

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION**

<b>1</b>	<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Newcastle University
<b>2</b>	<b>Teaching Institution</b>	Newcastle University
<b>3</b>	<b>Final Award</b>	Masters in Architecture and Planning Studies
<b>4</b>	<b>Programme Title</b>	Masters in Architecture and Planning Studies (Design) Diploma in Architecture and Planning Studies (Design)
<b>5</b>	<b>Programme Code</b>	4111F
<b>6</b>	<b>Programme Accreditation</b>	N/A
<b>7</b>	<b>QAA Subject Benchmark(s)</b>	N/A
<b>8</b>	<b>FHEQ Level</b>	7 (m)
<b>9</b>	<b>Last updated</b>	5/3/10

**10 Programme Aims**

1. to provide a framework for developing integrated approaches to the design of place and space
2. to provide a flexible programme enabling students to develop critical thinking around their own interests with an emphasis on the *interface* of planning and role of architectural design in the creation of sustainable and successful places.
3. to develop both transferable and professional skills to an advanced level
4. to develop skills in design, undertaking and management of robust, cutting edge research in planning and design of place and space
5. to enable students to develop depth of knowledge and/or skills in particular areas of town planning and/or architecture, underpinned by current leading research
6. to meet the criteria for Postgraduate Diploma and Masters level qualifications as laid down in the QAA's National Qualifications Framework
7. to comply with University policy and QAA Codes of Practice

**11 Learning Outcomes**

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate systematic knowledge and understanding of the interface between planning and architecture. Students will develop the capacity for critical thinking about the design of place and space and gain skills to enable them to deal with complex aspects of planning and architecture in a creative and innovative way. Through studio based design workshops students will both refine their design skills and critically compare and analyse architectural styles in a range of country contexts. International students will particularly engage in a critical analysis of the globalisation of design. The programme outcomes have references to the benchmark statements for Planning and Architecture.

<b>Knowledge and Understanding</b>
<p>On completing the programme students should:</p> <p>A1. Demonstrate understanding and critical thinking of selected aspects of town planning and/or architecture as a form of action concerned with managing and creating space and place</p> <p>A2. Demonstrate an understanding of the conflicts and complexities of the interplay between town planning and architecture, and a systematic , research driven approach to addressing issues and problems of the design of space and place</p> <p>A3. Demonstrate a critical understanding of theory and make appropriate connections between theory and practice.</p> <p>A4. Demonstrate depth of knowledge and understanding of the role of architectural design in the built environment.</p> <p>A5 Demonstrate an advanced knowledge of the inter-relationship between people, buildings and the environment and an understanding of the need to relate buildings and the spaces between them to human needs and scale</p>
<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>
<p>The primary method of delivering knowledge is through lectures (A1- A4). These are supplemented and students are enabled through students seminars and independent study. Architectural Design knowledge and understanding (A5) is imparted through both lectures and studio teaching in 2 X 20 credit Design Studio modules</p>
<b>Assessment Strategy</b>
<p>All Knowledge and Understanding outcomes are assessed. A1 – A4 are assessed primarily through written essays and further assessed through group project reports, depending on the student’s choice of modules.</p> <p>A5 is assessed through the output of 2 X 20 credit design studio modules</p>
<b>Intellectual Skills</b>
<p>B1. Define and critically analyse problems effectively and appropriately drawing on current research and knowledge</p> <p>B2. Effectively collect, synthesise and utilise evidence and information</p> <p>B3. Articulate reasoned arguments, drawing on a range of information sources</p> <p>B4. Develop research skills and experience in the context of the school’s research interests</p> <p>B5 Develop an ability to critically analyse the socio-spatial context of a building</p>
<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>
<p>B1 – B3 are taught through lecture based modules and, depending on the students choice of modules through a group planning project.</p> <p>B4 is delivered through research training lectures and through dissertation tutorials and workshops</p> <p>B5 is delivered through 2 X20 credit design studio practical projects and through several lectured based modules depending on students choice</p>

