LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.
Information provided here was confirmed on 24/08/2026

General information

Programme code
TPLAN

Target award
If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
MA Town and Regional Planning

Delivery mode
✓ On campus
☐ Distance learning

Where you will study
The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Professional accreditation or recognition

Professional body
Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)

Summary of the accreditation or recognition
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.

Awarding body
Leeds Beckett University

Regulator
Office for Students

Level of qualification
Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:
12 months full-time
24 months part-time

Part-time study

This course can be studied part-time.

If you study the course part-time, it will usually take twice as long to complete compared with the equivalent full-time course. The modules may be delivered in a different sequence than on the full-time course, but you will study the same modules at each academic level. With the agreement of the course team, you may be able to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration.

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning
If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

The aims of the course 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.

Teaching and learning activities

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.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

Full Time Delivery

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Housing Needs	20	S1 / Year 1
Local Planning	20	S1 / Year 1
Development Value and Viability	20	S1 / Year 1
Research Methods	20	S1 / Year 1
Legislative Frameworks and Decision Making in Planning	20	S2 / Year 1
Planning for Environmental Sustainability	20	S2 / Year 1
Inclusive Places: Theory and Practice	20	S2 / Year 1
Dissertation	40	S2 / Year 1
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	180	

Part Time Delivery

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Housing Needs	20	S1 / Year 1
Local Planning	20	S1 / Year 1
Development Value and Viability	20	S1 / Year 2
Research Methods	20	S1 / Year 2
Legislative Frameworks and Decision Making in Planning	20	S2 / Year 1
Planning for Environmental Sustainability	20	S2 / Year 1
Inclusive Places: Theory and Practice	20	S2 / Year 2
Dissertation	40	S2 / Year 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	180	

Assessment and feedback

Level 7

This course is assessed mostly by coursework with a presentation. Students will also complete a 40-credit Dissertation module.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	306 hours
Independent study	1494 hours