

Programme Specification

MSc Spatial Planning and Development (full time/ part time)

For students entering in September 2019

PFTZSPADEVHM/PPTZSPADEVHM

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	12 months full time/ 24 months part time
Accreditation	RTPI and RICS
Programme Start Dates	September

Programme information and content

The MSc Spatial Planning and Development is designed within a 180 credit modular structure with six 20-credit modules and two 30-credit modules for Development Planning Projects and the Spatial Planning Dissertation. This credit weighting reflects the educational requirements of the Royal Town Planning Institute and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, which are in-line with the general University scheme.

For fulltime students, the first part of the programme lasts up to the summer term examination period and students are required to take five 20-credit modules and one 30-credit module, totalling 130 credits, in this period. Following an intensive induction period that includes a regional field visit, fulltime students are required to undertake the Urban Design & Sustainability module. In addition they begin the modules in Real Estate Economics; Planning Theory, Politics and Practice; and Development Planning Projects (30-credits), which runs over the autumn and spring and into the summer term and also Cities, Regions and Strategic Governance (spring). In the second term of the programme students are required to take Real Estate Development and Planning Law. In addition students choose one option module which may be undertaken in the autumn or spring term.

The development planning projects module concludes with comparative project work during a European field visit (in the Summer term). During the summer term, consolidation and revision periods for those modules that are examined are followed by the formal examination papers. The second part of the programme takes place after the examination period, although it is introduced during the spring term. During this period students work on their 30-credit dissertation, which is submitted in early September.

Module information

The programme comprises of 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory Modules:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
REMP16	Urban Design and Sustainability	20	7
REMFRE	Real Estate Economics	20	7
REMP02	Planning Theory, Politics and Practice	20	7
REMP30	Real Estate Development and Planning Law	20	7
REMP31	Development Planning Projects	30	7
REMDISS30	Spatial Planning Dissertation	30	7
REMP32	Cities, Regions and Strategic Governance	20	7

Compulsory text:

Students will select 20 credits of option modules available in Real Estate and Planning subjects.

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

Students undertaking the programme on a part time (day-release) basis complete the same modules, but in a slightly different sequence. In their first year they study Urban Design & Sustainability; Real Estate Economics; Planning Theory, Politics and Practice; and Real Estate Development and Planning Law. The second year involves completion of modules in Development Planning Projects (30-credits); their specialist development planning module (20-credits); and the 30-credit Dissertation.

Additional costs of the programme

There is a field trip as part of the REMP31 Development Planning Projects module. Travel and accommodation costs are covered but students should cover their own subsistence.

There are no textbooks which you must buy and students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of textbooks or other resources with the module convenor before purchasing. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Business School Academic Resource Centre.

Printing and photocopying facilities are available on campus at a cost per A4 page of £0.05 (black and white) and £0.30 (colour). Essential costs in this area will be low as most coursework is submitted electronically. Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations.

Optional modules:

The optional modules available can vary from year to year. An indicative list of the range of optional modules for your Programme is set out in the Further Programme Information. Details of any additional costs associated with the optional modules, will be made available to you prior to the beginning of the programme. Entry to optional modules will be at the discretion of the University and subject to availability. Although the University tries to ensure you are able to take the optional modules in which you have expressed interest this cannot be guaranteed.

Placement opportunities

The intensive nature of the fulltime 12-month MSc programme is not ideally tailored to study abroad. There is, of course, the compulsory attendance at the European field visit as part of the Development Planning Projects module.

Teaching and learning delivery:

Teaching is organised in six 20-credit modules and two 30-credit modules; each credit representing 10 hours of student effort. The relationship between class contact in the form of lecture, workshop, seminar, tutorial and student centred learning in the form of individual research and project/case study is varied across all modules and is set out in the individual module descriptions. All modules are designed to deliver level 7 outcomes.

Within each of these modules, the overall aim is for students to be able to understand the knowledge obtained and be critically aware of the theoretical and practical implications of the material.

Total study hours for your programme will be 1800 hours. The contact hours for your programme will depend upon your module combination; an average for a typical set of modules on this programme is 237 hours. In addition to your scheduled contact hours, you will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

RTPI and RICS

Assessment

Students will be assessed by a range of methods including formal examination papers and individual and group assignments including applied problem solving, essays, literature reviews, reports, presentations and projects. The formal examinations will take place in May/June. Students will have the right to re-sit any module once. Normally examination and assignment re-sits will be in late August/early September. Any re-assessment in the Integrated Study would normally take place within one year.

Progression

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark Interpretation

70 - 100% Distinction

60 - 69% Merit

50 - 59% Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49% Work below threshold standard

0 - 39% Unsatisfactory Work

For Masters Degree

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 60 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 180 credits; and
- (ii) a mark of 50 or more for the dissertation; and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iv) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Diploma

To qualify for **Distinction**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 70 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) In addition, the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Merit**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 60 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits; and
- (iii) students must not have any mark below 40.

To qualify for **Passed**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 120 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 50 must not exceed 55 credits;
and
- (iii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 30 credits.

For PG Certificate

To qualify for a **Postgraduate Certificate**, students must

- (i) gain an overall average of 50 or more over 60 credits; and
- (ii) the total credit value of all modules marked below 40 must not exceed 10 credits.

All MSc Development Planning pathways offer PG Diploma and PG Certificate awards but these awards, in themselves, are not accredited within the University's partnership arrangements with the RTPI or RICS.

In order to meet the RTPI's APC requirements candidates must demonstrate that they have met the indicative learning outcomes detailed in the RTPI's Policy Statement on Initial Planning Education. **These learning outcomes are covered by the core modules on the MSc programme and so, these must be passed in order to pass the RTPI-accredited MSc programme.**