

## Programme Specification

MSc Spatial Planning and Development (full-time)

PFTZSPADEVHM

MSc Spatial Planning and Development (part-time)

PPTZSPADEVHM

**For students entering in 2023/24**

**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	MSc Spatial Planning and Development (full-time) - 12 months MSc Spatial Planning and Development (part-time) - 24 months
Accreditation	Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)  EQUIS  AACSB
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 (RTPI) and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), 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 six 20-credit modules and one 30-credit module, totalling 150 credits, in this period. This includes one option module which may be undertaken in the autumn or spring term.

Following an intensive induction period, fulltime students are required to undertake the modules: Urban Design & Sustainability; Real Estate Economics and Planning Theory, Politics and Practice (all 20-credits each). In addition, they begin the Development Planning Projects module (30-credits), which runs over the autumn, spring and into the summer term. In the second term of the programme students are required to take Real Estate Development and Planning Law and Cities, Regions and Strategic Governance (both 20-credits each).

During the summer term, consolidation and revision periods for those modules that are examined are followed by the formal examination papers, sat in the University's defined examination period. Following examinations, the Development Planning Projects module

concludes in the summer term with an intensive week exploring a European city, accompanied by comparative project work.

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.

### **Module information**

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

### **Compulsory modules**

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

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 (80-credits total). The second year involves completion of modules in Cities, Regions and Strategic Governance (20-credits), Development Planning Projects (30-credits); their specialist option module (20-credits); and the 30-credit Dissertation.

### **Additional costs of the programme**

REMP31 Development Planning Projects module includes an intensive week studying planning in a European city and this usually includes a field trip. A short field trip within the UK may form part of the programme induction. Travel and accommodation costs are covered for these trips but students are required to cover their own subsistence and travel to and from the start point for the trip.

There are no textbooks which students 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 and are available in the main library or Henley ARC.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including textbooks, electronic resources and computer facilities, are available through the Central Library and the Henley 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 and online. 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 means there are no placements available on this programme.

### **Study abroad opportunities**

The intensive nature of the fulltime 12-month MSc programme is not ideally tailored to study abroad.

### **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**

Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (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 normally take place between April and June, during the University's defined examination period. 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 Dissertation module 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.**

**For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.**

MSc Spatial Planning and Development (full-time) for students entering in session 2023/24  
8 June 2022

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