

CONTACTS

Department of Urban Planning and Design
Faculty of Architecture
Room 836, 8/F, Knowles Building
The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong SAR
Tel: (+852) 3917 2721
Fax: (+852) 2559 0468
Email: dupad@hku.hk

PROGRAMME INFORMATION



ONLINE APPLICATION



Please scan QR code
for Admission Talk (29 November 2025)



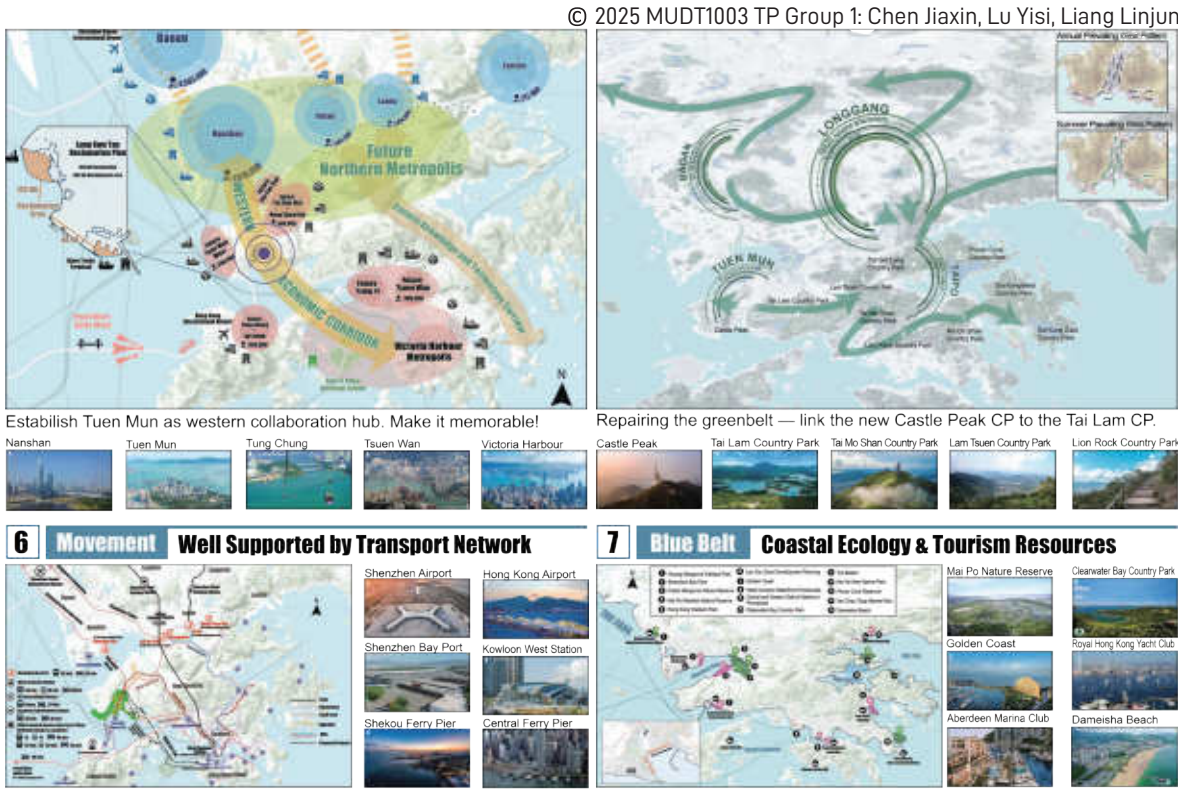
THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG 香港大學
faculty of architecture 建築學院
Department of Urban Planning and Design
城市規劃及設計系
Centre of Urban Studies and Urban Planning
城市研究及城市規劃中心

