



Study and Examination Regulations

Master of Science
Urban Design

Please note that this is an **unofficial translation** of the Study and Examination Regulations. In case of inconsistency between the German and the English version, the German version of the agreement prevails.

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<https://www.tu.berlin/go153733/>

I. Legal and Administrative Regulations

Faculties

Revised version of the Study and Examination Regulations for the Urban Design consecutive master's program offered by Faculty VI – Planning Building Environment of Technische Universität Berlin

from 11 June 2014

On 11 June 2014, the Faculty Board of Faculty VI – Planning Building Environment – of Technische Universität Berlin adopted the following Study and Examination Regulations for the Consecutive Master's Program in Urban Design, in accordance with Section 18 (1) no. 1 of the Constitution of Technische Universität Berlin, Section 71 (1) no. 1 of the Berlin State Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz* – BerlHG), in the version from 26 July 2011 (Berlin Gazette of Laws and Ordinances [GVBl.], page 378).*

(1) These regulations enter into force on the day after their publication.

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I. General regulations

Section 1 – Scope of application

These Study and Examination Regulations govern both the objectives and organization of studies, and the requirements and conduct of examinations in the Urban Design master's program. They supplement TU Berlin's General Study and Examination Regulations (Ordnung zur Regelung des allgemeinen Studien- und Prüfungsverfahrens der Technischen Universität Berlin – AllgStuPO) with program-specific regulations.

Section 2 – Entry into force/expiration

(2) The Study and Examination Regulations for the Urban Design master's program from 18 January 2006 (TU Official Gazette 7/2006) cease to be effective upon the entry into force of these regulations.

(3) In addition to the students mentioned in Subsection 1, these study and examination regulations apply to students already enrolled in the Urban Design master's program at Technische Universität Berlin.

II. Program objectives and structure

Section 3 – Learning outcomes, program content and professional fields

Urban Design is an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary discipline located at the intersection of architecture, urban and regional planning, urban sociology, landscape architecture and environmental planning. The program's broad curriculum introduces its students to all these disciplines through an integrated approach. In addition to completing projects in the above disciplines, design projects and integrated seminars introduce students to methods which reveal the complexity of the tasks and equip students to act in complex issues. Students also practice interdisciplinary collaboration.

The work of urban designers is not restricted to a single scale but deals with the spatial interrelations between the micro and macro, as well as local and global levels. Graduates and students of this degree program work in a range of professional contexts including:

- The urbanization processes in both the Global South and North and their interaction
- The management of dynamic and rapid urban growth and the implementation of process design approaches
- The critical and creative assessment of changing social framework conditions
- The planning of existing and new urban settlements, open spaces and urban landscapes
- The design of public spaces, incorporating ecological, cultural, social, political, technical and financial framework conditions

The Urban Studies master's program offered by Technische Universität Berlin combines critical reflection of cities and their design. The program examines issues pertaining to systems and spaces from the local to the regional level. The discipline of urban design addresses processes of urbanization in an international context and their historical and current development.

⁹⁾ Approved by the Executive Board of Technische Universität Berlin on 25 July 2014 and by the Berlin Senate Department for Education, Youth and Science on 9 January 2015.

The degree program prepares students from various disciplines for a career in design or academia or for a leading public planning or administration role. The program seeks to develop critical research design skills. Students in the program learn how to develop creative responses to contemporary urban issues, whilst taking into account the cultural, social and political framework conditions providing their context.

Graduates of the program have a well-grounded understanding of transdisciplinary approaches reaching beyond the boundaries of individual disciplines and are equipped to deal with a range of socially-relevant issues and the concerns of the various stakeholders. They will have developed an in-depth understanding of design in terms of the development of solution-oriented thinking and action aimed at the generation of knowledge and social transformation. Students also learn to incorporate topics from spatial research. The design skills developed during the program equip graduates to graphically communicate and visualize information that shapes urban space and to formulate hypotheses and future scenarios on the basis of sociological research.

