



QUEEN'S
UNIVERSITY
BELFAST

IT ALL STARTS
HERE

PARENTS' & GUARDIANS'
EVENING 2023/ 2024

WELCOME

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INTRODUCTION

Planning is about shaping the places within which we live. How we can transform and improve our cities, towns, neighbourhoods and communities. It affects our everyday lives and is an exciting discipline to study

- How can we plan our cities to adapt to the impacts of climate change?
- How can we provide high quality residential environments that are affordable & sustainable?
- How do we protect and conserve our built heritage and natural environments?

Our programmes have been developed with industry practitioners to equip students with the skills for a professional planning career.



WHY STUDY URBAN PLANNING?



Planning (as applied geography) is about:

What goes where, when, how, for whom and why?

Changing the places we live in:
'creating good places'

Giving you the skills to produce a
positive future

Planners have an extremely
important role to play in society, the
economy, culture, environment: in the
things that **affect our everyday lives**





**How can we make
our cities more
active & engaging?**



**How can we develop
our cities sustainably?**

How can we encourage mobility, while tackling congestion?



WHY STUDY AT QUEEN'S?



OUR APPROACH



Education that is driven by the needs of practice



Interdisciplinary approach to planning teaching



Core focus on skills acquisition



Built on University reputation & strengths

REPUTATION

International research reputation in the built environment & sustainability

Multi-disciplinary expertise

Gold-standard in planning education in Northern Ireland



95% of Queen's Planning students are satisfied with their teaching and assessment, ranking us 1st in the UK.

(National Student Survey 2023)

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Programmes and course content developed with Professional Planning Partnership Board:

- Policymakers
- Employers
- Public & Private sectors

Practice-led approach to teaching, involving real world projects and case studies

Core focus on planning skills (*spatial analysis, design, research*) and transferrable skills (*mediation, advocacy, communication and IT skills*)



EXPERT TEACHING



Broad range of teaching methods:

- Project based learning
- Seminars & Lectures
- Skills & IT workshops
- Individual and group projects
- Field trips

Small group teaching & best staff/ student ratio in the Faculty of Physical Sciences and Engineering

Delivered in multidisciplinary School of Natural & Built Environment



PROJECTS

International Field Study

During Level 3 of the BSc, students visit a major European city to study the practice of urban planning and regeneration in a different socio-economic, cultural, legal and political context.

Site Layout & Design

In Level 2, students undertake a design project for a 'live' development site in Belfast City, involving an identification of planning challenges, development proposal and design brief.



ACCREDITATION



Our programmes have been developed with industry practitioners & professional bodies to meet the criteria for Assessment of Professional Competence



RTPI

Royal Town Planning Institute

Both programmes are assessed every year by an expert panel of academic examiners



RICS

YOUR CAREER

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WE ARE
DEDICATED
TO STUDENT
EMPLOYABILITY

PLACEMENT

Level 2 Work Placement

Choose an optional one-year placement in industry to put your learning and skills into practice. It's an opportunity to build your professional profile, develop your network and identify your professional ambition.

Placement Training

Dedicated training through workshops & seminars:

- interviews,
- communication,
- conduct in the workplace,
- presentation skills,
- insight into various professional workplaces



GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT



Graduates from our programmes have progressed on to careers in:

- Local Planning Authorities
- Private Sector Consultancies
- Public Bodies
- NGOs & Advocacy groups

There are many areas of employment:

- Public sector planning
- Transportation
- Social regeneration
- Urban Design
- Landscape Architecture
- Community Development



WORLD CLASS FACILITIES



FACILITIES

State of the art library, with dedicated student IT Helpdesk, school librarian & group study rooms

5 University Computing Areas & dedicated School computer lab & studio in DKB

Dedicated planning studio for undergraduate project work and seminar room facilities

Access to the GIS teaching laboratory, GIS student learning centre and a Map Library

Advanced virtual learning tools like Canvas for providing teaching materials, assessment and feedback



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



PLANNING COURSES



BSc Planning, Environment and Development

- Three-year + one-year optional placement
- Strong focus in spatial planning, environment & design
- Can transfer to MPlan at end of year 2 if 55% grade average maintained

BBB - A Levels or equivalent

MPlan in European Planning

- Four-year + one-year optional placement
- Spatial planning AND emphasis on European-wide planning issues
- Years one & two are co-delivered with BSc
- Erasmus study abroad year
- Partner Universities (Netherlands, Sweden)

ABB - A Levels or equivalent

MODULES



Year 1	Year 2		Year 3	Year 4 (MPlan)
<p>Planning, Health & Well Being</p> <p>Design Principles in the Built Environment</p> <p>Planning Skills & GIS</p> <p>Contemporary Issues in Urban and Rural Planning</p> <p>History of Planned Settlement</p> <p>Institutional & Policy Context of Planning Practice</p>	<p>Planning Theory & Society</p> <p>Site Layout & Design</p> <p>Theory & Practice of Development Management</p> <p>Planning & Climate Change</p> <p>Theory & Practice of Spatial Planning Policy</p> <p>Economy & Space</p>	<p>Optional Work Placement</p>	<p>Themes in Spatial / European Planning</p> <p>Comparative Planning Studies / Researching European Planning</p> <p>Planning Practice Study Visit</p> <p>Research Methods & Place</p> <p>Legal Studies in Planning</p> <p>Independent Research Project/ European Planning Perspectives</p> <p><i>And one of:</i></p> <p>Conservation of the Built Environment</p> <p>Infrastructure & Transport</p>	<p>Advanced European Planning Studies</p> <p>Independent Research or Work- Based Study in European Planning</p>

ASSESSMENT

Staff are active in teaching and research and have developed innovative learning and assessment methods, including:

- Individual & group projects
- Reports & essays
- Presentations
- Design-based project work
- Fieldtrip participation
- Examinations



School website

[www.qub.ac.uk/schools/NBE/Disciplines/
Planning/](http://www.qub.ac.uk/schools/NBE/Disciplines/Planning/)

Facebook

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Royal Town Planning Institute

(www.RTPI.org.uk)

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