Master of Science in Urban Design and Transport

2026-2027

2-Year Full Time

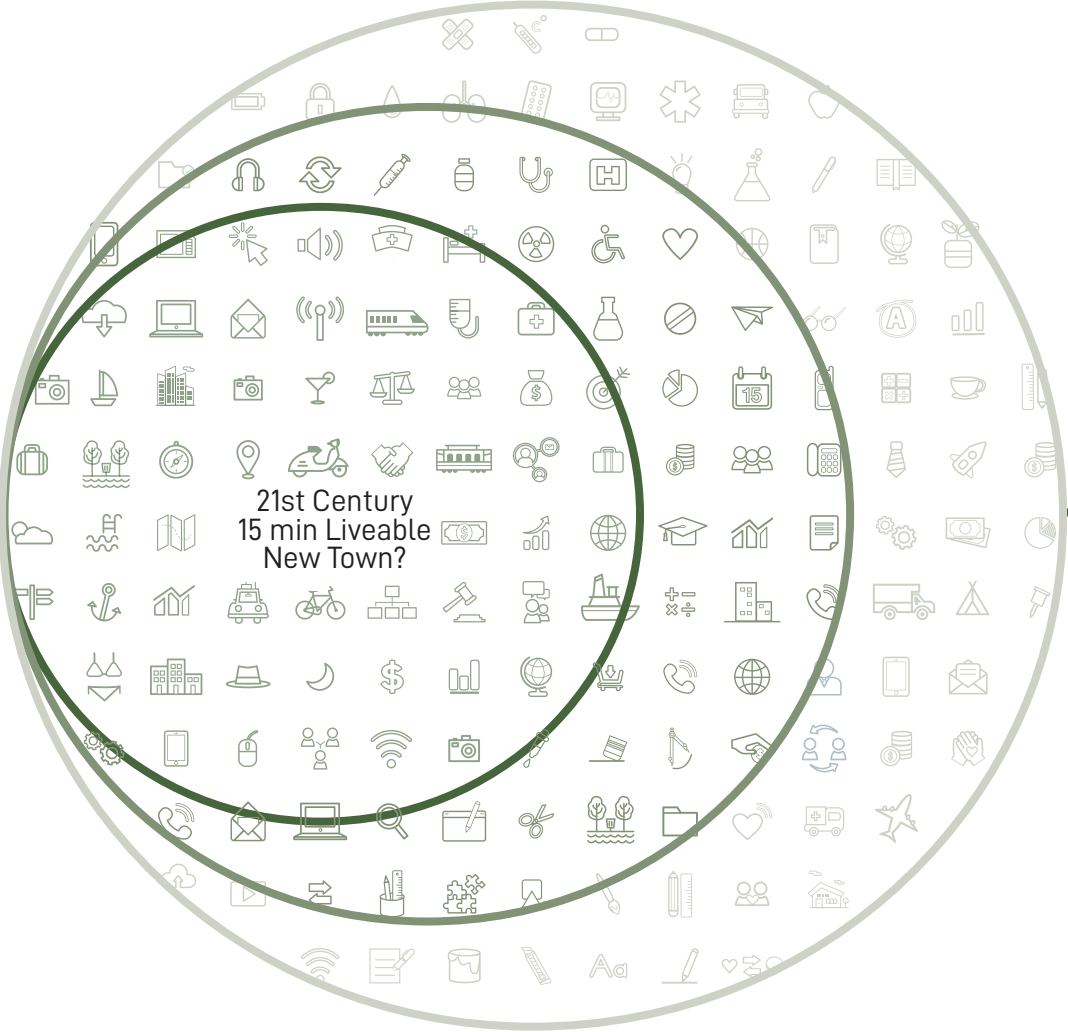
Full recognition (Provisional) by:
The Chartered
Institute of Logistics
and Transport
The Chartered Institute of logistics and transport (CILT(HK): Transport Specialism



The Master of Science in Urban Design and Transport (MScUDT) is a unique interdisciplinary 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, the urban qualities, mobilities equality and its effects on access to opportunities and the enjoyment of places.

The MScUDT Programme focuses on current and emerging challenges at this critical but overlooked confluence of urban design and transport studies. It aims to enable smart, healthy, equitable and resilient cities of the future, by preparing future urban professionals to tackle the design, planning, 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 analytical methods, to offer exposure to new approaches to urban design, placemaking and transport planning. In addition, the studio setting enables students to develop systemic and holistic design solutions-led perspective in their approach to future urban challenges.