<b>Assessment Strategy</b>
<p>B1 – B3 are assessed primarily through sole assessment of written essays and reports. These may be supplemented with students seminar presentations</p> <p>B4 is assessed through submission of a sole authored dissertation proposal and a 20,000 word dissertation</p> <p>B5 is assessed through the output of 2 X20 credit design studio practical projects and through written essays or seminars for lectured based modules depending on students choice</p>
<b>Practical Skills</b>
<p>C1. Develop skills for practical application within Planning and / or Architecture appropriate to the students' selection of modules, NOTE: this is limited to that appropriate to a non accredited Programme. i.e. The Programme does not aim to equip the student to practice either Architecture or Planning</p>
<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>
<p>C1 in relation to Architecture this is delivered through 2 X20 credit Design Studio projects</p> <p>C1 In relation to Planning this is delivered through 2 X 20 credit modules (depending on choice). These are supplemented with visiting practitioner presentations and student seminars</p>
<b>Assessment Strategy</b>
<p>C1 in relation to Architecture is assessed through the output of 2X 20 credit design studio modules</p> <p>C1 in relation to planning is assessed through the production of 2 x group project reports equivalent to 4,000 – 5,000 words per student - Depending on module choice</p>
<b>Transferable/Key Skills</b>
<p>D1. Effectively and fluently communicate information, ideas, principles and arguments</p> <p>D2. Develop personal self-management skills such as setting priorities and time management</p>
<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>
<p>D1 Ability to communicate effectively is learned through Lecture, individual projects, Student led group seminars Group Spatial strategy project, Post graduate study skills within TCP 8911 (Core) and if facilitated through increasing degrees of group work and seminars</p> <p>D2 is learned particularly through workshops on time management and study skills and the requirement for self directed study.</p>
<b>Assessment Strategy</b>
<p>D1 is assessed through the submission of a range of different written essays and reports and through student seminar presentations (Depending of choice of module)</p> <p>D2 is assessed through the final dissertation (core)</p>

## 12 Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features

### Basic structure of the programme

The programme consists of the University standard postgraduate requirement of 180 credits. Of these 110 are **core and compulsory: TCP 8911 Evaluation, Analysis and Research (10); TCP8099 Dissertation, ARC8077 (20) Approaches to Architectural Design 1, ARC8078 (20) Approaches to Architectural Design 2.**

The remaining 70 credits should be made up from optional modules as follows:

Note: most modules run every year but

TCP 7024 Conservation and the City (10 credits)  
TCP 8001 Planning Frameworks (10 credits)  
TCP 8927 Policy and Regulatory Frameworks  
TCP 8010 Planning Theory (10 credits)  
TCP 7023 Land Economics (10 credits)  
TCP 8917 Regenerating Places (10 credits)  
TCP 8921 Planning in Developing Countries (10 credits)  
TCP 8096 Issues in Landscape Planning and Sustainability (10 credits)  
TCP 7021 Spatial Strategies (20)  
TCP 8929 Stakeholders and Participation (10)  
TCP 8052 Urban Design Seminars (10)  
TCP 8032 Communications Techniques and Technologies (10)  
TCP 8091 Principles and Practice of Urban Design (10)

### Semester 2

ARC 8040 Cities and Buildings: Contemporary Issues in Urban Design (10 credits)  
ARC 8007 Understanding Buildings: Competing Conceptions of Design (10 credits)  
TCP 7021 Spatial Strategies (20 credits)  
TCP 7025 Regional Urban Development and Planning in Europe (10 credits)  
TCP 8905 Infrastructure, Mobility & Society (10 credits)  
TCP 8910 Sustainable Development (20 credits)  
TCP 8912 Conservation and the City - Project \* (10)  
TCP 8918 Regenerating Places Project \* (10)  
TCP 8920 Planning and Developing Countries – Project (10) \*  
TCP 8097 Issues in Landscape Planning and Sustainability Project \* (10)  
ARC 8065 European Study Visit (10)  
TCP 7023 Economics of Development (10)  
TCP 8926 Housing and Settlements (20)

ARC Modern Cultural Landscapes

### Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)

This programme is made particularly distinctive by its flexibility and diversity. While it has a strong element of architectural design studio study, it also allows students to select from a rich menu of design and non design modules which will help them understand the socio-economic context within which architecture and planning sit. Many of these are specifically designed for to place planning and architecture in a global context. Thus, the Programme is specifically of value for international students seeking high quality design studio teaching but who may be from a background or a professional context which makes a RIBA accredited programme unnecessary.

**Programme regulations (link to on-line version)**

<http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/programme/>

**13 Criteria for admission**

*Entry qualifications*

Candidates should hold a good first degree in Architecture. Normally a 2:1 Upper Second Class or equivalent degree will be the minimum entry requirement.

We actively encourage applications from overseas and domestic students. All overseas students have to satisfy the University's language requirements. Those who apply with a IELTS score of less than 6.5 will be issued a conditional offer, subject to successful attendance of a pre-sessional programme in English.

*Admissions policy/selection tools*

Students are required to submit a portfolio to ascertain the level of design ability and may be invited for an interview. All applications and portfolios are seen by the DPD and, where deemed appropriate, another member of staff.

*Non-standard Entry Requirements*

Applications from students without an appropriate degree but who can demonstrate a high degree of design ability and other relevant knowledge from work experience may be considered on an individual case basis

*Additional Requirements*

*Level of English Language capability*

IELTS 6.5 (or equivalent)

**14 Support for Student Learning**

The Student Services portal provides links to key services and other information and is available at: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/students/>

*Induction*

During the first week of the first semester students attend an induction programme. New students will be given a general introduction to University life and the University's principle support services and general information about the School and their programme, as described in the Degree Programme Handbook. New and continuing students will be given detailed programme information and the timetable of lectures/practicals/labs/ tutorials/etc. The International Office offers an additional induction programme for overseas students.

*Study skills support*

Students will learn a range of Personal Transferable Skills, including Study Skills, as outlined in the Programme Specification. Some of this material, e.g. time management is covered in the appropriate Induction Programme. Students are explicitly tutored on their approach to both group and individual projects.

Numeracy support is available through Maths Aid and help with academic writing is available from the Writing Centre (further information is available from the Robinson Library).

#### *Academic support*

The initial point of contact for a student is with a lecturer or module leader, or their tutor (see below) for more generic issues. Thereafter the Degree Programme Director or Head of School may be consulted. Issues relating to the programme may be raised at the Staff-Student Committee, and/or at the Board of Studies.

#### *Pastoral support*

All students are assigned a personal tutor whose responsibility is to monitor the academic performance and overall well-being of their tutees. In addition the University offers a range of support services, including one-to-one counselling and guidance or group sessions / workshops on a range of topics, such as emotional issues e.g. Stress and anxiety, student finance and budgeting, disability matters etc. There is specialist support available for students with dyslexia and mental health issues. Furthermore, the Union Society operates a Student Advice Centre, which can provide advocacy and support to students on a range of topics including housing, debt, legal issues etc.

#### *Support for students with disabilities*

The University's Disability Support Service provides help and advice for disabled students at the University - and those thinking of coming to Newcastle. It provides individuals with: advice about the University's facilities, services and the accessibility of campus; details about the technical support available; guidance in study skills and advice on financial support arrangements; a resources room with equipment and software to assist students in their studies.

#### *Learning resources*

The University's main learning resources are provided by the Robinson and Walton Libraries (for books, journals, online resources), and Information Systems and Services, which supports campus-wide computing facilities.

All new students whose first language is not English are required to take an English Language Proficiency Test. This is administered by INTO Newcastle University Centre on behalf of Newcastle University. Where appropriate, in-session language training can be provided. The INTO Newcastle University Centre houses a range of resources which may be particularly appropriate for those interested in an Erasmus exchange.

### **15 Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning**

#### *Module reviews*

All modules are subject to review by questionnaires which are considered by the Board of Studies. Changes to, or the introduction of new, modules are considered at the Board of Studies and/or the School Teaching and Learning Committee. Student opinion is sought at the Staff-Student Committee and/or the Board of Studies. New modules and major changes to existing modules are subject to approval by the Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee.

#### *Programme reviews*

The Board of Studies conducts an Annual Monitoring and Review of the degree programme and reports to Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee. The FTLC takes an overview of all programmes within the Faculty and reports any Faculty or institutional issues to the University Teaching and Learning Committee.

#### *External Examiner reports*

External Examiner reports are considered by the Board of Studies. The Board responds to these reports through Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee. External Examiner reports are shared with institutional student representatives, through the Staff-Student Committee.

#### *Student evaluations*

All modules, and the degree programme, are subject to review by student questionnaires. Informal student evaluation is also obtained at the Staff-Student Committee, and the Board of Studies. The results from student surveys are considered as part of the Annual Monitoring and Review of the programme and any arising actions are captured at programme and School / institutional level and reported to the appropriate body.

#### *Mechanisms for gaining student feedback*

Feedback is channelled via the Staff-Student Committee and the Board of Studies.

#### *Faculty and University Review Mechanisms*

The programme is subject to the University's Internal Subject Review process. Every five years degree programmes in each subject area are subject to periodic review. This involves both the detailed consideration of a range of documentation, and a two-day review visit by a review team which includes an external subject specialist in addition to University and Faculty representatives. Following the review a report is produced, which forms the basis for a decision by University Teaching and Learning Committee on whether the programmes reviewed should be re-approved for a further five year period.

#### *Accreditation reports*

#### *Additional mechanisms*

## **16 Regulation of assessment**

#### *Pass mark*

The pass mark is 50%

#### *Course requirements*

Progression is subject to the University's Masters Degree Progress Regulations, Taught and Research and Examination Conventions for Taught Masters Degrees. Limited compensation up to 40 credits of the taught element and down to a mark of 40% is possible and there are reassessment opportunities, with certain restrictions.

The University employs a common marking scheme, which is specified in the Taught Postgraduate Examination Conventions, namely:

Summary description applicable to postgraduate Masters programmes		Summary description applicable to postgraduate Certificate and Diploma programmes	
<50	Fail	<50	Fail
50-59	Pass	50 or above	Pass
60-69	Pass with Merit		
70 or above	Pass with Distinction		

*Role of the External Examiner*

An External Examiner, a distinguished member of the subject community, is appointed by Faculty Teaching and Learning Committee, following recommendation from the Board of Studies. The External Examiner is expected to:

- i. See and approve assessment papers
- ii. Moderate examination and coursework marking
- iii. Attend the Board of Examiners
- iv. Report to the University on the standards of the programme

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:
The University Prospectus: <a href="http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/">http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/</a>
The School Brochure
Degree Programme and University Regulations: <a href="http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/">http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/</a>
The Degree Programme Handbook

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. The accuracy of the information contained is reviewed by the University and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education.



## Mapping of Intended Learning Outcomes onto Curriculum/Modules

<b>12 Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features</b>
<b>Basic structure of the programme</b>
<p>The programme consists of the University standard postgraduate requirement of 180 credits. Of these 110 are <b>core and compulsory: TCP 8911 Evaluation, Analysis and Research (10); TCP8099 Dissertation, ARC8077 (20) Approaches to Architectural Design 1, ARC8078 (20) Approaches to Architectural Design 2.</b> The remaining 70 credits should be made up from optional modules as follows:  Note: most modules run every year but some may be rested from time to time</p> <p>TCP 7024 Conservation and the City (10 credits)  TCP 8001 Planning Frameworks (10 credits)  TCP 8927 Policy and Regulatory Frameworks  TCP 8010 Planning Theory (10 credits)  TCP 7023 Land Economics (10 credits)  TCP 8917 Regenerating Places (10 credits)  TCP 8921 Planning in Developing Countries (10 credits)  TCP 8096 Issues in Landscape Planning and Sustainability (10 credits)  TCP 7021 Sustainable Development  TCP 8929 Stakeholders and Participation  ARC 8007 Understanding Buildings: Competing Conceptions of Design (10 credits)  TCP 8023 Communication Techniques and Technologies (10)  TCP 8052 Urban Design Seminars (10)  TCP 8091 Principles and Practice of Urban Design (10)</p> <p><b>Semester 2</b>  ARC 8040 Cities and Buildings: Contemporary Issues in Urban Design (10 credits)  TCP 7021 Spatial Strategies (20 credits)  TCP 8910 Sustainable Communities (20 credits)  TCP 8912 Conservation and the City - Project * (10)  TCP 8918 Regenerating Places Project * (10)  TCP 8920 Planning and Developing Countries – Project (10) *  TCP 8097 Issues in Landscape Planning and Sustainability Project * (10)  ARC 8065 European Study Visit (10)  TCP 7023 Economics of Development (10)  TCP 8926 Housing and Settlements (20)  TCP 8902 Reflexive Practitioner (10)</p>
<b>Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)</b>
<p>This programme is made particularly distinctive by its flexibility and diversity. While it has a strong element of architectural design studio study, it also allows students to select from a rich menu of design and non design modules which will help them understand the socio-economic context within which architecture and planning sit. Many of these are specifically designed for to place planning and architecture in a global context. Thus, the Programme is specifically of value for international students seeking high quality design studio teaching but who may be from a background or a professional context which makes a RIBA accredited programme unnecessary.</p>

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<b>Intended Learning Outcome</b>	<b>Module codes (Compulsory in Bold)</b>
A1	<b>ARC8077; ARC8078</b> ; TCP 8001; TCP7021; TCP920/8921;TCP8917/8918 TCP7024/8912; TCP8096/8097; TCP 8926; TCP 8927; TCP 8928; ARC 8065; ARC 8004; ARC 8007
A2	TCP 8010; TCP 8905; TCP 8910; TCP 8928 TCP7023;TCP920/8921;TCP8917/8918 TCP7024/8912; TCP8096/8097
A3	TCP 8001; TCP 8928; TCP 8925; TCP 8902; TCP 8052; <b>TCP 8911 TCP 8099</b>
A4	TCP 7021; <b>ARC8077 &amp; ARC8078</b> ; ARC 8065; ARC 8004; ARC 8007
A5	<b>ARC8077 &amp; ARC8078</b> ; ARC 8065; ARC 8004; ARC 8007
B1	TCP 8010;TCP 8910; TCP 8925; TCP 8926; TCP 8928; <b>ARC8077 &amp; ARC8078</b> ; ARC 8065; TCP 8091; TCP 8052
B2	TCP 8925; TCP 8926; TCP 8928; ARC 8025
B3	TCP 8010; TCP 8902; TCP920/8921;TCP8917/8918 TCP7024/8912; TCP8096/8097
B4	<b>TCP 8911 TCP 8099</b>
B 5	<b>ARC8077 &amp; ARC8078</b> ; ARC 8065;
C1	TCP 7021; TCP8910;TCP 8925, TCP 8926; TCP 8928; ARC 8065 <b>ARC8077 &amp; ARC8078</b> ; TCP 8032
D1	All
D2	All