



# Programme syllabus

Master's Programme, Sustainable Urban Planning and Design, 120 credits

Masterprogram, hållbar samhällsplanering och stadsutformning  
*120.0 credits*

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*Valid for students admitted to the education from autumn 16 (HT - Autumn term; VT - Spring term).*

This is a translation of the Swedish, legally binding, programme syllabus.

## Programme objectives

**The information is valid for students who started the program academic year 2016/2017. Later decisions may affect year 2 in the program. Please look at [www.kth.se/studies?l=en\\_UK](http://www.kth.se/studies?l=en_UK) for further information.**

In addition to the general objectives for Masters programmes as stated in the national degree ordinance and the local degree policy of KTH, specific learning outcomes are defined for the Masters programme Sustainable Urban Planning and Design. After completing the programme requirements students shall:

### Knowledge and understanding

- Be acquainted with the theoretical foundations and present developments within urban and regional planning, architecture and urban design as well as environmental sciences.
- Have a sound knowledge on processes that determine urban change and regional development, the actors that are involved in these processes, and the aesthetic, social, economic, institutional and environmental determinants that contribute to sustainable development
- Have a deep understanding of the tools and methods that can be applied to analyse the current status of cities and regions, and the prerequisites for future change.
- Comprehend the relation between theory and practice in planning and urban design, and the connections to other disciplines involved in urban and regional development on the local, regional and global level.

### Skills and abilities

- Be able to assess and handle complexities of urban development in a local and regional perspective and relate them to their social, economic, environmental and political context.

- Be able to carry out advanced studies on contemporary problems, opportunities and future wants and needs, and by that contribute to the development of the field of knowledge. Be able to apply the a forementioned knowledge and skills in design, analysis and synthesis in urban development planning practice.
- Be able to make effective oral and written presentations of complex tasks in urban design, planning and environmental issues.
- Be able to convey own results and others viewpoints in a coherent and qualitative way through drawings, sketches, essays and oral presentations.
- Be able to use modern communication techniques and tools to illustrate and visualise plans, concepts and strategies.
- Be able to organise and lead multi-disciplinary groups with experts and contribute to the outcome of the working task.

### **Ability to make judgements and adopt a standpoint**

- Analyse the merits of theoretical concepts, policies, plans and projects. Be able to detect implicit normative assumptions that determine different perspectives on planning problems. Be able to contextualise plans, concepts and policies in different temporal, cultural and institutional backgrounds.
- Be able to reflect critically on the nature and manner of dealing with impending planning problems.
- Be able to track developments within the discipline and analyse how these will affect planning practice.
- Be able to define needs for learning opportunities in order to improve professional capacity.

## **Extent and content of the programme**

The Masters programme Sustainable Urban Planning and Design counts 120 ECTS and consists of three terms of coursework and one term for the degree project, together 2 years. The course-work encompasses a substantial share of studios and projects that aim at training students' practical skills in planning and urban design and at gaining a better understanding of planning practice. All courses in the programme are at advanced (2nd cycle) level. The language of instruction is English.

The programme offers three profiles, Urban Planning and Design (UPD), Urban and Regional Planning (URP) and Environment and Planning (EP). The three profiles are recommended combinations of courses which represent separate professional competences that are involved in urban planning and regional development. By merging these professional competences into one programme, graduates acquire a comprehensive understanding of the planning process, the actors involved, and the aesthetical, social, economic, institutional and environmental determinants that contribute to the development of a sustainable society. Students can make own combinations of courses within the programme.

## **Eligibility and selection**

The general admission requirement for masters programmes at KTH is a completed Bachelor's degree, equivalent to a Swedish Bachelor's degree (180 ECTS), or equivalent academic qualifications from an internationally recognised university. In addition, students have to meet following specific requirements:

- a completed Bachelor's degree in architecture or landscape architecture, physical planning, civil engineering in the built environment, energy and environment or equivalent, urban and regional planning, social or natural sciences relevant to the scope of the programme.
- at least 30 ECTS in the field of urban design, urban, transport or regional planning, national/regional economy or environmental sciences.
- English language proficiency equivalent to (the Swedish upper secondary school) English course B /6.

Students in their final year of their under--graduate education may also apply and if qualified, receive a conditional acceptance.

Admission to the programme does not imply that all students are eligible to register for all courses within the programme. Some of the courses have specific pre-requisites which either relate to other courses within the master programme or to the student's previous studies. However, all students are offered different combinations of courses which correspond to full-time studies in each semester.

### *Selection:*

The selection process is based on the following selection criteria: University, previous studies (for instance GPA, grades in specific subjects and English), motivation for the studies (for instance letter of motivation, references, thesis proposal and relevant work experience). The evaluation scale is 1-75.

For students with a degree in architecture, landscape architecture or physical planning, the portfolio is considered in the selection process.

## **Implementation of the education**

### **Structure of the education**

The academic year is 40 weeks and is divided into two semesters, autumn and spring. Each semester consists of two study periods.

Information on the extent of the school year, the exam and re-examination periods are cited on <http://www.kth.se/student/schema>.