Themes that will be explored in the Programme include present and future multi-modal complexities of placemaking and urban design's interface 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 welcomes candidates wishing to work between disciplines as deep generalists to bridge 'silos' at the strategic levels with attention to the details of innovative solutions across spatial scales that aim to enhance urban sustainability. 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.

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PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The MScUDT programme curriculum provides a unique balance blending theoretical, analytical, and design studio courses. The urban 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 mobility analytics 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 to engage with the complexity of urban transitioning of communities. The capstone experience emulates professional situation, where research about urban design, placemaking, mobilities, accessibility inform, in parallel, an urban design thesis project and thus expose the student to the challenging issue of behavioural and analytics knowledge translation into visioning and communication of policy evolution proposition, area action plan, urban design and placemaking across spatial scales.

This programme equips graduate with know-what, 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 courses, including core courses (6 credits each), two studio courses (12 credits each) and one research dissertation and urban design project thesis (30 credits).

Core Courses (Compulsory)

- Morphologies and Urban Design Theories (6 credits)
- Programming and Foundations in Urban Data Analysis (6 credits)
- Planning Future Cities and Regions (6 credits)
- Spatial Mobilities Analytics (6 credits)
- Spatial Planning Analytics (6 credits)
- Research Methods and Techniques (6 credits)
- Transport Network Analysis and Modelling (6 credits)
- Future Street Design Studio (12 credits)
- Smart Transit-Oriented Development Design Studio* (12 credits)

Dissertation/Capstone experience

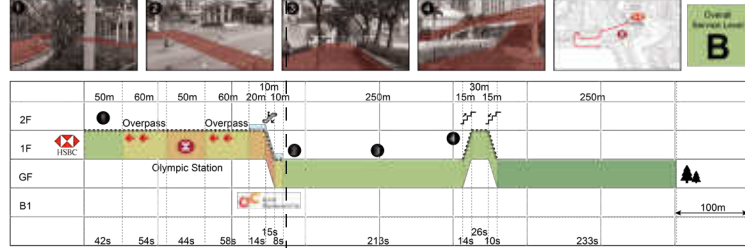
- Research Dissertation and Urban Design & Transport Thesis Project (30 credits)

Studio is a mix of lecture/seminar/workshop, field visits, tutorials, and urban design & transport design reviews. Studio is led by a course lead, 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.

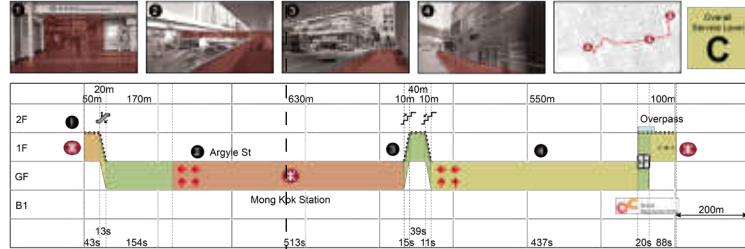
* The studio includes an international field study visit. Students are expected to cover the expenses of the trip.

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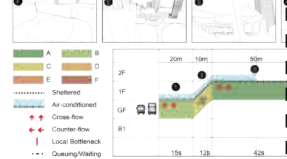
HSBC Centre Branch to Hoi Fai Road Garden Design



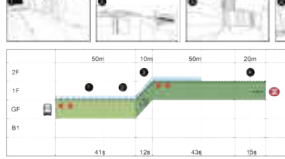
Mong Kok East to Olympic Station Design



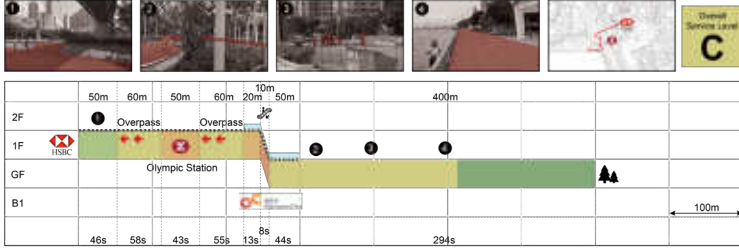
01 Olympic Station Bus Terminus to Olympic Station



