Master of Science in Urban and Environmental Design

The Master of Science in Urban and Environmental Design (MUED) at the UK College of Design is dedicated to helping students think critically about emerging urban and environmental design problems through real-world projects and future-oriented ideas. The program introduces students to the complexity of urban, rural and small-town environments — from the varying spectrum of stakeholders to the bounds of existing infrastructures — and promotes an interdisciplinary approach to designing sustainable communities.

The curriculum is studio-based to develop an ethic of collaboration and critical thinking among students, faculty and community members. From these relationships, projects emerge that seek inventive ideas to specific design challenges. Students take a diversified sequence of courses that includes history and theory of urban and environmental design, visualization techniques, policy analysis, and socioeconomic research.

MUED students devise innovative methods for community-based design to inspire visions of social and economic sustainability at multiple scales.

Students choose from one of three concentrations: 1) Town Design, Main Streets and Rural Communities; 2) Sustainability, Adaptability and Resilience; and 3) Urban Systems (e.g., Urban Ecology, Data Analytics and Infrastructure Design). The program is open to candidates with or without design backgrounds. Students without formal design training will be required to take an introductory design studio sequence as a prerequisite.

As the complexity of design challenges within the built environment grows, the need for diverse teams of professionals and community members dedicated to addressing these challenges also grows. With an MUED from the College of Design, students will have the skills and knowledge to inspire visions of social, economic and environmental sustainability at multiple scales using innovative principles and techniques for effective community design.
Admission to the
Urban and Environmental Design Program
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The Master of Science in Urban and Environmental Design (MUED) was conceived as a studio-based degree for practitioners and consumers of urban and environmental design. The degree will draw candidates from multiple disciplines, including architecture, environmental studies, geography, historic preservation, and landscape architecture.

We look for students with demonstrated critical thinking, aptitude for spatial thinking and visualization, commitment to the rigor of studio, and a passion for improving the physical world around them.

Students without a formal design background are encouraged to apply. Admission will be contingent upon completion of a two-semester foundational studio sequence as a prerequisite. Students with a formal design background do not need to complete the prerequisites, but must submit a portfolio with their application.

Please visit design.uky.edu/urban-and-environmental-design for additional information and the application.

FUNDING

Information about funding opportunities is available from the University of Kentucky Graduate School at gradschool.uky.edu/student-funding.
Urban and Environmental Design Curriculum
MUED Curriculum

The Master of Science in Urban and Environmental Design (MUED) offers flexible degree options for a variety of student backgrounds and design experience levels. Students with no formal design background are encouraged to apply.

**OPTION 1** is for students with no formal design background and requires a foundational studio sequence as a prerequisite for admission to the MUED program. This option can be completed in two years and does not require a portfolio for admission.

**OPTION 2** is for students with an undergraduate design degree but no urban design background. This option includes an introductory urban design course and studio primer and can be completed in 15 months. A portfolio is required to apply.

**OPTION 3** is for students with both an undergraduate design degree and a background in urban design. This option can be completed in one year (Fall, Spring, and Summer). A portfolio is required to apply.

**FALL**
- ARC 550: Accelerated Design I (9)

**SPRING**
- ARC 551: Accelerated Design II (9)

**SUMMER**
- UED 501: Introduction to Urban and Environmental Design (3)
- UED 511: Studio Primer (5)

**FALL**
- UED 601: Urban Design Studio (5)
- UED 611: Visualization (2)
- UED 651: History and Theory (3)
- Elective (3)

**SPRING**
- UED 602: Urban Design Studio (5)
- UED 612: Research Design and Methods (1)
- HP 602: Historic Preservation Law (3)
- Elective (3)

**SUMMER**
- UED 701/711: Design Project/Thesis (5)