Graduates of the program will possess architectural, urban planning, urban sociological and landscape architecture knowledge, informed by an understanding of the associated ecological and gender issues and are able to incorporate all these considerations into a holistic approach.

Section 4 – Program start, standard period of study, and required coursework

- (1) The program starts in the winter semester.
- (2) The standard period of study, including completion of the master's thesis, is four semesters.
- (3) The program encompasses 120 credit points. The teaching curriculum and examination procedures are structured and organized in such a way as to enable students to complete the program within the standard period of study.

Section 4a – Admission requirements

The prerequisite for admission to the Urban Design master's program is a bachelor's or equivalent university degree in the subject areas of architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture, or in a related program. The responsible examination board shall decide whether the applicant's degree qualification fulfills the subject-specific and content-related requirements for admission.

Section 5 – Program structure

- (1) The Urban Design master's program is conceived as a project-based program incorporating a large proportion of interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary project-based teaching. Studios are practical, problem-oriented undertakings conducted on the basis of academic principles. The studios pursued within the scope of this master's program address current planning and design tasks on a municipal, regional, national and international level. In their first semester, students attend the project "Urban Design Studio." In their second and third semesters, students complete two suitable projects drawn from the Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Urban and Regional Planning master's programs.

Students select these studios from two different degree programs. The faculty will announce which studios students can select from these areas in good time before the start of the semester.

- (2) Students can schedule the order of modules in the degree program themselves. They are, however, obliged to comply with the provisions laid out in these Study and Examination Regulations. The recommended sequence in which modules should be taken is shown in the proposed course schedule in the annex of these regulations. This does not affect any possible constraints resulting from subject-specific admission requirements for modules.

- (3) Students must earn a total of 120 credit points, of which 102 are awarded for modules (see module list) and 18 for the master's thesis.

- (4) A total of 36 CP must be earned in compulsory modules.

- (5) A total of 24 CP must be earned from two project modules from compulsory elective 1. The two projects must be chosen from two different degree programs. The faculty will announce the available modules in good time before the start of the semester.

- (6) Modules totaling 30 CP must be earned in compulsory elective 2. Students are also to select compulsory elective modules from the Urban Design module handbook.

Students can select modules from the relevant areas of the Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Sociology master's programs. The Faculty Board will determine the modules from which students can select. The scope of the compulsory electives actually offered depend on the available capacities; it must be large enough to provide students with a choice.

- (7) A total of 12 CP must be earned in elective modules. These modules allow students to develop both additional subject-specific and generic skills and expertise which qualify them for a profession. They can be selected from the full range of subjects offered by Technische Universität Berlin, other universities or institutions of higher education with equivalent status within the jurisdiction of the Framework Act for Higher Education and those non-German universities and institutions of higher education recognized as equivalent. It is recommended that students select interdisciplinary courses. They can also choose modules for learning foreign languages.

- (8) Before commencing study in the master's program, students are to complete one or more internships lasting a minimum of 640 hours (usually to be completed in 16 weeks). Employment of a practical nature undertaken before and after previous university studies can be counted towards this. Internships can be completed during the master's studies. In this case, students can be credited with 6 CP for the electives in accordance with Subsection 6. Students are required to provide proof that they have completed the internship(s) before registering their master's thesis at the latest. The internship coordinator appointed by the Examination Board of the Urban Design master's program or their deputy is responsible for deciding whether internships satisfy the requirements of this regulation. The internship coordinator is to be presented with the certificate(s) of employment from the internship provider(s) and an internship report. Details of this matter are laid out in a set of internship regulations.

III. Examination requirements and conduct of examinations

Section 6 - Purpose of the master's examination

The master's examination determines whether a candidate has achieved the learning outcomes in accordance with Section 3 of these regulations.

Section 7 – Master's degree

Technische Universität Berlin awards the academic degree "Master of Science" (M.Sc.) on behalf of Faculty VI to students who have passed the master's examination.