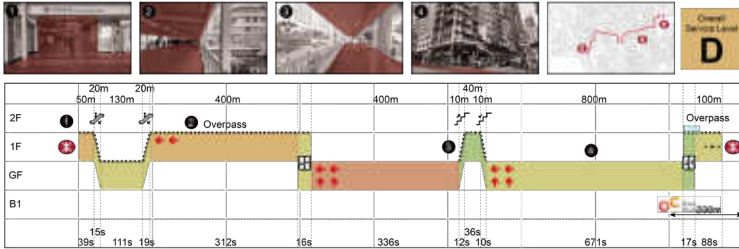
02 Tai Kok Tsui PT1 to Olympic Station



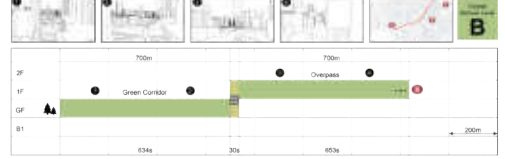
HSBC Centre Branch to Hoi Fai Road Garden Desire



Mong Kok East to Olympic Station Desire



06 Nullah Road Park to Olympic Station



Before and after Inclusive Journey Level Of Service

Elective Courses (6 credits) ** (Choose four)

- Optimization Techniques for Transportation Applications
- Behavioral Travel Demand Modelling
- Survey and Data Analysis in Transport Studies (Changed from Core Course to Elective Course, Subject to approval)
- Transport Economics
- Transport Policy and Planning
- Public Transport Systems

- Urban Design Technologies & Innovations
- Values of Urban Design: Urban, Social Environmental Economics

- Planning, Managing and Financing the Development Process
- Planning Practice, Law and Ethics in Hong Kong
- GIS and Smart Technology in Spatial Planning
- Design, Survey and Modelling for Urban Health
- Principles of Healthy Cities
- Health Impact Assessment of Urban Development Projects
- Key Issues in Ageing Communities

- Transitional Cities: Urban and Housing Development
- Smart and Sustainable Cities
- Housing, Planning, and Sustainability

**Course titles may vary at the time of offer. Selection of elective courses is subject to availability and approval.

ADMISSIONS

The Master of Science in Urban Design and Transport is a two academic year, four semesters, full-time programme. To be eligible for admission candidate shall fulfil the following minimum requirements:

- Hold a Bachelor degree in Transport Science / Engineering / Planning, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning, Urban Design or related and relevant fields 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 using English as the language of instruction and/or the language of examination, they must satisfy the following language requirements:

Test of English as Foreign Language (TOEFL): 550 or above (paper-based test) or a score of 213 or above (computer-based test); or 80 or above (new 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 or related discipline, you have to submit an electronic copy of a design portfolio demonstrating your work in design related project, or design related professional work. There are no limits on layout, yet the portfolio should not exceed 20 pages (20 Mb). On the content page, you need to mark the date, the nature of the project (i.e., academic, personal, or professional), and collaboration information. If the project is collaborative work, you need to clearly indicate your role in it. Showing other people's projects or undeclared teamwork are unacceptable plagiarism and will results in serious consequences.

