

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN URBAN ECOLOGICAL PLANNING



The department of town and regional planning offers a two years, full time Master of Science (M.Sc) Programme in Urban Ecological Planning. The intent of the programme is to address the need for a new ecologically based ‘frame of mind’ concerning urban planning for the future development of our cities and their environment.

The Master’s Programme is a unique opportunity for students from all over the world to work and learn together. The ‘international atmosphere’ is one of the strong points of the course as it leads to a healthy accumulation of first hand knowledge and experience from different urban situations from all over the world. Right from the start, the emphasis is on learning by doing projects at the neighbourhood level. In the course of time, students are familiarised with the theory and methods appropriate for Urban Ecological Planning. Interactions with other related disciplines like Geography and Sociology is undertaken through inter-departmental courses. Students are also trained in the usage of Geographical Information Systems (GIS).

Finally, the students use and test their acquired knowledge in the thesis research which they undertake in the final year of the programme. Students are encouraged to select case studies in their home countries, for the purpose of doing the research.

Courses

The total Master programme consists of four half yearly semesters. The courses in each semester are given below.

First Semester - Mandatory Courses

1. Urban Ecological Planning in Developing Countries - Project Work (5 credits)
2. Urban Ecological Planning - Methods (2.5 credits)
3. Urban Ecological Planning - Theory (2.5 credits)

Second Semester - Mandatory Courses

1. Urban Ecological Planning in Diverse Cultures (4 credits)
2. Application of GIS in Urban Planning - Part 1 (1.5 credits)

Second Semester - Electives

1. Resources and Built Form (2.5 credits)
2. Landscape and Planning, advanced course (2.5 credits)
3. Planning and Construction in Developing Countries (2.5 credits)
4. Development Geography (2.5 credits)
5. Gender and Social Change (2.5 credits)

Third Semester - Mandatory Courses

1. Planning Theory (4 credits)
2. Application of GIS in Urban Planning - Part 2 (1.5 credits)

Third Semester - Electives

1. Energy Use in Buildings (2.5 credits)
2. Built Form Related to Climate (2.5 credits)
3. Health and Development (2.5 credits)
4. Natural Resources in the Tropics (3 credits)

Fourth Semester

The fourth semester does not contain any courses as all the time is devoted to the completion of the thesis research.

Admission Requirements

The interdisciplinary profile of this M.Sc programme reflects the complexity and challenges facing urban ecological planning. Applicants should hold a Bachelor's degree in a discipline or profession relevant to the programme, preferably within Architecture, Planning or Civil Engineering. Relevant work experience will also be considered important for admission. Candidates with a degree in Economics, Social Sciences or Natural Sciences may be considered for admission if they have 2 to 5 years relevant work experience. The Department of Town and Regional Planning will recommend that an interdisciplinary group of applicants be admitted to the programme. Students from universities in developing countries that collaborate with NTNU are particularly encouraged to apply for admission.