore, a trans-disciplinary approach overcomes disciplinary barriers and seeks the complete merging and generation of an innovative body of knowledgebase within new holistic thinking.

## WHY WOULD I BE INTERESTED TO JOIN THIS PROGRAM?

The program offers professional development and increased competence based on innovation, and experimentation that are anchored in a solid, and broad knowledgebase. With this profile, program participants would be able to identify and respond to urban issues as well as manage, and intervene to improve the quality of the urban and natural environments; all while engaging and communicating with stakeholders with various concerns and interests. Therefore, the program serves professionals who want to continue their postgraduate studies or those who want to further specialize in their vocation.

In order to be accepted into the program, students must take nine (9) credits per semester as full-time candidates. Part-time candidates would be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

The program targets fresh graduates, and professionals with undergraduate degrees in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Civil Engineering. Graduates and professionals from other degrees will be accepted on a case-by-case basis.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students seeking the degree of Masters of Architecture in Environmental and Urban Planning must meet the university graduation requirements and complete the 36 credits with a cumulative average of at least 3.0/4.0.

Core Courses (30 cr.)

[MAP 610](#), [MAP 611](#), [MAP 612](#), [MAP 613](#), [MAP 620](#), [MAP 621](#), [MAP 622](#), [MAP 623](#), [MAP 624](#), [MAP 660](#), [MAP 661](#), [MAP 690](#)

Elective Courses (6 cr.)

[MAP 650](#), [MAP 651](#), [MAP 652](#), [MAP 653](#), [MAP 654](#), [MAP 655](#)



## WHAT WILL I LEARN?

Participants of this program will:

- Understand and respond to complex factors affecting the urban environment;
- Implement the necessary tools for critical trans-disciplinary analysis while addressing urban issues and working for governmental bodies, local authorities, the private sector (including real estate developers), consultancies, or other organizations;
- Have the tools to collaborate with actors of different backgrounds on urban planning projects.

## HOW WILL I BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE MY NEWLY ACQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS?

This program is an amalgam of theoretical and practical courses, and aims to develop the following skills for the program participants:

- The ability to provide a realistic, and comprehensive overview of urban issues;
- The ability to develop urban strategies responding to a wide range of contemporary urban issues;
- The opportunities for applying their knowledge and skills in a trans-disciplinary approach prior to the completion of the program, which are similar to real life cases.

### SUGGESTED PROGRAM

Year I			
<b>Fall Semester (9 Credits) (Foundation/Preparatory semester)</b>			
MAP	610	Research Methodology (writing research, Qty, Qlty methods, presentation)	3 cr.
MAP	611	Urban Economics and Real Estate Development (basic notions)	2 cr.
MAP	612	Overview on Urban Design and Planning (various approaches)	2cr.
MAP	613	Basic environmental Concepts Related to Urban Design and Planning	2 cr.
<b>Spring Semester (9 Credits) (Tools, Skills, and Basic Abilities)</b>			
MAP	620	GIS and Remote Sensing (to be applied in the LCS)	3 cr.
MAP	621	Urban Planning Law	2 cr.
MAP	622	Transportation Planning	2 cr.
MAP	623	Policies in Urbanism	2 cr.
MAP	624	Students should propose their thesis topic by the end of this semester	0 cr.
Year II			
<b>Fall Semester (9 Credits) (Specialized courses and Large Case Study)</b>			
MAP	650	Special Elective related to landscape, ecology and environment I	2 cr.
or			
MAP	651	Special Elective related to landscape, ecology and environment II (EIA)	2 cr.
MAP	652	Special Elective related to urban planning I (transportation: non-motorised mobility)	2 cr.
or			
MAP	653	Special Elective related to urban planning II (commercial and public spaces)	2 cr.
MAP	654	Special Elective related to urban design I (regeneration)	2 cr.
or			
MAP	655	Special Elective related to urban design II (waterfronts)	2 cr.
MAP	660	Large Case Study – Part I	3 cr.
<b>Spring Semester (9 Credits) (Masters Thesis)</b>			
MAP	661	Large Case Study – Part II	3 cr.
MAP	690	Thesis	6 cr.
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>36 cr.</b>