Section 8 – Scope of the master's examination

(1) The master's examination comprises the module examinations listed in the module list (Annex 1) and the master's thesis in accordance with Section 10.

(2) Students are to submit proof that they have completed the requisite professional employment in accordance with Section 5 (8) to the responsible office in the Central University Administration upon registering their master's thesis at the latest.

(3) The final grade awarded for the master's examination is calculated through the addition of the following partial grades weighted in accordance with the credit points awarded to them:

- a. Module grades from compulsory modules in accordance with Section 5 (4).
- b. Module grades from compulsory elective 1 in accordance with Section 5 (5).
- c. Module grades (12 CP) from compulsory elective 2 in accordance with Section 5 (6).
- d. The grade of the master's thesis in accordance with Section 9.

(4) Students can decide that six of the credit points from graded elective modules in accordance with Section 5 (7) should be added to the calculation of the final grade. The decision regarding the incorporation of these module grades is to be communicated in writing to the responsible office in the University administration by registration for the last module examination at the latest.

(5) Only the best examination grades from module examinations for the modules in accordance with Subsection 3 letter c are to be incorporated in the calculation of the overall grade in accordance with their credit point weighting. If a number of equal examination grades were awarded, the responsible office of the Central University Administration will decide which module will be incorporated into the calculation of the overall grade.

Section 9 – Master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis is usually completed in the fourth degree semester. It amounts to 18 CP and consists of a written thesis to be complete within 20 weeks and an oral defense, which is to be held within eight weeks of the submission of the written thesis.

(2) Applications to register for the master's thesis require the following documents to be submitted to the responsible office of the Central University Administration:

- Proof of the completion of module examinations totaling at least 80 CP and proof that all the project modules have been completed.

- Proof of performance of the internship(s) amounting to a minimum of 640 hours in accordance with Section 5 (8).

(3) The topic of the master's thesis may be rejected once, however only within the first three weeks of being issued by the responsible office of the Central University Administration. The Examination Board can extend the deadline once by one month on the basis of a justified application and after hearing the opinion of the supervisor. A further appropriate extension can be granted in cases of especial hardship.

(4) The second examiner can be a person from a different academic or artistic institution of higher education, a qualified individual from an academic institution or a suitably qualified practitioner in the field of architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture or urban sociology.

(5) The procedures for applying for admission to and assessment of a final thesis are set out in the current version of the Regulations Governing General Study and Examination Procedures (AllgStuPO).

(6) The two parts of the master's examination will be subject to separate assessment and grading in accordance with Subsection 1. The overall grade is calculated as the weighted arithmetic mean of the grades for the oral defense (single weighting) and the written thesis (fourfold weighting).

Section 10 – Types of examination and registration for examinations

The different types of assessment and the procedure for registering for module examinations are established in the currently valid edition of Regulations Governing General Study and Examination Procedures (AllgStuPO).

IV. Annexes

Annex 1: Module list

Module number and title	Type	Credit points	Examination		Inclusion in final grade
Compulsory modules (36 CP)					
C 1 Urban Design Methods and Tools	C	12	Portfolio	Graded	X
C 2 Introduction to Urban Design	C	12	Portfolio	Graded	X
PJ UDS Urban Design Studio	C	12	Portfolio	Graded	X
Compulsory elective 1 (24 CP)					
PJ A Project Architecture	CE	12	Portfolio	Graded	X
PJ URP Project Urban and Regional Planning	CE	12	Portfolio	Graded	
PJ LA Project Landscape Architecture	CE	12	Portfolio	Graded	
Compulsory elective 2 (30 CP)					
Students can select modules from the relevant areas of the Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Sociology master's programs.	CE	30	In accordance with the specifications of the respective modules		(X) 12 CP are incorporated in the final grade
Electives (12 CP)					
Electives	E	12	In accordance with the specifications of the respective modules		