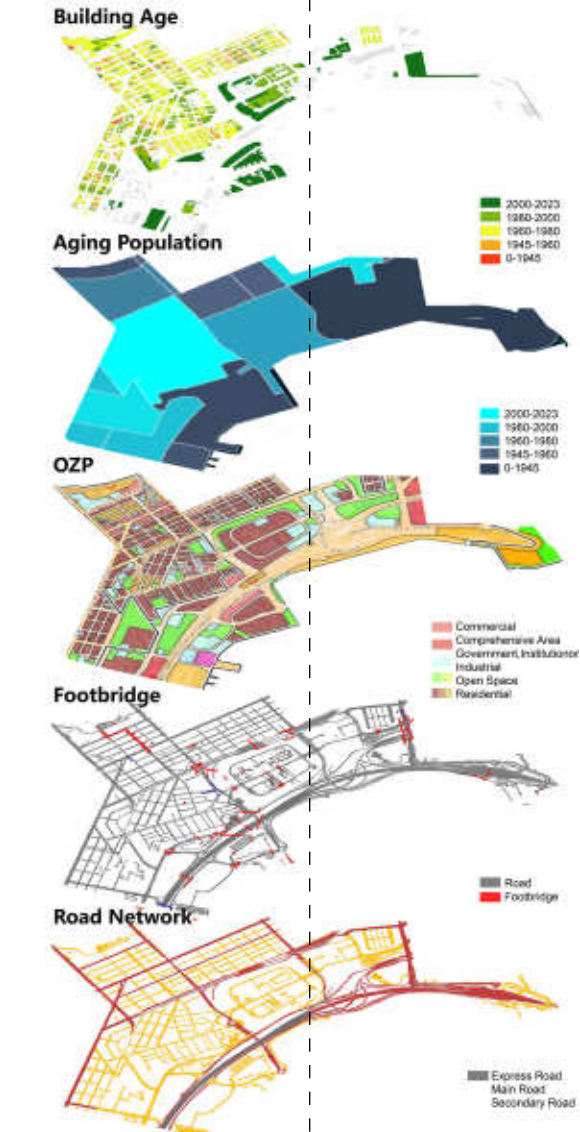
- If you have an undergraduate degree related to transport or you have an undergraduate degree that is not specifically related to design, you are encouraged (optional) to submit an electronic document of projects (transport related, undergraduate degree related, personal, etc.). There are no limits on layout. The portfolio should not exceed 20 pages (20 Mb). The date, the nature of the project (i.e., academic, personal, or professional), and collaboration information must be indicated on the content page. If the project is a collaborative work, the applicant's role must be indicated clearly to avoid plagiarism.

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

The application is online only and supporting materials must be uploaded by the specified deadlines mentioned below:

Early Round Admissions: 12:00 noon (GMT +8), October 22, 2025
Main Round Admissions: 12:00 noon (GMT +8), January 02, 2026

Late applications are normally NOT considered.



Reimagining the Waterfront : Urban design layers

The online application form includes the following rubrics: Personal Information, Academic Qualifications, Professional Qualification and Work Experience, English language Qualifications, Referees, Further information, Payment, and Submission(s).

Admission's inquiries can be addressed to:
Ms. Celia Law mudtadmi@hku.hk

MScUDT Programme's inquiries can be addressed to:
Prof. Chen FENG dupad@hku.hk

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COMPOSITION FEES

The composition fee* for the year 2026-2027 is HK\$372,000 (subject to the University's approval). The fees will be paid in four installments (approximately HK\$93,000 per semester).

- * The composition fees only cover tuition fees for courses on offer and student's usage of University facilities, such as health clinic, sports centre and library. The fees do not include costs for local and international field trips, printing, binding, stationery, books and model building.

ADVANCED STANDING

Based on previous cognates master of this University or another qualification of an equivalent standard, advanced standing from the core course can be granted except for the studios and capstone experience. Applications for advanced standing should be made at the same time as applications for admission.

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITIONS - ACCREDITATIONS

The programme is accredited by:

- The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in Hong Kong (CILTHK) (Provisional)

To become a Student Member of CILTHK (free membership):
<https://www.cilt.org.hk/en-us/Membership/apply.aspx>

International Scholarship for Taught Postgraduate Studies In the Department of Urban Planning and Design (subject to approval by the University)

Each self-funded taught postgraduate programme shall award a maximum of total value equivalent to two full Scholarships per year, to be determined by a Selection Committee.

Entrance scholarship to deserving international students (i.e. excluding Hong Kong and Mainland China) who have been offered admission into the programme based on:

1. Academic merit at the time of admission (e.g. academic/professional achievements);
2. Performance at admission interview; and
3. Personal statement.

The value of each full scholarship shall cover the composition fee of the respective taught postgraduate programme, resulting in a waiver of the composition fee for the awardee.

Recipients of the Scholarship shall be expected to actively participate in departmental and programme promotional activities.