POLYTECH TOURS

université de TOURS

MASTER

PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

2023-2024

REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTERING THE PROGRAMME

The programme is conceived for students who wish to **acquire skills and research-based knowledge in urban planning.** Students should have a bachelor in spatial planning, geography, architecture, sociology, local and regional development, civil engineering, environmental engineering...

Direct admission in the 2nd year is possible.

The language of tuition is English.

The basic requirement to apply is a B2 level in English: Paper-based TOEFL score = 567, Internet-based TOEFL score = 87, TOEIC score = 785,

IELTS = 5.0, Cambridge = FCE...

Since 2010, more than 150 students from over 50 countries on 5 continents have been admitted in the programme. 97% of them have graduated.

TUITION FEES

The amount of tuition fees is decided each year by the board of the University of Tours. For the academic year 2023-2024, the tuition fees are of 2,700€ for the first year and 5,300€ for the second year.

PERMANENT STAFF MEMBERS

The teaching team consists of a dozen professors, senior lecturers and researchers who are involved in international cooperation, in research, education and expertise. Half of them are permanent staff, and half come on a yearly base as invited researcher.

Mathilde GRALEPOIS is a senior lecturer in urban planning. She was recently involved in two European projectson climate change.

Abdelillah HAMDOUCH is full professor in urban planning and Associate Editor of the Revue d'Economie Régionale et Urbaine.

Vincent ROTGE, is an architect and geographer, he is contract professor. His current research interests are urban waterfronts in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Jose SERRANO is full professor in urban planning. He has conducted research on the sustainable use of natural resources in peri- urban areas in France, Mexico, the Netherlands and England.

Kamal SERRHINI is a senior lecturer in urban planning who develops methods and tools to assess the vulnerability of territories to natural hazards.

Karl Matthias WANTZEN is full professor in ecology. After working in Brazil and Germany, he heads the UNESCO Chair «River culture – Fleuves et patrimoine».

Laura VERDELLI is an architect and urban planner, she is a senior lecturer in urban planning and runs the programme. Her main research issues are related to heritage and enhancement of landscapes.

PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAMME

The Master Planning and Sustainability is **a 2 years programme in urban and regional planning.** It is conducted by the Department of Spatial Planning and Environment of Polytech Tours (France).
One of the most important schools of planning in the European context, this school is a founding member of several major planning education networks: the Association of European Planning Schools (AESOP), the French-speaking planningschools network (APERAU).

The Master is part of the University Network Initiative launched by UNHabitat while being in France the only international programme directed at research in the field of spatial planning.
The Master Planning and Sustainability is accredited by the French Ministry of Higher Educationand Research for the period September 2018- September 2024.

It also enjoys the AESOP Quality Recognition for the period 2019-2025.

The Master is supported by the laboratory CITERES Cities, Territories, Environment and Societies (University of Tours and CNRS) and especially its team 'Action and Dynamics in Spatial Planning and Environment'. This team develops programmes that join the field of urban studies with research on the urban environment. Funded by the European Union, national agencies, or regional and local governments, these programmes develop methods and contribute to knowledge about planning for sustainable urban development in various contexts.
The modules of the Master's programme are based on transnational research conducted at the European level and/or in countries such as Brazil, Canada, Germany, India, Thailand, UK, Vietnam, etc..

According to the United Nations, urban planning is a priority field for higher education to address effectively the environmental and social challenges that cities are facing: social fragmentation, loss of biodiversity, depletion of nonrenewable energy resources and the increasing intensity of natural risks in a context of climate change. To address these issues, the Master equips students with knowledge and skills in sustainable urban development and with research methods relating to planning and urban development.

KNOWLEDGE

- Contemporary theories and models of urban development: compact cities, polycentric regions, creative cities, new urbanism.
- Urban governance, land-use management, urban informality and questions of social justice/ equity/ exclusion.
- Spatialization of data through GIS.
- Integration of natural risks in urban development (prevention and management).

SKILLS

- Ability to situate practical sustainable urban development questions within a scientific field.
- Ability to conduct territorial diagnoses and to use quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Practice of an interdisciplinary approach to urban and regional planning.
- International experience and capacity to contribute to collective work in a multicultural context.

CAREER PROSPECTS

Typically, graduates become researchers by starting a PhD in **spatial planning and urban development,** or they turn to consultancy or management in public or private organizations that develop cities and regions.
Job prospects are continually growing given the huge need to adapt urban development to the context of climate change.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

First year – Autumn semester

Group project 1- the city (10 ECTS): students cooperate in a work group. They undertake an interdisciplinary diagnosis.

Theories and models of urban development (6 ECTS) provides an understanding of the notions of urbanization and deals with city-regions and metropolitan governance.

Urban challenges (6 ECTS) analyses the conditions producing urban forms. It examines current planning approaches such as smart growth and the right to the city.

Geomatics (4 ECTS) provides the skills that are necessary to define a GIS and its components.

French as a foreign language (4 ECTS) helps students to develop language tools necessary for academic, social and cultural integration.

Winter semester

International mobility to one of the partner universities (30 ECTS): Hamburg, Hannover, Dortmund, Pecs, Belfast, Dublin, Milano, Tromsø,Wroclaw, Porto, Bratislava, Tarragona, Stockholm.

Second year – Autumn semester

Group project 2– Sustainable urban development (10 ECTS): students become experts in analyzing a spatial situation from the perspective of sustainability and develop solutions.

Eco-city development models (6 ECTS) critically reflects on sustainable urban development 'models', such as new towns, green cities, smart cities, eco-cities.

Research methodology (3 ECTS) helps students to design a research strategy adapted to their topic.

Water and risks- an interdisciplinary approach (6 ECTS) is about the planning challenges of urban waterfront planning, biodiversity and urban development, and risks and vulnerability.

French as a foreign language (3 ECTS) helps students to develop language tools necessary for academic, social and cultural integration.

Job search techniques (2 ECTS) helps students to develop a professional project in a national or international context.

Winter semester

Research seminar (5 ECTS) trains students to produce an analysis grid and to propose research protocols.

Research internship (25 ECTS): with the help of a supervisor, students develop a research question in relation to existing work and they conduct a state-ofthe-art literature review, and also fieldwork. They write, submit and defend a Masterthesis.

MORE INFORMATION

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https://polytech.univ-tours.fr/version-francaise/master-planning-and-sustainability

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