



SORBONNE  
UNIVERSITY  
ABU DHABI

# Master in Urban Planning and Development

Master Programmes

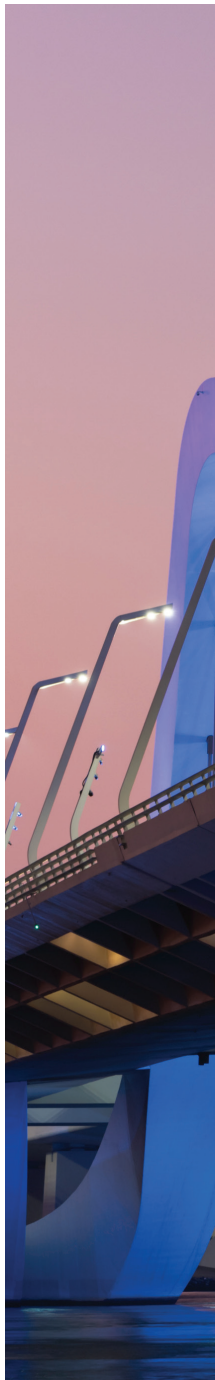
**The 2 year Master in Urban Planning and Development degree is awarded by Sorbonne University in Paris and delivered by world-class academics in Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi. The programme is designed for students to acquire the fundamental knowledge and skills required for jobs as a professional urban planner.**

A habitable modern city is only successful if its different components are efficiently integrated and the residents and citizens benefit economically and socially leading to an improved quality of life. Regional and urban planners strategically link the complex components of cities and regions including budget, legalities, availability of infrastructure and land and visual appeal. Through intelligent planning, they create plans to build and organically grow dynamic and functional public spaces for small and large populations. Planners work alongside engineers, architects, law enforcement agencies, environmental consultants and legal advisors to create vibrant and sustainable cities and regions.

Through master in Urban Planning and Development, students will learn about the role of planners, their fundamentals and ecological and social economic impact. They will study comprehensive policies, planning tools, technological advances like geographic information

systems, how to maximise space and merge form with function, organising metropolitan areas based on thematic and specialised specifications, among others. Students will emerge as skillful thinkers and problem solvers and refine their skills in communication and decision-making. This course provides students with a broad perspective and fundamental competencies vital for their careers as Urban and Regional Planners.

Our faculty is composed of Sorbonne University professors and external working professionals who have achieved worldwide acclaim. We also recruit renowned personalities from specialised institutions in France and the UAE as visiting lecturers. Students will be guided to explore the most effective strategies related to sustainable land-use and public spaces, transportation, safety concerns, GIS technologies and advanced-planning systems that shape the cities of tomorrow.





# Overview





# Programme highlights

## International recognition

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi provides the combined experience of Sorbonne University and Université Paris Cité. This rich heritage of joint excellence is now available in Abu Dhabi under the Ministry of Education and is recognised worldwide.

The programme in Abu Dhabi is offered under the Sorbonne Urban Planning and Development Institute (Paris) which was created over 25 years ago. Highly innovative since its inception, the Institute has developed close ties with the industry, in particular with the French Association of Town Planners, Association of French Mayors (AMIF), National Committee of Town Networks and several territorial bodies, the Regional Council of Ile-de France and the Paris Urban Workshop (APUR).

## Enhancing individual & national development

Within the next decade, Abu Dhabi is poised to dedicate its focus towards socio-economic sustainability. This curriculum will be crucial in creating and encouraging a new generation passionate about planning cities of the future. Through this programme, future leaders and pioneers have the opportunity to exchange ideas and initiate dialogue as well as refine their skills and career potential to complement the city's rapid and ambitious progress.

## Networking

Each class will have a reduced number of students from different countries. A strict entry selection procedure will guarantee the quality of the degree and will allow you to expand your personal network with high potential peers.

*Graduates enter promising careers with engineering and design consultancy firms, urban or rural developers, real estate agencies, government enterprises involved with urban affairs, environmental management, community development and research agencies amongst others*

The degree in Urban Planning and Development is taught in English and covers a total of four semesters across two years. The course schedule is carefully designed to accommodate working professionals by arranging classes over short periods, including weekends, in consideration of students who intend to combine their studies with work.

## Structure

Semester 1				
UE	Course code	Course name	ECTS	Contact hours
UE1: Fundamentals of Urban Planning			12	
	URRP-527	History of Urban Architecture	3	16
	URRP-528	History of Urban Planning	3	16
	URRP-521	Urbanization in Gulf Countries	3	16
	URRP-542	Urban Sociology	3	16
UE2: Methodology and Tools			6	
	URRP-532	Geographic Information System	3	16
	URRP-530	Metropolitan Planning. International perspectives	3	16
UE3: Legal Framework			6	
	URRP-502	Urban Planning Law in UAE	3	16
	URRP-529	Urban Planning Law in France and in Europe	3	16
UE4: Urban Planning Practices			6	
	URRP-504	Urban Engineering 1	3	16
	URRP-504	Urban Engineering 2	3	16
Total			30	160

