Hong Kong requires volumetric urban design and placemaking. The Master of Science in Urban Design and Transport (MScUDT) is a unique inter-disciplinary Programme that links urban design and transport studies, marrying design thinking with evidence-based transport analysis techniques to develop a more effective and balanced placemaking approach to cities. Traditional urban design focuses on the built environment and placemaking, largely overlooking the social, economic, and environmental dynamics of urban mobilities and access. In contrast, transport studies focus on operations and management of transport systems, tending to ignore the impact of infrastructures on the urban experience, mobility equity and its effects on access to opportunities and the enjoyment of places.

The MScUDT focuses on current and emerging challenges at this critical but overlooked confluence of urban design and transport studies. The curriculum aims to enable smart, healthy, equitable and resilient cities of the future, by providing an urban design education informed by knowledge of relationships between transport, land use, built environment and human behaviour. The Programme prepares built environment professionals to tackle the design, creation, and management of people-focused and sustainable cities, whether in Hong Kong, Asia-Pacific or internationally. The MScUDT curriculum draws on the latest thinking and technologies in urban design, placemaking, transport, urban planning, and major blue, grey, and green infrastructure project development. It will draw on the emergence of new data sources and urban design analytics, to offer exposure to new approaches to urban design, placemaking and transport planning research and design in a design studio setting. The studio setting enables students to develop systems- and holistic design solutions led perspective in their approach to cities management and change.

Themes that will be explored in the Programme include present and future multi-modal complexities of placemaking and urban design, with transport and infrastructure planning and design; urban design and placemaking theory and practice in an age of climate crisis; the reintegration of slow modes; the emergence of micro-mobilities, surface and air autonomous vehicles. This programme welcome candidates wishing to work between discipline as deep generalist to bridge ‘silos’ at the strategic levels with an attention to the details of innovative design delivery across spatial scales that aim to create urban wellbeing and equity. The programme is co-organized by the Department of Urban Planning and Design, the Department of Geography, and the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Hong Kong. The MScUDT Programme is equivalent to European Master’s Degree measured by the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Upon completing the MScUDT programme, graduates are entitled to one-year Hong Kong’s working visa (IANG), which can be renewed.

The MScUDT Programme is equivalent to European Master’s Degree measured by the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS). Upon completing the MScUDT programme, graduates are entitled to one-year Hong Kong’s working visa (IANG), which can be renewed.
The MScUDT programme curriculum provides a unique balance blending theoretical, analytical, and design studio courses. The honours theory courses introduce inter-disciplinary theories of urban design, transport and urban planning policies. The analytical courses introduce urban science quantitative approaches, machine learning methods and novel behavioural network science analytics and tools for evidence-based urban design and transport policy design. The design studio courses provide students with opportunities to integrate through design thinking the acquired knowledge, analytics, skills, and techniques with the community of urban transformation of communities. The capstone experience emphasises practical situations, where research about urban design, placemaking, mobilities, accessibility information, in parallel, an urban design thesis project and thus expose the student to the challenging issue of behavioural and analytics knowledge transition into visioning and communication of policy implementation proposition, area action plan, urban design and placemaking across spatial scales.

This programme equips graduate with knowledge, design thinking know-how, research and analytic skills for a broad spectrum of careers across the urban planning, transport and urban design industries, leading consulting firms in urban planning, urban design, transport, and infrastructure, serving as bridge between engineering, urban design and urban planning. During the two academic years of study in the programme, students are expected to complete a minimum of 120 credits of study including core courses, two studio courses and one research dissertation and urban design project thesis.

Core Courses (Compulsory)
- Morphologies and Urban Design Theories (6 credits)  
- Foundations in Spatial Data (6 credits)  
- Planning Sustainable Cities and regions (6 credits)  
- Spatial Mobilization Analytics (6 credits)  
- Public Space Design Analytics (6 credits)  
- Urban Design-Research Methods and Techniques (6 credits)  
- Survey and Data Analysis in Transport Studies (6 credits)  
- Behavioural Travel Demand Modelling and Techniques (6 credits)  
- Strategic and New Town Urban Design Studio (6 credits)  
- Public: Transport Interchange Urban Design Studio (6 credits)

Dissertation/Capstone experience
- Research Dissertation and Urban Design & Transport Thesis Project (30 credits)  

Studio is a mix of lecture/seminar/workshop, field visits, tutorials, and urban design & transport design review. Studio is led by a course head, organized in group of 1 tutor/8-9 students. Studio combines group tutorial/work and individual tutorial/work.

