

Course Summary: April 28, 2025

Architecture and Urban Planning BA Honours

- UCAS code: **K190**
- Full time
- 3 years

Explore the world of architecture, urban design, landscape and urban planning, with a focus on people and climate. On our interdisciplinary degree you'll gain expertise in the field of your choice, whether architecture, urban design, urban planning, or landscape architecture.

You are currently viewing course information for entry year: **2025**

Next start date:

- September 2025

Tuition fees (Year 1)

- Home: **£9,535**
- International: **£25600**

Entry requirements and offers

- A-Level: **ABB**
- IB: **32 points**

[View contextual offers](#)

UCAS Institution name and code:

- NEWC / N21

Course overview

On our degree we'll help you find your career path in the built environment. Whether in **architecture, urban design, planning, landscape or design related professions.**

You'll engage with the design processes involved in the production of the architecture, urban spaces and landscapes that shape our everyday life.

You'll also take inspiration from the work of innovative and radical designers and thinkers. Their approach encourages people to get involved in the design of their environment and address climate change.

The programme includes modules spanning our research expertise in architecture, urban design, landscape, planning and participation in the built environment.

There are also optional modules you can choose from in urban planning, sociology and geography.

We offer accredited pathways in Architecture (accredited with the Architects Registration Board) or in Urban Design (accredited with the Royal Town Planning Institute) if you choose the required modules during your studies.

We also offer a route in Landscape Architecture which facilitates entry into a master programme (1 year) in Landscape Architecture (LI accredited), after a year

out in Landscape practice.

Your course and study experience - disclaimers and terms and conditions

Please rest assured we make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the programmes, services and facilities described. However, it may be necessary to make changes due to significant disruption, for example in response to Covid-19.

View our [Academic experience page](#), which gives information about your Newcastle University study experience for the academic year 2024-25.

See our [terms and conditions and student complaints information](#), which gives details of circumstances that may lead to changes to programmes, modules or University services.

Quality and ranking

Professional accreditation and recognition

All professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by their professional body.

Modules and learning

Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

Optional module availability

Student demand for optional modules may affect availability.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year. This usually happens in May.

To find out more please [see our terms and conditions](#)

Stage 1 will provide you with an exciting introduction to the history of architecture and cities, architectural design and technology, and urban planning with a focus on people and climate.

Through a varied series of design projects, workshops and visits, we'll introduce you to key design skills. You'll gain an understanding of scale and context and develop spatial imagination. You'll learn to communicate your ideas verbally and visually thanks to the varied input of design practitioners, artists and academics.

All modules in Stage 1 are compulsory and will invite you to explore the various fields that this programme offers.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Architectural and Planning Histories of the City	20
Planning Contexts	20
Architectural Design 1.1	40
Architectural Technology 1.1: Explorations in Making Architecture	10

Architectural Technology 1.2: Principles of Constructing Architecture	10
Introduction to Architecture	20

Stage 2 is where you choose the direction of your degree.

If you want to choose one of the accredited pathways/routes at the end of Stage 2, you'll need to choose the group of three required modules:

- Relational Mapping, Design and Representation
- Living Communally and
- Participation: Theories and Practices

The design project in **Relational Mapping** will help you explore the scales of urban design and landscape through an ecological lens.

Living Communally focuses on the architectural design of sustainable co-housing.

The interdisciplinary module **Participation** provides an introduction to participation concepts and methods, as well as an opportunity to design a participation project working with/alongside a community group representative.

Or, you can opt to build your own degree; choosing from a wide range of modules across subjects and interests such as design, planning, geography and sociology.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Alternative Practice: Theories and Practices	20
Visual and Creative Practice Research Skills	20
Optional Modules	Credits

Living Communally	20
Relational Mapping, Design and Representation	40
Participation: Theories & Practice	20
Refugees and Displacement: Borders, Camps, and Asylum	20
Houses and Homes	20
Researching Local Economies	20
Understanding Cities	20
Digital Civics	20
Urban Infrastructures: A Lens on the City	20
Global Course on Institutional Design for Spatial Planning	20

Stage 3 is the culmination of the climate and socially engaged design practice ethos of the programme.

