

# Planning and Sustainable Communities

MSc



**Location:** London North campus, Ladbroke House

Starts September	Yes
Starts February	Yes
Full-time	Yes
Part-time day	No
Part-time evening	No
Part-time day and evening	Yes

## Aims of the course

The distinctive feature of this course is the combination of a range of disciplines – strategic planning and health, education, leisure and transport. The course aims to provide the fundamental knowledge of spatial planning, health, education, leisure and transport policy and planning and the inter-action between them.

The course has been developed in response to new Government guidance and new organisational structures, which require the integration of spatial planning and social, transport and utilities infrastructure provision to ensure the development of sustainable communities. It has been developed in response to specific demand. The course will focus on analysing primary sources and case studies as well as the academic literature. Students will undertake group work and project work as well as individual essays.

The range of modules provided also enables students to develop specialist interests. This course is appropriate for existing spatial planning practitioners who are seeking more detailed theoretical and technical knowledge, and for those managing the planning of health, education, leisure, transport and utility services or are seeking to move into more specialist posts.

## Duration and attendance

**Full-time:** 1 year, day time and evening

**Part-time:** 2 years, day time and evening

## Dates/timetable

**Autumn semester:** September – January

**Spring semester:** February – June

## Course structure

The course consists of 4 core modules, 2 optional modules, and a dissertation of 12 –15,000 words.

### Full-time

#### Autumn semester

##### Core modules

- National Planning Framework and Policy
- Framework for Sustainable Communities
- Urban and Regional Planning

##### Optional modules

#### Spring semester

- Regeneration and Economic Development Policy
- Summer Dissertation

2 optional modules from the list below

### Part-time Year 1

#### Autumn semester

##### Core modules

- National Planning Framework and Policy
- Framework for Sustainable Communities

##### Optional modules

#### Spring semester

- Regeneration and Economic Development Policy

### Part-time Year 2

#### Autumn semester

##### Core modules

- Urban and Regional Planning

##### Optional modules

#### Spring semester

2 optional modules from the list below

- Summer Dissertation

## Core modules

**National Planning Framework & policy** – introduces spatial planning by focusing on the statutory national policy framework and on its implementation at regional and local levels. It considers the purpose of planning in relation to public policy, its relationship to the market and presents different forms of planning and their relationship to other disciplines. Up to date developments in planning policy will be covered.

**Framework for sustainable communities** – covers the principles of sustainable communities, the historical background including the New Towns experience and government policy as set out in the Sustainable Communities Plan. It looks at some of the components of sustainable communities - health; education; open space and leisure and transport and utilities provision, considering the planning and governance framework for each as they relate to the land use planning, implementation and government investment.

**Urban & regional planning** – provides a detailed understanding of regional and local plan-making practice. It is introduced by covering the history of regional planning in London and the Southeast and follows on with an examination of government guidance using case studies. The module also considers governance structures at regional and local level and the implications of the proposed introduction of integrated regional strategies on the relationship between plans and Sustainable Community Strategies at local level.

**Regeneration and Economic Development Policy** – focuses on cities; how they have grown across the world and the economic, social and governance changes taking place in them. It looks at how these changes and theories have influenced city regeneration and economic development policy. The module deals with spatial policy and its role in contemporary city regeneration and economic development including debates about poor neighbourhoods and sustainable communities, housing and affordable housing, urban renaissance and city centre regeneration, mega-project-led regeneration and sport, culture and creative-industry led regeneration.

## Optional modules

**London and the Greater Southeast** – provide students with an understanding of the history and development of London, its metropolitan region, relationship with the rest of the UK and its world city role. The demographic, social and economic dynamic of London and the Greater Southeast are covered together with the structures of governance and the delivery of services.

**Educational Policy and Social Justice** – aims to help students appreciate trends in education policy, globally and in the UK and identifies issues involved in putting policy into practice. The focus is on the relationship between education policy and social justice and students will be equipped with the conceptual and analytical tools required to evaluate the literature relating to education policy.

**Health in the City** – examines health and health care in urban regions and focuses on the notion of urban health crisis, which is examined by reference to London and other selected "world cities". It explores the health challenges experienced in London and other world cities by patients, communities, health workers, service providers and local authorities against a background of globalization.

**Cultural and Creative Regeneration** – covers three main areas: Culture and Creative Spatial Strategies which reviews UK and international spatial strategies for creative and cultural spaces; the role of public art and the public realm in creative spatial strategies; evaluation of related strategies for sustainable mixed use developments, town centres and evening economies; planning for heritage sites and cultural tourism; evaluation of property strategies and the gentrification effects of cultural and creative regeneration; Culture and Regeneration in which the role of the arts and popular culture in social and community development is examined; Creative Industries and Economic Regeneration in which the role of and strategies for creative industries in the entrepreneurial knowledge economy are assessed in the context of global and international competition.

**Planning Transport and Utilities Provision** – provides a comprehensive introduction to planning for transport and the overall purposes and principles. It considers national policy and planning guidance and the potential impact of the Government's proposals for an Infrastructure Planning Commission. It then considers techniques for transport assessment and planning including modal modelling and transport plans. It considers the relationship of planning to transport operations, covering traffic control using the London congestion

charge as a case study, rail services, bus services and airports planning. The module then covers the relationship between transport planning and spatial planning and the relationship between employment policy and transport planning covering both inter-regional and intra-regional aspects.

## Teaching and learning

The course will be delivered by a variety of means. Most modules will include weekly lectures, presentations and group workshops. Where appropriate there will be site visits and visiting speakers.

## Assessment

A range of methods is used including written reports, essays, group and individuals, class tests and examinations.

## Career opportunities

Skills in planning need to be retained and developed during this period of economic difficulty. The downturn provides the opportunity to invest in personal development and staff skills that will be vital for public and private sectors: in local and regional planning authorities, government agencies and planning consultancies and also for management posts within health, education, leisure, transport and utility agencies.

## Professional accreditation

The University is seeking RTPI accreditation. However, as a specialist course, students will have to have already completed an accredited undergraduate programme to be entitled to full RTPI membership.

## Fees 08/09\*

See our website, [www.londonmet.ac.uk/tuition-fees](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/tuition-fees) or call the Admissions Office for more information.

\*Tuition fees are subject to change.

## Entry requirements

The standard entry requirement for the course is a good honours degree or equivalent.

## How to apply

Apply directly to the University. Please contact Admissions for an application form or you may download one at [www.londonmet.ac.uk/how-to-apply](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/how-to-apply)

## Further information

Admissions Office  
London Metropolitan University  
166-220 Holloway Road  
London N7 8DB

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7133 4202

Email: [admissions@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@londonmet.ac.uk)

Web: [www.londonmet.ac.uk/lmbs](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/lmbs)

For any further information on the MSc, please contact:

Duncan Bowie

Reader in Urban Planning and Regeneration

Email: [d.bowie@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:d.bowie@londonmet.ac.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7133 5224 – or

Julia Atkins

Senior Research Fellow

Email: [j.atkins@londonmet.ac.uk](mailto:j.atkins@londonmet.ac.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 20 7133 5224

## Open days/evenings

You can also come to one of our open days or evenings, held throughout the year. See our website [www.londonmet.ac.uk](http://www.londonmet.ac.uk) or call the Admissions Office for up-to-date details.

We do everything we can to ensure that information in this leaflet is correct, however details may change and we cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions.