

Urban Design Certificate Program

The Certificate in Urban Design is open to students already enrolled at the School of Design in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Historic Preservation, or City and Regional Planning. The Certificate may also be taken as a freestanding course of study if the applicant has already completed a professional Master's degree in architecture, landscape architecture or city and regional planning. Urban Design at the School of Design is interdisciplinary. Faculty who teach urban design include the dean, Gary Hack, Jonathan Barnett, Robert Yaro and James Kise in the City Planning Department, Laurie Olin and James Corner from Landscape Architecture, and Witold Rybczynski from Architecture. The curriculum for the Certificate in Urban Design includes case studies, theory, a studio, and courses in real-estate or law. Studio courses investigate a real problem that exemplifies important current city design issues either in the U.S. or in an international setting. The studio also includes instruction in basic urban design techniques.

Students must apply and be formally accepted; applicants must submit either a portfolio or examples of a report or other professional work. Students receive a Certificate in Urban Design by completing the required 5 course units. Currently enrolled students should apply for the Certificate in Urban Design as early as possible, so that they can complete the Certificate at the same time as their degree requirements. Required core courses include CPLN 702 Studio, UDES 751 Theory & Principles of Urban Design, UDES 752 Case Studies in Urban Design and CPLN 680 Real Estate Finance & Investment. Students who are not Master of City Planning students may opt to take UDES 723 Law of Planning & Urban Development instead of CPLN 680. The UDES courses are cross listed with individual departments to facilitate completion of the Certificate, and students who have already taken the equivalent of a Certificate core curriculum course may substitute others. All student programs must be approved by the director of the Certificate Program.

Director: Jonathan Barnett