At Stage 3 you'll undertake a dissertation on a topic related to your interest.

This year offers a wide range of module options, from climate literacy to a live design project that allows you to put theory into practice by working with a local organisation or community group.

If you studied the group of three required modules in Stage 2, you can now choose which of the accredited pathways/routes to pursue; Architecture, Urban Design or Landscape Architecture.

Students taking the **urban design pathway** must opt for the approved modules during their studies, highlighted below:

- Green Infrastructure for Well-being and Biodiversity
- Strategies into Action: Planning

- Alternative Practice: Co-producing Space
- Development Management

Students taking the **architecture pathway** must opt for the approved modules during their studies, highlighted below:

- Green Infrastructure for Well-being and Biodiversity
- Climate Literacy: Philosophies to Practice
- Architectural Technology 2: Construction in Detail
- Alternative Practice: Co-producing Space
- Construction, Energy and Professional Practice

Students interested in **landscape architecture** are advised to choose the following modules:

- Green Infrastructure for Well-being and Biodiversity
- Climate Literacy: Philosophies to Practice
- Landscape Architecture Studio 1: City as Landscape
- Landscape Architecture Studio 2: Materiality of Landscape

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
Dissertation in Architecture, Urbanism and Landscape	40
Optional Modules	Credits
Alternative Practice: Co-producing Space	20
Chinese Cultural History and Urban Development	20
Green Infrastructure for Well-being and Biodiversity	20
Climate Literacy: Philosophies to Practice	10

Climate Literacy: From philosophies to practice	20
Landscape Architecture Studio 2: City as Landscape	20
Landscape Architecture Studio 2: Materiality of Landscape	20
Construction, Energy and Professional Practice	20
Architectural Technology 2: Construction in Detail	10
Enterprise and Entrepreneurship with Lean Innovation	20
Career Development for final year students	20
Exploring city life: urban studies in action	20
Strategies into Action: Planning	20
Development Management	20
Study Abroad	40

Information about these graphs

We base these figures and graphs on the most up-to-date information available to us. They are based on the modules chosen by our students in 2023-24.

Teaching time is made up of:

- scheduled learning and teaching activities. These are timetabled activities with a member of staff present.
- structured guided learning. These are activities developed by staff to support engagement with module learning. Students or groups of students undertake these activities without direct staff participation or supervision

Teaching and assessment

Teaching methods

This programme provides a mix of studio design projects and traditional teaching. A typical week will involve working in the studio, either in groups developing design projects or working independently.

Methods include:

- tutorials and support
- traditional lectures and seminars
- site visits and library-based research
- individual and group project work

Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Case studies
- Dissertation or research project
- Essays
- Examinations – practical or online
- Portfolio submission
- Presentations
- Projects
- Reflective report/journal
- Reports

Skills and experience

Practical skills

You'll learn about the design process through a series of design projects. You'll gradually develop your architectural thinking, skills and knowledge working in

our well-equipped studios.

You'll also gain an understanding of architectural design through working with drawing and model-making in Stage 1, and Adobe Suite and CAD software in Stage 2.

In Stage 3 you'll have the chance to participate in a live community project, seeing theory put into practice.

Opportunities

Accredited Pathways

If you have chosen to pursue an accredited pathway/route, upon completion of Stage 3 you will proceed in the following way, depending on the route chosen:

Architecture pathway

You will proceed to study for a final year (Stage 4) to achieve the Architects Registration Board Part I accreditation in the form of the Master of Architecture and Urban Planning (Architecture) degree.

During that year you will further your knowledge into climate design and action, as well as construction, material, architectural design and professional practice.

Urban Design pathway

You will take a placement year in a planning office to achieve the Certificate in Planning Practice. Upon completion of this paid year in industry, you will return to Newcastle to study for a final year to achieve the Royal Town Planning Institute accreditation in the form of the Master of Architecture and Urban Planning (Urban Design) degree.

