

Master in Geography and Spatial Planning



Geography &
Spatial Planning



Programme

120 ECTS / 4 semesters
Full-time
Registration fees:
200€ / semester



Admission

Potential applicants are expected to have an excellent Bachelor's degree or qualification of equivalence in a relevant discipline (primarily (human) geography, spatial planning, architecture, urban studies, regional economics urban sociology or engineering). However, candidates with degrees covering other areas are also welcome to apply and may be accepted if there is a demonstration of sufficient knowledge in the relevant fields.



Teaching languages

English



Applications

EU applications:
February – June
Non-EU applications:
February – April



The Master in Geography and Spatial Planning responds to the growing need for highly qualified experts that can embrace the multi-dimensionality and complexity surrounding the evolution of cities and regions, reflecting global changes and local dynamics. Despite the demand for European or transnational coordination in spatial planning, national planning cultures and concepts within Europe continue to be markedly heterogeneous. You will be prepared for understanding a wide range of European and transnational planning philosophies and processes, as well as transcending current limits. The programme addresses social, economic and environmental challenges with a geographical and multi-scalar perspective. Sustainable planning strategies require a holistic approach and push researchers and experts to enlarge the scope of their competences and move beyond singular disciplinary culture.

Our learning environment

We offer a supportive and small group-learning environment that encourages students to challenge policies, theories, debates and data related spatial processes and practices. To achieve this, you will undertake a mix of individual or collaborative activities that build upon latest qualitative, quantitative and mixed-method geographical analysis. Throughout the programme, you will explore planning issues of particular relevance to Luxembourg and the Greater Region, set within the context of national and international experience.

We guide students to become autonomous researchers and encourage them to develop personal interests in the wider field of urban studies. You will expand your skillset through applied and experiential learning, including Local and European fieldwork, hands-on practicals, investigation and evaluation of case studies, role-play, debates and engagement with professional practitioners.

Additionally, our students profit from the inspiring intercultural and interdisciplinary context provided by both their peers and their teachers.

The Master in Geography and Spatial Planning is a two-year study programme supporting the exploration of the evolution of cities and (cross-border) regions from the perspective of multi-dimensionality and multi-scaled complexity. We reflect upon the global changes and local dynamics to investigate social, economic, and environmental challenges facing the 21st Century.



FACULTY OF HUMANITIES,
EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES

Students study in a multicultural environment to develop theoretical knowledge and expertise in spatial dynamics, geographical analysis, and European planning theory, practices, and processes especially linked to urban and environmental transformations and regeneration.

CONTACT

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Learning Objectives

As a graduate student enrolled in our programme, you can expect to achieve the following programme learning objectives:

- Develop theoretical knowledge and expertise in spatial dynamics, geographical analysis and European planning theory, practices and processes especially linked to urban transformations and regeneration.
- Understand, explain and evaluate relevant research on spatial dynamics, geographical analysis and European planning theory, practices and processes.
- Develop skills in managing, analysing and interpreting qualitative and / or quantitative research methods and geographic data for spatial enquiry and problem-solving
- Explore the multi-dimensionality and multi-scaled complexity of the evolution of cities and (cross-border) regions.
- Develop profession judgement to support your specialist skills in order to understand issues associated with inequality and sustainability in society and its environment

Our focus is on the comparative aspects of geography and planning with a particular emphasis on cross-border issues. We use Luxembourg and the Greater Region as a case study to as a theoretical frame for analysis.

We value and encourage our students to think critically and reflectively and expect our students to be willing to work collaboratively and participate in a variety of local, national and European field classes. We like our students to demonstrate their enthusiasm and commitment to their studies.

Career perspectives

On completion of the Master's programme our graduates take up positions in a wide variety of countries as:

Spatial or policy analysts, urban planners, environment specialists, GIS specialist and spatial analysis in the private or public sector, from local to international organisations, geography teachers, mobility and transport consultancy, spatial and regional development agencies, European and cross-border institutions, universities and research centres.

We strive to support graduates to become informed and responsible global citizens in whatever direction their future holds.

Programme structure

The Master's programme is organised over two years (four semesters) for full time studies and has a total of 120 ECTS. The programme starts annually in the winter term and is designed for 20 students per year. Courses are taught in English. Most courses are organised in interactive and problem-oriented forms, providing the students with advanced conceptual and methodological knowledge as well as exposing them to realistic research situations that challenge their scientific and organisational problem-solving capacities.

The programme is divided up into 9 overarching categories, which expand across the four semesters.

1. Urban and Spatial Planning
2. European Territorial Trends and Policies
3. Territorial Governance and Policy Analysis
4. Quantitative Spatial Analysis
5. Cartography and GIS
6. Geographical Modelling
7. Projects and Practice
8. Research Methods and Seminars
9. Master Thesis

Categories reflect different thematic domains or methodological approaches of geography and spatial planning. The categories are further divided into Introductory, Intermediate or Advanced modules progressing in complexity, content and methods through the different semesters. A module does not span over several semesters. Each module is then composed of one or several courses. From the second semester on each semester is made of a set of compulsory core courses together with a set of optional ones that support further specialisation. Cumulating in the Master Thesis which finalises your research training in Semester 4.