

Master of Planning (M.Pl.) in Urban Development

Outline

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The M.Pl. Program - highlights

- Need for the program
 - Emerges from the global and local trends of rapid urbanization, environmental degradation, economic disparity and globalization.
- Three unique dimensions
 - Redefining urban development: *the restructuring, regeneration and revitalization of existing metropolitan areas.*
 - Explore contemporary globalizing cities through lenses of **'culture'** and **'nature'**.
 - Studio-based pedagogy
- Studios + core + elective study + major research paper or project
- Advanced education for the new planner OR in-depth study for returning professional planners

Curriculum – regular stream

- provides advanced-level education for the new planner.
- requires completion of 13 courses (10 mandatory and three elective), a field placement and a research paper or project.

Curriculum.... continues

Fall (Sem 1)	Cr	Winter (Sem 2)	Cr	Spring (Sem 3)	Cr	Fall (Sem 4)	Cr	Winter (Sem 5)	Cr
Physical Planning and Design Fundamentals	1	Advanced Research Methods and Analysis	1			Planning Studio	2	Advanced Planning Studio	2
Multicultural Cities and Planning Policies	1	Planning for Sustainability	1			Advanced Theories of Planning and Design	1	Master's Research Paper or Project	2
Institutional Context of Planning	1	Professional Planning Practice and Ethics	1			Elective	1	Elective	1
Finance and Local Governance	1	Elective	1	Field Placement	2				
Sub Total	4		4		2		4		5

Curriculum – accelerated stream

- offers professional planners and recent planning graduates the opportunity to advance and hone their planning knowledge and skills.
- requires completion of eight courses (six mandatory and two elective) and a research paper or project.

Curriculum continues

Fall (Sem 1)	Cr	Winter (Sem 2)	Cr	Spring /summer (Sem 3)	Cr
Planning Studio	2	Advanced Planning Studio	2	Master's Research Paper or Project	2
Multicultural Cities and Planning Policies	1	Planning for Sustainability	1		
Advanced Theories of Planning and Design	1	Advanced Research Methods and Analysis	1		
Elective	1	Elective	1		
Sub Total	5		5		2

Internal electives

- Planning and Designing the Creative City ✓
- Landscape Urbanism ✓
- Retrofitting suburbs
- Housing and Redevelopment ✓
- Contemporary Urban Design
- Heritage and cultural regeneration
- Ecological Design
- Design for Diversity
- Nature as a Social Construct ✓
- Waterfront Cities
- Special Topics: Regional Planning ✓
- Special Topics: Transportation for Planners ✓
- Special Topics: The City At Mid-Century: The Planner's Role in Shaping Our Urban Future ✓
- + courses from other graduate programs (e.g. Architecture, Public Administration, Immigration and Settlement Studies, etc.) will also be available as options.

Admission requirements – regular stream

- a four-year honours bachelor's degree with a minimum B average in the last two years of study from a recognized university.
- The undergraduate degree may be in a field other than planning.
- All applicants are expected to have taken a university-level course in statistics.

Admission requirements – accelerated stream

- must have completed a four- or five-year accredited bachelor's degree in planning, or equivalent, with a minimum B average and 2 calendar years of professional experience in Planning.
- Applicants with a bachelor's degree (four- or five-year) in a related discipline who show evidence of significant professional experience in planning will be accepted.
- Degree holders with professional experience in planning will be considered for admission on a case-by-case basis.

School of Urban and Regional Planning

- Established in 1969 as a program in Architecture
- The program left Architecture in 1973 and was established as separate School.
- Currently 400 students enrolled in the bachelor's programs + 50 students at the graduate level.
- Close to 22,000 sq.ft. of space
 - 30 computer workstations
 - RA/GA offices
 - Student lounges
 - Studio spaces

The School Faculty

- 11 full-time core faculty members
- 2 new hires with a prospect of another one
- 7 faculty from other departments such as Architecture, Sociology, Retail Management, and Occupational And Public Health
- 3 Professor Emeriti

Financial assistance to students

- **Internal scholarships and Awards**
 - Ryerson Graduate Scholarships (RGS)
 - Ryerson Graduate Award (RGA)
 - Graduate Assistantship (GA)
 - Research Assistantship (RA)
 - Aditya Jha Community Development Award
 - FCS Dean's Best Essay Writing Award
 - Downtown BIA Place-making Award
 - Ryerson Alumni Award
- **External scholarships**
 - Ontario Graduate Scholarship (OGS)
 - SSHRC Scholarship

Frequently-Asked-Questions

- Is this program available part-time?
 - *No, it is only available on a full-time basis.*
- Can you apply to both 2 year and 1 year streams?
 - *Yes, you can. You just have to tick both streams in the Supplementary Admissions Data form. You do not pay additional fee for applying to both streams.*
- Do I have to have supervisor before I come?
 - *No, you find for your supervisor when you are ready to work on MRP (Major Research Paper).*
- What can be counted as the statistics course requirement?
 - *You must submit the course description, course code, and name of the university of study for your course to be evaluated.*
- Can I apply without a statistics course?
 - *Yes! if you are accepted, you will be given a conditional offer which states that you have to complete the statistics course before starting the program otherwise your offer is revoked.*

Frequently-Asked-Questions

....contd.

- Do you accept applications after January 14?
 - *Yes, we continue to accept until program is filled. However, first consideration for scholarships and awards etc. is given to those who apply on or before deadline.*
- When do we hear about our acceptance?
 - *It is usually after the middle of March.*
- Is the program accredited by CIP/OPPI?
 - *The program is fully accredited by CIP/OPPI.*
- How do you calculate my GPA?
 - *The last two years of your undergraduate degree are counted. If your degree is currently in progress then we count your third year grades plus the fall grades of your fourth year.*
- Do I have to have a design background?
 - *No*
- If we don't know how to use the software programs we will get training on them?
 - *You are not required to be adept in using a specific software package, but it is good to have a working knowledge of MSOffice, AutoCAD and Adobe packages.*

FAQs ...contd.

- Do we get paid for field placements? Can we have international placements? Does the program set that up for us?
 - *Field placements are not paid positions. But agencies may decide to compensate you on their own. Yes, international placements are fine as long as they are approved by the Program Director. We do offer a few placements, but students are free (are encouraged) to choose on their own.*
- How do I apply?
 - www.ryerson.ca/graduate/admissions
 - *Apply online, and then submit a hard copy of the application, the Supplementary Admissions Data Form, two letters of reference, a copy of your resume/CV, statement of intent, and all official transcripts.*
 - *A more comprehensive information is available at <http://www.ryerson.ca/surp/current/graduate/admissions.html>*
- How much is the application fee?
 - *The application fee is \$100.*
- *What is the tuition fee for the program?*
 - *It's close to \$7,000 for one year i.e. 3 semesters.*

Contacts

- Web:
www.ryerson.ca/graduate/urbandevelopment
- Phone:
 - 416-979-5000 ext 6767 or 2099
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