Annex 2: Sample Course Schedule

Fachsemester	1	2	3	4
	LP	LP	LP	LP
Pflichtbereich (inkl. Masterarbeit) - Compulsory Courses (incl. Masterthesis), 54 LP				
PJ UDS	12		Masterarbeit	18
P1 Urban Design Methods and Tools		12		
P2 Introduction to Urban Design		12		
Wahlpflichtbereich 1 - Compulsory Optional Courses 1 (COC 1), 24 LP				
	PJ A/SRP/LA	PJ A/SRP/LA		
	12	12		
Wahlpflichtbereich 2 - Compulsory Optional Courses 2 (COC 2), 30 LP				
	6	6	12	6
Wahlbereich - Optional Courses (OC), 12 LP				
			6	6
Gesamt	30	30	30	30

First revised version of the study and examination regulations for the Urban Design master's program offered at Faculty VI – Planning Building Environment of Technische Universität Berlin

from 18 January 2011

On 18 January 2019, the Faculty Board of Faculty VI - Planning Building Environment of Technische Universität Berlin, working in accordance with Section 18 Subsection 1 no. 1 of the Constitution of Technische Universität Berlin and Section 71 Subsection 1 no. 1 of the Berlin State Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz – BerlHG*), in the version from 26 July 2011 (Berlin Gazette of Laws and Ordinances [GVBl.], page 378), last changed by Article 4 of the law from 9 May 2016, adopted the revised version of the study and examination regulations for the Urban Design master's program.***)

Article I

The following changes have been made to the study and examination regulations for the Urban Design master's program offered by Faculty VI – Planning Building Environment of Technische Universität Berlin from 11 June 2014 (AMBI TU 5/2015):

1. Section 5 (8) sentence 4 has been re-drafted as follows:
In this case, students can be credited with 6 CP for the electives.
2. The sample degree schedule has been redrafted as follows:

Sample Course Schedule

Degree semester	1	2	3	4
	CP	CP	CP	CP
Compulsory modules (incl. master's thesis) - Compulsory Courses (incl. master's thesis), 54 CP				
	PJ UDS 12		Master's colloquium 3	Master's thesis 18
	C1 Urban Design Methods and Tools 12			
	C2 Introduction to Urban Design 9			
Compulsory elective 1 - Compulsory Elective Courses 1 (COC 1), 24 CP				
		PJ A/URP/LA 12	PJ A/URP/LA 12	
Compulsory elective 2 - Compulsory Elective Courses 2 (COC 2), 30 CP				
	6	6	12	6
Electives - Elective Courses (OC), 12 CP				
			6	6
Total	30	30	30	30

The third and fourth semesters are recommended as mobility windows (Section 4 (2) sentence 2 of the Regulations Governing General Study and Examination Procedures (AllgStuPO)). The program can be completed as part-time studies. The respective advisory services can assist with drawing up an individual degree schedule.

Article II

These revised regulations enter into force on the day after their publication in the Official Gazette of Technische Universität Berlin.

***) Approved by the TU Berlin Executive Board on 5 April 2017.

Second Amendment to the Study and Examination Regulations for the International Consecutive Urban Design master's program at Faculty VI of Technische Universität Berlin

from 13 December 2017 and 14 February 2018

On 13 December 2019 and 14 February 2018, the Faculty Board of Faculty VI of Technische Universität Berlin, working in accordance with Section 18 (1) no. 1 of the Constitution of Technische Universität Berlin and Section 71 (1) no. 1 of the Berlin State Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz – BerlHG*), in the version from 26 July 2011 (Berlin Gazette of Laws and Ordinances [GVBl.], page 160), last changed by the law from 2 February 2018, adopted the second revision of the study and examination regulations for the Urban Design consecutive master's program from 11 June 2014 (TU Official Gazette 5/2015) in the version from 18 January 2017 (TU Official Gazette 18/2017).*)

Article I

1. The degree program has been renamed as

International Consecutive Master's Program in Urban Design

2. Section 4 has been renamed:

Section 4 – Program start, standard period of study and required coursework, language of instruction and examination

3. Section 4 (4) has been added.

(4) The language of instruction and examination is usually English. Students can also complete compulsory elective and elective modules in German.

