Introduction

The Master of Urban Design (MUD) Programme focuses on the design of the most advanced built environments for an urban era of climate, economics, health and political challenges. Urban design is emerging as a distinct design knowledge domain that transcends the understanding and creative leveraging of planning, landscape, transport, architecture, and design economics.

The Programme attracts a diverse body of local and international students, most with prior backgrounds in urban and transport planning, landscape, and architecture. MUD graduates pursue careers as urban design professionals, and many go on to work in the world’s most dynamic metropolises.

The Programme engages with urban design challenges in Asian cities with an emphasis on interregional perspectives, exploring topics such as the ‘agencies’ of urban form and its impacts on climate change, high-density urbanization, well-being and quality of life, sustainable accessibility and equity, renewable energy and place making. Teaching is delivered by cutting-edge specialists from HKU and external lecturers, including respected professionals from the global urban design community. The Programme is fully accredited by the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA) and the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and meets the international requirements of the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design (ICSID).

MUD graduates are entitled to a one-year Hong Kong’s working visa (Janko), which can be renewed.

For applicants who satisfy admissions criteria for both the MUD and Master of Science in Urban Planning (MUP) programmes, there is the option of applying for admission to both programmes and completing both degrees in a period of six years. Instead of 3 MUP is fully recognized by the Hong Kong Institute of Planners and Royal Town Planning Institute.

MUP graduates can apply for MUD ‘advanced standing’ some credits gained in the MUP Programme lead to some waiving of credits in the MUD programme.

The MUD Programme welcomes applicants for the
- Asian Development Bank – Japan Scholarship Program (ADB-JSP)
- Joint Japan/World Bank Graduate Scholarship Program (JWBSGP)

2019 international urban design studio collaboration: Towards a ‘Green Idea’.
CURRICULUM

The MUD core courses cover urban design theories, strategic urban design, urban design methodology, green infrastructure, place making, urban design research methods and research dissertation writing. Students may take a variety of elective courses from a list of contemporary urban design issues and challenges. Students are required to complete a comprehensive design studio project and overseas destinations that are related to courses. The department also organizes optional local fieldtrips on monthly basis.

Fall Semester
- MUDP301 Hong Kong urban design studio 2 (24 hours)
- MUDP302 Urban design techniques & innovations 2 (22 hours)
- MUDP303 Micrologics & urban design theories 2 (20 hours)

Spring Semester
- MUDP304 International urban design studio 2 (24 hours)
- MUDP305 Urban design research methods 2 (20 hours)
- MUDP306 Principles of urban design urban, social and environmental economics 2 (20 hours)
- Elective course 2 (20 hours)

Summer Semester
- MUDP307 Research dissertation – urban design thesis 2 (20 hours)

Studio is a mix of lectures/seminars/workshops, field visits, tutorial and urban design review organized in group of 8-10 students. Studios combine group work and individual work. The Research Dissertation – urban design thesis is individual and led by the student with a supervisor.

ADMISSION

Admission to the MUD program is competitive. Approximately 30-40 students enter each year from the global community. MUD students come from a diverse background in the fields of architecture, urban planning, landscape architecture, and related disciplines. Some have professional experiences. Applicants are urged to focus on design portfolio, which is an important document in the admission process, for the application year 2022-2023 will be available online on 01 November 2022. The application is online only and supporting materials must be uploaded by 12:00 noon 31 December, 2022. http://www.aed.hku.hk/pgprogram/masterurban design

Admission’s inquiries can be addressed to
Mr. William Lo wili@hku.hk
MUD Program’s inquiries can be addressed to
Dr. Jianxiang Huang: jxhuang@hku.hk

*Official Transcripts from all undergraduate or graduate studies were all attended. A transcript should include course names, examinations taken, grades, degree or certificates awarded, and dates.

- Official English test scores are required for applicants whose qualifications are from a university outside Hong Kong, where the primary language of examination or teaching is not English.
  - TOEFL: 550 or above on the paper-based test or 213 or above on the computer-based test.
  -IELTS: A minimum overall band of 6 with no subject lower than 5.5.

- Overseas General Certificate of Education, or the International General Certificate of Secondary Education, or the Cambridge Test of Proficiency in English Language ‘Grade C’ or above in one of these.

- Three letters of recommendations from university instructors, employers, or others that are capable of evaluating your credentials in urban design.

- An interview is a required component of MUD admission. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified for a Skype interview after the application deadline.

LIST OF APPLICATION MATERIALS

- An application form to be completed online

An electronic copy of a design portfolio demonstrating your most important design, research, drawings, creative and professional work. There are no limits on size, yet the portfolio should not exceed 30 pages (15 MB). On the content page, you need to mark the date, the nature of project (i.e. academic, personal, professional, or collaborative), and collaboration information. If the project is collaborative work, you need to clearly indicate your role in it. Showing other people’s projects or under charismatic teamwork are unacceptable and will result in serious consequences.

- A Resume listing your education, employment, extra-curricular activities, honors, awards, professional affiliations and accreditation, publications, hobbies. There is no page limit to a resume.

- A Personal Statement or Essay stating your motivations, career or academic goals, particular domains of interest in urban design, and other credentials that you think is helpful for the admission committee to evaluate your application (Minimum 1,000 words)

COMPOSITION FEES

The composition fees for the Master of Urban Design in the academic year 2022-2023 is HK$ 24,520 (subject to approval). The fees cover tuition for courses on offer and students’ usage of university facilities, including health care, sports centre and library. It does not include costs for textbooks, printing, binding, stationery, books, and model-making.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE – SCHOLARSHIP
(AID-BSP & JIWBGSB)

Application from a list of developing countries in Asia and the Pacific are eligible to apply for the Japan Development Bank-Japan Scholarship Program (AID-BSP). Application for the JSP(Japan)Bank Graduates Scholarships Program (JIWBGSB) is open to worldwide developing countries. The AID-BSP, JSP(Japan)Bank provide financial assistance to well-qualified candidates to pursue postgraduate studies in arts and building-related fields. The Scholarship covers tuition fees, international fieldtrip and living expenses during the study in Hong Kong for AID-BSP scholarship: https://www.aid.hk/eng/program/japan-scholarship prog.html. For JIWBGSB scholarships, please visit https://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/scholarships or contact MUD admission officer. Applicants from Hong Kong and Mainland China are ineligible for AID-BSP & JIWBGSB Scholarship.