



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MA Town & Regional Planning

Course Code: TPLAN

2024/25

MA Town and Regional Planning (TPLAN)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at 11/2023

General Information

Award	Master of Arts Town & Regional Planning
Contained Awards	Postgraduate Diploma Town & Regional Planning Postgraduate Certificate Town & Regional Planning
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year (full time, campus based)• 2 years (part-time, campus based)
Part Time Study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent.
Location of Delivery	City Campus, Leeds
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Course Fees

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director

Max Hope

Your Academic Advisor

Each Student will be allocated an Academic Advisor once they commence their studies at the University. The Academic Advisor will be a member of the Planning, Housing & Human Geography Academic Staff.

Your Course Administrator

Sue Szekely – S.P.Szekely@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

Successful completion of this programme provides eligibility to become a Chartered Planning (on completion of Assessment of Professional Competence). Being Chartered enables advancement in the profession and carries significant status and recognition.

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- to support students in gaining a critical understanding of the rationale for spatial planning, including considerations of housing policy, regeneration, social inclusion, environmental protection, and community engagement.
- to enable intellectual development through appropriate research and enquiry focused as appropriate on areas of specialism.
- to equip students to engage in creative and innovative intervention in spaces and places using appropriate techniques, knowledge, and skills.
- to enable students to explore and interrogate concepts within spatial planning, in particular the objectives of integration and synergy between closely related policy fields.
- to develop independent learning habits, promoting a commitment to lifelong learning for planning practitioners, especially through a student-centred approach to study.
- to encourage and support students as reflective practitioners, including encouragement of self-awareness and the assumption of an ethical standpoint to engagement in planning practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Critically evaluate and assess the social, economic, and political nature of the town planning environment.
2	Demonstrate a critical awareness of the challenges of planned interventions at a variety of spatial scales.
3	Apply skills and knowledge in developing creative responses to problems and opportunities in planning.
4	Demonstrate critical awareness and appreciation of the diversity of interests that play a role in developing, designing, and managing the environment.
5	Demonstrate ability to critically evaluate a specialist area of town and regional planning that may include themes of housing, heritage, sustainability, community engagement or environmental protection.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

All modules except Research Methods and Dissertation operate normally on the basis of weekly classes which combine keynote lectures by staff or visiting specialists with small or whole group teaching and learning. Some timetabled sessions may alternatively require students to undertake directed research tasks or directed reading. Workshops and visits are also included, drawing on the expertise of practitioners or specialists, and where suitable regional practitioners act as clients for group projects. An optional European Field Study visit provides the key vehicle for comparative study of planning practice, and for understanding spatial planning in contrasting socio/economic and political/institutional circumstances.

The Research Methods module is managed both by lectures and workshop discussion or tasks to develop knowledge and skills in methodologies. Dissertation is managed through individual tutorials supplemented by group meetings to discuss shared issues.

The course team expects students to continue their learning outside timetabled sessions, both individually and where appropriate in mixed groups. Students are expected to undertake background reading each week both to enhance knowledge and critical awareness and to inform class discussion. The move to increasing levels of student independence is progressive through the course with students expected to demonstrate a substantial degree of initiative and self-reliance in Dissertation.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Full Time Delivery

Level 7			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Housing & Urban Regeneration Policy (20 credits)	Y	Legislative Frameworks and Decision Making in Planning (20 credits)	Y
Histories of Planning and Making Places (20 credits)	Y	Planning for Environmental Sustainability (20 credits)	Y
Policy Implementation and Appraisal (20 credits)	Y	Inclusive Places: Theory and Practice (20 credits)	Y
Research Methods (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (40 credits)	Y

Part Time Delivery

Level 7			
Year 1			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Histories of Planning and Making Places (20 credits)	Y	Legislative Frameworks and Decision Making in Planning (20 credits)	Y
Housing & Urban Regeneration Policy (20 credits)	Y	Planning for Environmental Sustainability (20 credits)	Y
Year 2			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Policy Implementation and Appraisal (20 credits)	Y	Inclusive Places: Theory and Practice (20 credits)	Y
Research Methods (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (40 Credits)	Y

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed primarily through coursework, with a presentation. There is a 40-credit point Dissertation module.

Workload

Overall Workload	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	306 hours
Independent Study	1494 hours
Placement	N/A

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.