4. Section 4a – Admission requirements has been deleted.

5. Section 9 (2) has been reformulated as follows:

(2) Registration for the master's thesis requires that students present proof to the responsible office of the Central University Administration that they have completed and passed module examinations totaling at least 80 CP; have completed all compulsory and project modules; and have completed an internship in accordance with Section 5 (8).

6. Section (3) has been reformulated as follows:

(3) The topic of the master's thesis may be rejected once, however only within the first three weeks of being issued by the responsible office of the Central University Administration. If there are significant reasons beyond the student's control preventing them from completing the thesis within this timeframe, the examination board shall grant an extension of the deadline for so long as the reasons in question continue to exist. The total possible extension may not exceed 20 weeks. Should the respective reasons continue to apply beyond the maximum extension period, the student may withdraw from the examination.

Article II - Entry into force

These regulations enter into force in winter semester 2018/19.

*) Approved by the Executive Board of TU Berlin on 6 March 2018

Application and Admission Regulations for the International Consecutive Urban Design Master's Program offered by Faculty VI of Technische Universität Berlin

from 13 December 2017

On 13 December 2017, the Faculty Board of Faculty VI of Technische Universität Berlin, working in accordance with Section 18 (1) no 1 of the Constitution of Technische Universität Berlin in connection with Section 10 (5) of the Berlin State Higher Education Act (*Berliner Hochschulgesetz – BerIHG*) in the version from 26 July 2011 (Berlin Gazette of Laws and Ordinances [GVBl] p. 378), last changed by the law from 30 June 2017 (GVBl. p. 338) and in connection with Section 10 of the Act on the Admission to Higher Education Institutions in the State of Berlin to Degree Programs with Restricted Admission (*Berliner Hochschulzulassungsgesetz – BerHZG*) in the version from 18 June 2005 (GVBl. p. 393), last changed by Article I of the law from 26 June 2013 (GVBl. p. 198), adopted the following application and admission regulations for the international consecutive Urban Design master's program:

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I. General regulations

Section 1 – Scope of application

In conjunction with the Regulations Governing General Study and Examination Procedures (AllgStuPO) and the Statutes of Technische Universität Berlin Governing University Selection Procedures (AuswahlSA) as last amended, these application and admission regulations regulate the application and admission modalities for the first degree semester of the international consecutive Urban Design master's program. The provisions of AllgStuPO and AuswahlSA take precedence over the provisions of these application and admission regulations, unless exceptions are expressly permitted therein.

Section 2 – Entry into force

These application and admission regulations enter into force on the day after their publication in the Official Gazette of Technische Universität Berlin. They shall be applied for the first time to the procedures of winter semester 2018/19.

II. Application

Section 3 – Admission requirements

(1) In addition to the general admission requirements set out in Sections 10 to 13 BerIHG, applicants must have:

1. A bachelor's or equivalent university degree in architecture, urban and regional planning, landscape architecture, or a related degree program.
2. English language proficiency at Level B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages or an equivalent standard.

(2) A degree program is usually considered related if it contains a minimum of 30 credit points from disciplines related to architecture, or urban or spatial planning. A maximum of 12 credit points can be replaced by relevant professional experience.

Section 4 - Procedure

(1) The fulfillment of the admission requirements must be proven during the enrollment procedure in accordance with Sections 16 ff. of the Regulations Governing General Study and Examination Procedures (AllgStuPO), in cases outlined in Section 15 AllgStuPO as part of the application for admission. Supporting documents must be submitted in the original or as officially certified copies.