The Research Dissertation – Urban Design and Transport Thesis Project is individual and led by the student with a supervisor.

ADMISSIONS

The Master of Science in Urban Design and Transport is a two academic years programme (two academic years, four semesters, full time programme). To be eligible for admission candidate shall fulfill the following minimum requirements:
- Hold a Bachelor degree with honours in related urban or transport disciplines from the University of Hong Kong or an equivalent qualification from another university or comparable institution;
- For applicants who do not hold a degree from an institution stating the language of instruction and/or language of examination, they must satisfy the following language requirement: a score of 7.0 in IELTS (TOEFL 550) or above (paper-based test) or a score of 213 or above (computer-based test), or 60 or above (internet based).

Or
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS): a minimum overall band of 6 with no subtest lower than 5.5.
- If you have an undergraduate design related degree such as Urban Planning, Landscape, Urban Design or Architecture submit an electronic copy of a design portfolio demonstrating your work in design related project, or design related work experience. There are no specific requirements for this portfolio. The portfolio may include written work, examples of projects, visual work, and other supporting materials. The portfolio should typically be no more than 20 pages long. Students should prepare their portfolio in electronic format using the Adobe Acrobat PDF software.

An interview is a required component of MScUDT admission. Only short-listed candidates will be notified for a Zoom interview after the application deadline.

Admissions’ inquiries can be addressed to:
- Ms. Michele Leung: mccleung@hku.hk
- Admission’s inquiries can be addressed to:

To be eligible for admission, international students must meet the following requirements:

- A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Proof of previous academic qualifications.
- Evidence of English language proficiency is required for applicants whose first language is not English.

The Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design (HKIUD) The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT)  

The MScUDT programme is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) and the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design (HKIUD) for the purpose of professional recognition.

Beyond the classroom, students are required to complete a 10-week internship. The internship should be undertaken during the summer or autumn break of the third academic year. The internship can be a paid or unpaid work experience. The internship should be related to urban design, planning, transport, and infrastructure. The internship should include a minimum of 400 hours of work experience. The internship should be supervised by a professional with relevant experience. The student should write a report on the internship experience, including the learning outcomes and employer feedback.

The online application form includes the following rubrics: Personal Information, Academic Qualifications, Professional Qualification & Work Experience, English Language Qualifications, References, Further Information, Payment and Submission.

COMPOSITION FEES

The composition fees cover tuition for courses on offer and student’s usage of University facilities, including health clinic, fitness centre, sports centre, and library. The fees do not include costs for local and international field trips, personal software, printing, binding, stationery, books, and model making.

ADVANCED STANDING

Based on previous cognate master of this University or another qualification of equivalent standard, advanced standing from core courses may be granted except for the studios and capstone experience.

Applications for advanced standing should be made at the same time of application for admission.

Programme's inquiries can be addressed to:
- Ms. Michelle Leung: mccleung@hku.hk
- Admission’s inquiries can be addressed to:

ADMISSIONS

The MScUDT Programme’s inquiries can be addressed to:
- Dr. Zhao Shao-dip@dupad.hku.hk

The online application is only supported and requiring materials must be submitted by 12:00 noon 31st January, 2022. Online admission will be available from 12th January 2022. If you like to register your interest and be notified email dupad@hku.hk

The online application form includes the following rubrics: Personal Information, Academic Qualifications, Professional Qualification & Work Experience, English Language Qualifications, References, Further Information, Payment and Submission.

The online application form includes the following rubrics: Personal Information, Academic Qualifications, Professional Qualification & Work Experience, English Language Qualifications, References, Further Information, Payment and Submission.

To be eligible for admission, international students must meet the following requirements:

- A minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
- Proof of previous academic qualifications.
- Evidence of English language proficiency is required for applicants whose first language is not English.

The Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design (HKIUD) The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT)  

The MScUDT programme is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) and the Hong Kong Institute of Urban Design (HKIUD) for the purpose of professional recognition.