During this final year of study, you will engage in understanding urban transformation and urban design in existing contexts and areas of regeneration.

Landscape Architecture route

You will take a year out in a landscape practice, this year in industry will then provide you with the opportunity to join the Stage 2 Master in Landscape Architecture at Newcastle for a final year of study which will award you with the Landscape Institute accreditation in the form of the Master of Landscape Architecture.

During this year, you will acquire specialist knowledge in such areas as site-planning, land modelling, landscape construction, planting design as well as engage in contemporary issues including the climate crisis, social justice and rapid urbanisation.

Facilities and environment

Facilities

As an Architecture and Planning student, you will split your time between our dedicated Architecture building and the newly refurbished Henry Daysh Building. You will have access to a fully equipped analogue workshop and casting space as well as state-of-the-art digital fabrication facilities, including:

- 3D printers
- a CNC router
- laser cutters

Design studios

Our design studios include CAD facilities and drawing boards and are dedicated to use by BA Architecture & Urban Planning students.

Other facilities

You will also benefit from:

- Archiprint facilities

- 5x A0 Printers
- 2 x A0 scanners
- A3 scanners available in studio rooms
- student-run coffee bar providing a social space for you to meet with staff and fellow students

You will collaborate with artists and engineers to test design ideas at 1:1 scale, and explore alternative forms of practice with community projects.

[Find out more about our facilities.](#)

Support

Parenting scheme

This scheme aims to help you adapt to student life and get the most out of your time here by putting you in contact with current undergraduate students who can share their knowledge and experiences.

Dedicated Student Support Co-ordinator

This key staff member offers support if you are experiencing particular issues that are affecting your performance whilst at University.

You can discuss confidential problems with them and receive relevant support and advice. They will also offer guidance about other University services that may be of benefit.

Your future

Developing your employability

We will help you to develop a range of transferable skills that employers look for in new graduates. These skills have helped graduates find employment in numerous fields such as:

- urban design
- landscape architecture
- property development
- construction management
- planning

Make a difference

Careers support

Our Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

Recognition of professional qualifications outside of the UK

From 1 January 2021 there is an update to the way professional qualifications are recognised by countries outside of the UK

[Check the government's website for more information.](#)

Additional information

The Route to Royal Town Planning Institute Accreditation

The route to receiving Royal Town Planning Institute accreditation is a 5-year programme. Beginning with the BA (Hons) Architecture and Urban Planning degree, followed by the Certification of Planning Practice and concluded by the MA in Urban Design. To qualify for this accreditation students must opt for the RTPI approved modules during their studies. These RTPI approved modules are specified in the module and learning section.

Students taking the RTPi pathway will receive full accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute.

If you graduate from this degree with a 2:2 or above, you'll automatically receive an offer to the following programmes:

- Urban Design MA
- Master of Landscape Architecture MLA
- Urban Planning MSc

Transfer opportunities

This wide-ranging degree opens up a great variety of career paths in the built environment. However, we understand that you may not yet be sure exactly where your architectural/planning interests lie. If you have acquired the relevant skills in Stage 1, you may be eligible to transfer to another similar degree within the School if you find your interests change, such as:

- [Urban Planning BA Honours degree](#)
- [Master of Planning MPlan degree](#)

Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Work placements take place between stages 2 and 3.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

If you choose to take a work placement, it will extend your degree by a year, and your degree title will show you have achieved the placement year. Placements are subject to availability.

[Find out more about work placements](#)

Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

In Stage 3 you can choose to spend a whole semester studying in Europe as part of a study abroad exchange.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:
www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate
- To watch videos about student life in Newcastle, visit
www.ncl.ac.uk/lovenewcastle
- Visit **www.ncl.ac.uk/tour** to take virtual tours of the campus and city
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person
www.ncl.ac.uk/openday
- Contact us online at **www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

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www.ncl.ac.uk/pre-arrival/regulations

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