(2) Decisions pertaining to the subject relevance of programs within the meaning of Section 3 (1) no. 1 and (2), the equivalence of achievements in accordance with Section 3 (1) no. 2 and the equivalence of professional experience in accordance with Section 3 (2) are taken by the office of the Central University Administration responsible for enrollment and admissions, working on the basis of a vote by the Examination Board responsible for the degree program. Of particular relevance in assessing the equivalence of professional experience are the duration of such periods of employment, their subject relevance, and the previous training completed.

III. Admission

Section 5 - Restriction of the number of eligible candidates

The number of eligible candidates for the selection process can be restricted. It must be at least double the designated number of admissions. The selection criterion for participation in the selection process is the applicants' qualification level. The selection committee will decide on the restriction, the number and selection of applicants at the beginning of the selection process.

Section 6 - Ranking criteria

(1) Participants are ranked according to the following selection criteria:

1. Overall grade from the degree program in accordance with Section 3 (1) no. 1 with a weighting of 55/100
2. The outcome of a selection interview to be conducted by the University on the basis of a letter of motivation written in English and the documentation of three projects conducted by the candidate in accordance with Section 7 (3) with a weighting of 45/100.

- (2) Up to 100 points are awarded for the criterion in accordance with Subsection 1 no. 1 in accordance with the following table:

Grade	Points	Grade	Points
1.0	100	2.6	52
1.1	97	2.7	49
1.2	94	2.8	46
1.3	91	2.9	43
1.4	88	3.0	40
1.5	85	3.1	37
1.6	82	3.2	34
1.7	79	3.3	31
1.8	76	3.4	28
1.9	73	3.5	25
2.0	70	3.6	22
2.1	67	3.7	19
2.2	64	3.8	16
2.3	61	3.9	13
2.4	58	4.0	10
2.5	55		

- (3) Up to 100 points are awarded for the criterion outlined in Subsection 1, no. 2.

Section 7 - Procedure

- (1) Proof of fulfillment of the selection criteria must be provided when submitting the application for admission. For this purpose, applications must include the following documents in the original or as officially certified copies:

1. The documents requested in the application form
2. Evidence that the applicant meets the additional admission requirements in accordance with Section 3.
3. Insofar as the focus of the degree program in accordance with Section 3 (1) no. 1 is not apparent from the degree certificate, evidence thereof, as a rule in the form of module descriptions.
4. A roughly DIN A4 page letter of motivation written in English to prepare for the selection interview outlining the applicant's reasons for wishing to study in the program and specifying the applicant's assessment of their own suitability for the program and possible post-graduation aims or plans. This is to be accompanied by documentation of three selected projects completed by the applicant in the area of architecture, urban design, space or urban planning

- (2) The selection committee shall award points for each selection criterion in accordance with Section 6 (2) and (3).
- (3) The selection interview shall be conducted by two members of the selection committee authorized to conduct examinations in accordance with Section 6 (1) no. 2. At least one of the interviewers must be a professor at TU Berlin.

The selection interview will be conducted on the basis of the documentation submitted in accordance with Subsection 1 no 4. Seeking to determine the applicant's aptitude, motivation, and reasons for pursuing the selected degree program and desired career, the selection interview shall address the following issues:

1. The applicant's motivation for applying, their expectations of the degree program and the course schedule.
2. The applicant's aims regarding their future professional career.

3. Their previous studies.
4. The student's interests and private activities, professional history and voluntary activities.

The key content of the selection interview and an explanation of the points awarded are to be recorded in writing.

If the interviewers assign differing scores, these points will be added together and averaged. The final score is rounded off to one decimal place.

- (4) The selection committee will draw up a ranking. The ranking will note the following for each participant in the selection process:

1. The number of points achieved for each criterion
2. The weighted number of points for each criterion in accordance with Section 6 (1)
3. The total number of points

*) Confirmed by the Executive Board of TU Berlin on 27 March 2018 and by the Senate Chancellery for Science and Research on 2 May 2018.