Semester 2				
UE	Course code	Course name	ECTS	Contact hours
UE1: Workshop			9	
		Workshop 1	3	16
		Workshop 2	3	16
		Workshop 3	3	16
UE2: Methodology and Tools			6	
	URRP-523	Urban Design	3	16
	URRP-534	Urban Planning Guideline	3	16
UE4: Fundamentals of Urban Planning			15	
	URRP-522	Housing	3	16
	URRP-523	Real Estate	3	16
	URRP-505	Urban Land Economics	3	16
	URRP-535	Landscaping	3	16
	URRP-509	Sustainable Development	3	16
<b>Total</b>			<b>30</b>	<b>160</b>

# Structure

Semester 3				
UE	Course code	Course name	ECTS	Contact hours
UE1: Fundamentals of Urban Planning			12	
	URRP-513	Politic and Urban Planning	3	16
	URRP-507	Retail and Commercial Activities	3	16
	URRP-510	Transport and Urban Planning	3	16
	URRP-512	Risks Management and Urbanization	3	16
UE2: Methodology and Tools			12	
	URRP-524	Heritage in the UAE	3	16
		Tourism Development in the Emirates	3	16
	URRP-520	Planning for Real	3	16
	URRP-526	Strategic Foresight for Cities	3	16
UE3: Legal Framework			6	
	URRP-502	Urban Planning Law in UAE	3	16
	URRP-529	Urban Planning Law in France and in Europe	3	16
UE3: Urban Planning Practices			6	
	URRP-525	Financial Programming	3	16
	URRP-516	Final Workshop	3	16
Total			30	160



## Master's thesis

Non-employed students will be required to submit an extended essay based on their internship. Full-time employed students will be required to submit a research based thesis.

## Internship

For nonworking students, Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi has integrated a mandatory internship in the second year.

The internship will encourage critical thinking and improve students' reasoning abilities by blending academic theory with real life work experience. Students will benefit from a greater depth of experience working in a professional environment.

The internship also provides an excellent opportunity to gain crucial insights and improve access to various career opportunities in the region and beyond. Students will discover that this collaborative learning process can lead to enduring professional relationships, which will open doors and forge new career paths.

Semester 4				
UE	Course code	Course name	ECTS	Contact hours
UE1: Final workshop presentation			10	
		Final workshop presentation	10	
UE2: Master thesis			20	
		Master thesis	20	
Total			30	

Total Master	120	480
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# Assessment & graduation requirements

Throughout the year, there will be frequent assessment and evaluations. Students will be evaluated on individual assignments, internships presentations, reports and examinations, which usually take place towards the end of every semester. Attendance to all classes is mandatory and it is important that students are punctual and observe university regulations at all times.





# Career prospects

There are abundant rewarding career opportunities on a regional and global scale for graduates of the Urban Planning and Development programme. Graduates enter promising careers with engineering and design consultancy firms, urban or rural developers, real estate agencies, government enterprises involved with urban affairs, environmental management, community development and research agencies amongst others.











Admission to our master's programmes is selective and competitive and each applicant will be considered on his/her own merit. Our admissions process ensures that every course has an ideal mix of people with talent, impressive interpersonal skills and a positive attitude.

# Admission requirements

## General entry requirements:

- Bachelor in a relevant field with a CGPA of 3 out of 4 or equivalent. Candidates with a GPA between 2.5 and 2.99 can be granted a conditional acceptance subject to a probation period of one semester.
- IELTS certificate with minimum overall band of 6.0 with a validity of 2 years or TOEFL certificate with minimum score of 79 (or equivalent) with a validity of 2 years or Minimum EmSAT English score of 1400 with a validity of 18 months or, Native English speaker who completed 3 full years in an English-medium institution within a maximum period of 3 years.
- 3 years of professional experience are required.
- An entry test is required: candidates will be asked to analyze a short press article in

English on an urban planning topic. This test does not require prior knowledge in the field. It aims to ensure the candidate's writing skills and interest in urban planning issues. Shortlisted candidates will be asked to attend an interview to assess the candidate's motivation, career expectations and relevant professional experience in the degree area.

Applicants who earned their undergraduate degrees from universities outside the UAE must present a Certificate of Equivalency for their graduation certificates from the UAE Ministry of Education. Applicants, who are holders of undergraduate degrees issued by a licensed higher education institution in the UAE, are required to submit a copy of their degrees attested by the UAE Ministry of Education. For details on requirements, kindly visit the Ministry's website:

**[www.moe.gov.ae](http://www.moe.gov.ae)**

## Tuition Fees

**AED 166,400** (approximately US\$ 45,344)

## Scholarships are available for this programme\*:

- 20% alumni discount
- 25% academic excellence scholarship
- 25% discount upon enrolment on a second master's degree
- 5%-15% corporate offer

Visit our website for more information.

\*Conditions apply



# Why Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi?

In today's fast-paced and globalised economies, knowledge and languages both serve an important role in creating progressive and vibrant societies. The French education system is known for its high level of rigorous critical thinking and debating skills, which play a significant role in developing future pioneers and leaders.

Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi is a globally recognised education institution that serves as a bridge between civilisations by offering a multicultural environment, which promotes and develops a strong culture of tolerance, curiosity, harmony and cultural awareness for today's modern economy. Students have access to internationally acclaimed faculty, world-class facilities and internationally certified degrees, which places them firmly on the right path in preparation for a successful career.

This degree is awarded by Sorbonne University in Paris and officially accredited by the UAE Commission for Academic Accreditation ([www.caa.ae](http://www.caa.ae)).

## **For more information, please contact:**

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