MASTER OF SCIENCE IN URBAN DESIGN (MSUD)

The Master of Science in Urban Design (MSUD) degree is oriented to those who wish to expand upon their previous professional education and professional experience, as architects, landscape architects, city planners, or civil engineers, and to enter urban design practices either in private firms or public agencies. The MSUD Program is housed in the School of Architecture and is run jointly by the School of Architecture and the Georgia Tech School of City and Regional Planning. It offers an intensive and richly interdisciplinary experience, with required courses in urban design, architecture and city planning, with additional opportunities in civil and environmental engineering, real estate development, heritage preservation, and other fields. Students in the MSUD Program are in daily contact with architecture and planning students and faculty throughout the College of Design.

Qualifications Needed to Apply

Applicants to the MSUD Program are limited to those with prior accredited professional degrees in

- architecture (M.Arch or B.Arch),
- landscape architecture (BLA or MLA),
- City and Regional Planning (MCRP or equivalent), or
- Civil Engineering (BCE or equivalent).

Professional degrees from other countries are acceptable with proper documentation with the understanding that the MSUD cannot serve, in itself, as a professional degree in the US. It is preferable that applicants have a year or more of professional experience.

Applicants must demonstrate their ability for graduate study in urban design by submitting the following in their application package:

1. A design portfolio, including academic and professional work, demonstrating experience and ability to engage professional level urban design problems. The portfolio must be submitted in digital form.
2. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores, taken within the past five years, and professional degree grade point records and averages to demonstrate overall ability to engage graduate studies. In general, minimums are 60th percentile or higher for the GRE sections and 3.0 GPA or higher. GRE scores are required for all international applicants, regardless of the language of their first degree.
3. Tests of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores, with a minimum score of 80 (paper), 213 (computer) or 100 (Internet) are required for all international applicants whose first language is not English.

The MSUD Program only admits students for the fall semester, unless the student plans to participate in one of the COA urban design-oriented international summer programs prior to the first semester in the MSUD Program.

The course of study for the Master of Science in Urban Design (MSUD) includes a set of required core courses, totaling 30 credit hours, and professional electives, totaling 9 credit hours. The total minimum credit hour requirement for the MSUD degree is thirty-nine credit hours.

Required Courses

Seminar and Lecture Courses
COA 6151 History of Urban Form 3
ARCH 6151 Theories of Urban Design 3
CP 6016 Growth Management Law and Implementation 3
CP 6611 Principles of Real Estate Finance and Development 3

Laboratory, Studio or Special Problems Courses
COA 6011 Urban Design Laboratory 6
COA 7011 Urban Design Studio I 6
Select one of the following: 6
COA 7012 Urban Design Studio II
COA 8881
ARCH 7045 Urban Design Workshop

Elective Courses

Select 9 credit hours of electives, either in concentrated areas or in distributed subject areas, based on prior professional degrees, professional experience and career interests. 9

Total Credit Hours 39

Elective Courses

The 9 credit hours of elective courses are organized into six subject areas, reflecting important areas of urban design practice. Students will be advised to take these electives, either in concentrated areas or in distributed subjects, based on their prior professional degrees, professional experience and career interests.

These elective areas are as follows:

- **Urban Design History, Theory and Practice** electives provide depth in several aspects of urban design history, theory and practice. These are especially appropriate for students with strong technical backgrounds, who wish to engage broader aspects of urban design practice.
- **Sustainable Development** electives provide an introduction, as well as policy and technical depth, to issues of sustainable urbanism from a variety of perspectives, ranging from building to city to regional and scales.
- **Transportation Planning** electives are courses in the existing Transportation Dual Degree Program between City and Regional Planning and Civil and Environmental Engineering. Students also may enroll, with permission, in other transportation planning and design courses in the College of Architecture.
- **Real Estate and Economic Development** electives provide additional depth in real estate development and economic development. Students may also cross enroll, with permission, in other real estate and economic development courses.
- **Digital Media** electives respond to the rapidly growing need in urban design practice to bridge among GIS, CAD, 3-D Modeling and Animation. The strengths in the College of Design GIS Center and the Digital Buildings Laboratory provide substantial opportunities in this area, and these opportunities are expanding rapidly.
- **Heritage Preservation** electives address an area of urban design practice that has not had significant academic attention. These
electives are based on opportunities for students to cross enroll, with permission, at GSU for courses in the Heritage Preservation Program in the College of Arts and Sciences. In addition, students may select to complete the Historic Preservation Certificate Program at Georgia State University.

For additional information and links see: www.arch.gatech.edu/urban-design/msud (http://www.arch.gatech.edu)

The deadline for applications is December 1 for international applicants and December 15 for U.S. applicants for the following fall semester. Each applicant must have an outstanding undergraduate record and must submit a portfolio of creative work. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is required for all applicants. A minimum TOEFL score of 600 (paper-based), 250 (computer-based), or 100 (internet-based) is required for all foreign applicants. All applicants should be aware that each program in the School of Architecture has specific application requirements; therefore, all applicants should consult the relevant requirements for their chosen degree programs; by visiting the School of Architecture website or contacting an academic advisor.