

Master of City Design

Admission Requirements

Applicants are considered on an individual basis. In addition to the Graduate College minimum requirements, applicants must meet the following program admission criteria:

- **Baccalaureate Field** Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Studies, Urban Planning, and other creative fields. Relevant professional experience of two or more years strongly recommended.
- **Grade Point Average** At least 3.00/4.00 for the final 60 semester hours (90 quarter hours) of undergraduate study.
- **Tests Required** None required for admission.
- **Minimum English Competency Test Score**
 - **TOEFL iBT** 80, with subscores of Reading 19, Listening 17, Speaking 20, and Writing 21, **OR**,
 - **IELTS Academic** 6.5, with 6.0 in each of the four subscores, **OR**,
 - **PTE-Academic** 54, with subscores of Reading 51, Listening 47, Speaking 53, and Writing 56.
- **Letters of Recommendation** Three required.
- **Personal Statement** Required. The statement must address the applicant's educational and career goals and previous pertinent work, volunteer, and/or academic experience.
- **Other Requirements** Applicants must submit a portfolio comprising their most important and representative visual arts, design, research, and/or professional work such as an essay, academic paper or policy report, newspaper article, photographs, handmade sketches, computer generated graphics, design proposal, or project of which they are the sole author or designer. This material may be of an academic, professional, or personal nature, and must be submitted in a PDF format and include a description of the project as well as supporting documentation, which may include images or a video. Applicants must submit a resume as well.
- **Deadlines** The number of students admitted is limited. Admissions are selective and competitive. Fall semester start only. Early submissions are encouraged in order to receive fullest consideration. The application deadline for this program is earlier than the Graduate College deadline; [application deadlines](#) for this program are listed on the Graduate College website.

Degree Requirements

- **Minimum Semester Hours Required** 36.
- **Coursework**

| Code | Title | Hours |
|------------------------------|--|-------|
| Required Core Courses | | |
| CD 503 | Urban Spatial Analysis & Visualization | |
| CD 504 | Theories of Urban Design | |
| CD 511 | Urban Edge Studio | |
| CD 512 | Great Cities Studio | |
| CD 522 | Chicago Charette I | |
| CD 523 | Chicago Charette II | |
| UPP 508 | Global Urbanization and Planning | |

Selective courses

Select any course from the following list with advisor's approval:

| | |
|---------|--|
| UPP 550 | Spatial Planning: Theoretical Foundations |
| UPP 594 | Topics in Urban Planning and Policy |
| UPP 565 | Transportation: Special Topics |
| UPP 542 | Metropolitan Housing Planning |
| UPP 543 | Planning for Healthy Cities |
| UPP 535 | Economic Development: Special Topics |
| UPP 544 | Urban Revitalization and Gentrification |
| UPP 525 | Globalization and International Planning: Special Topics |
| UPP 553 | Land Use Law |
| UPP 558 | Land Use Regulation and Planning |
| UPP 533 | Development Finance Analysis |
| UPP 564 | Public Transit Management |

- A minimum 3.00/4.00 GPA is required in all work taken in the major field, and in all work accepted by the university.
- **Comprehensive Examination** None.
- **Thesis, Project, or Coursework-Only Options:** Coursework only. No other options available.