The first term starts with the mandatory course Sustainable Planning and Design, in which practices for sustainable urban development are explored and Stockholm as field of studies for urban planning and design is studied. In the second period a number of primary courses are offered which provide core knowledge for the profiles. The second and third term comprise courses that provide students with deeper knowledge and skills that prepare students for their Degree project and professional career. Urban Planning and Design (UPD) includes a series of studios in which students practice their design skills. Urban and Regional Planning (URP) offers courses with a focus on analysis, conceptualisation and implementation of development potentials for cities and regions. Environment and Planning (EP) also offers courses with a focus on analysis, conceptualisation and implementation, but in the field of environmental policy making, planning, scenario building or sustainability assessments. The third term includes an interdisciplinary project in which students apply the skills and knowledge that are gained in the programme. The programme concludes with a Master's Degree project in which students address selected problems within the scope of the programme.

## **Courses**

The programme is course-based. Lists of courses are included in [appendix 1](#).

## **Grading system**

Courses in the first and the second cycle are graded on a scale from A to F. A-E are passing grades, A is the highest grade. The grades pass (P) and fail (F) are used for courses under certain circumstances.

Information regarding the scale found in the curriculum.

## **Conditions for participation in the programme**

A prerequisite for a student's participation in studies at KTH is that the student performs a course registration and semester registration for each semester.

Before the first semester you are automatically registered in connection with enrollment in the semester.

Before the second, third and fourth semester students must register online. Registration is done under the personal menu on the KTH's web page

Course registration is done by all students on the program [www.antagning.se](http://www.antagning.se)

## **Recognition of previous academic studies**

Students may request to be given credit for a course/courses from another college/university within or outside Sweden. KTH's policy for recognising previous academic studies is available in full in KTH's regulations at [www.kth.se](http://www.kth.se).

## **Studies abroad**

There are opportunities for exchange within the programme under existing agreements.

For more information and recommendation on the appropriate semester for exchange studies refer to the program's international administrators.

## **Degree project**

The degree project comprises 30hp and provides students with the opportunity to investigate a problem in depth under the supervision of experienced practitioners and researchers. The programme offers degree projects within three alternative fields of studies; Urban Planning and Design, Urban and Regional Planning, and Environmental Strategic Analysis. If a student intends to carry out a degree project within another field of studies, he/she should apply for exemption.

The thesis work is graded pass (P) or fail (F).

## **Degree**

To obtain the master's degree students must have passed courses of at least 120 higher education credits, of which the following must be included:

- at least 90 ECTS at advanced level including mandatory and conditionally elective courses and a 30-credit degree project within the master programme

In addition is allowed:

- a maximum of 15 ECTS from courses in any engineering area at basic or advanced level
- a maximum of 15 ECTS of entirely elective courses

In the event that the master's program is a final part of the degree programme in Civil Engineering and Urban Management or of the degree programme in Energy and Environment, there may be additional requirements according to the corresponding study programmes. For example, a master of science degree in the above degree programmes should include mathematics and science subjects for a minimum of 45 higher education credits.

The application for degree is done under the personal menu on KTH:s webb page.

[Appendix 1 - Course list](#)

[Appendix 2 - Programme syllabus descriptions](#)



# Appendix 1: Course list

Master's Programme, Sustainable Urban Planning and Design, 120 credits (THSSM), Programme syllabus for studies starting in autumn 2016

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## General courses

### Year 1

#### Mandatory courses (22.5 Credits)

Course code	Course name	Credits	Edu. level
<a href="#">AG2126</a>	<a href="#">Theory of Science and Research Methodology for Planning and Design</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2805</a>	<a href="#">Sustainable Planning and Design</a>	15.0 hp	Second cycle

#### Conditionally elective courses

Course code	Course name	Credits	Edu. level
<a href="#">AD2862</a>	<a href="#">Sustainable Urban Planning and Design Studio 1.2- Situations</a>	15.0 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AD2865</a>	<a href="#">Introduction to Urban Economics</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AD2867</a>	<a href="#">Sustainable Urban Planning and Design Studio 1.1- Textures</a>	15.0 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AE2507</a>	<a href="#">Strategic Environmental Assessment</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2116</a>	<a href="#">City Networks in Regional Contexts</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2127</a>	<a href="#">Planning Theory and Urban Governance</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2128</a>	<a href="#">Urban Development and Planning</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2171</a>	<a href="#">Futures Studies and Forecasts</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2804</a>	<a href="#">Transport, Communication and Sustainable Development</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#">AG2806</a>	<a href="#">Environmental Aspects of the Built Environment</a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle

### Year 2

#### Conditionally elective courses

<b>Course code</b>	<b>Course name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Edu. level</b>
<a href="#"><u>AD2863</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Sustainable Urban Planning and Design Studio 2.1- Urban Ecologies</u></a>	22.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AD2EXU</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Degree Project in Urban Planning and Design, Second Cycle</u></a>	30.0 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG2129</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Project Sustainable Urban Planning - Strategies for Urban and Regional Development</u></a>	15.0 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG212X</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Degree Project in Urban and Regional Planning, Second Cycle</u></a>	30.0 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG2130</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Applied Urban and Regional Analysis</u></a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG2134</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Contemporary Urban Theory, Advanced Course</u></a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG2803</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Ecosystem Support and Environmental Justice</u></a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG2809</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Project Sustainable Urban Planning - Assessments, Plans and Processes</u></a>	15.0 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AG2811</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Planning for Resilience</u></a>	7.5 hp	Second cycle
<a href="#"><u>AL250X</u></a>	<a href="#"><u>Degree Project in Strategies for Sustainable Development, Second Cycle</u></a>	30.0 hp	Second cycle



## Appendix 2: Specialisations

Master's Programme, Sustainable Urban Planning and Design, 120 credits (THSSM), Programme syllabus for studies starting in autumn 2016

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This programme has no specialisations.