



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

MA

Housing and Community Planning

Study mode

Full-time

Part-time

Duration

12 months

24 months

Apply by: **29 August 2025**

Starts on: **22 September 2025**

About this course

The Housing and Community Planning MA will provide you with a critical understanding of the contemporary challenges associated with housing and community planning, including their interaction with social, economic, environmental and political issues.

You will develop a range of practical and analytical skills and experience that will enable you to pursue a career related to housing, planning, and the built environment.

Introduction

Studying the Housing and Community Planning MA will give you high-level, expert understanding and experience of housing and community planning practice. You will study housing and planning within the context of social, economic and environmental challenges, and develop a range of skills and techniques, including written, oral and digital forms of presenting and communicating information.

The programme has a strong practical focus, including a field class, project work, and a professional practice module where students are encouraged to apply learning and skills to real-world work-based scenarios through a placement or project.

This programme has specialist accreditation from the Royal Town Planning Institute, which means that your specialist skills and expertise will be formally recognised by a professional organisation.

Who is this course for?

This programme will appeal to students from a range of backgrounds, including those who have studied cognate social science subjects at undergraduate level, students with professional experience and expertise, and students seeking to study part-time in parallel with their day job.

What you'll learn

- You will develop a critical understanding of the contemporary challenges associated with housing and community planning, including social, economic, environmental and political issues
 - You will learn analytical skills and techniques that enable students to develop appropriate solutions to complex problems
 - You will have the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills gained through this programme to professional practice, and reflect on this application through practice-based work
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Accreditation

This programme is accredited by the [Royal Town Planning Institute](#).

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Course content

Discover what you'll learn, what you'll study, and how you'll be taught and assessed.

Semester one

In your first semester, you will develop an understanding of the history of community-focused planning, learn methods for community involvement, understand the relationship between housing, home and planning through social, economic and political processes at local to international scales, and learn of the conflicts facing planners in trying to deliver sustainable development.

You'll get the opportunity to engage with cutting edge contemporary research, carry out field studies of spatial planning challenges, and show your understanding of planning theory, practice and policy.

Teaching takes place on campus, in person.

Please see below for semester one modules. Click on the next tab for semester two modules.

Modules are regularly reviewed to ensure a distinctive and challenging programme and are therefore subject to change.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>SPATIAL PLANNING CHALLENGES (ENVS411)</u>	15
<u>THEORY, POWER AND ETHICS (ENVS432)</u>	15
<u>PLANNING FOR HOUSING AND HOME (ENVS635)</u>	15
<u>PEOPLE AND PLANNING (ENVS636)</u>	15

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Semester two

Modules in semester two will give you the opportunity to explore how theories of housing and community planning are enacted in practice, and get to work with a client to develop an improvement strategy.

You'll get a good understanding of housing, community, and spatial planning through practical assignments working independently and in groups with external organisations. You'll then develop presentations, posters, and detailed analysis to support your work and show your understanding of housing and community planning theories.

Modules

Compulsory modules	Credits
<u>SPATIAL PLANNING AND DESIGN PROJECT (ENVS467)</u>	30
<u>HOUSING AND COMMUNITY PLANNING PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (ENVS637)</u>	30

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Final project

Your final semester will start with a workshop session which will the general skills required to produce primary research – research design, literature searching, research methods and more. You will then develop, research and execute an independent piece of research on the topic of your choice.

There will be plenty of chances to check in with an academic member of staff, either online or in-person, to discuss your research project over the course of the semester.

Modules

Programme details and modules listed are illustrative only and subject to change.

Teaching and assessment

How you'll learn

You'll learn through lectures, seminars and tutorials together with practical exercises, such as project work, group work and field visits.

Your learning outcomes will reflect those specified by the Royal Town Planning Institute for specialist accreditation.

Taking a proactive approach to learning, you'll plan and organise your individual study – and take an active part in class discussions during seminars and tutorials.

How you're assessed

You'll be assessed through a combination of methods including coursework, reports, examinations, groupwork and presentations.

Essays and reports will allow you to explore parts of the programme in-depth and present coherent arguments, while seminar presentations will develop your skills in presenting and defending arguments orally. You will be encouraged to engage with digital forms of communication and will develop competencies in using these to disseminate information.

You'll also take part in group projects, demonstrating your ability to work as a team to resolve complex problems; and sit exams, to test your knowledge.

Ongoing and structured feedback and proactive engagement with your lecturers will help you throughout the various assessment methods in your course.

Liverpool Hallmarks

We have a distinctive approach to education, the Liverpool Curriculum Framework, which focuses on research-connected teaching, active learning, and authentic assessment to ensure our students graduate as digitally fluent and confident global citizens.

The Liverpool Curriculum framework sets out our distinctive approach to education. Our teaching staff support our students to develop academic knowledge, skills, and understanding alongside our **graduate attributes**:

- Digital fluency
- Confidence
- Global citizenship

Our curriculum is characterised by the three **Liverpool Hallmarks**:

- Research-connected teaching
- Active learning
- Authentic assessment

All this is underpinned by our core value of **inclusivity** and commitment to providing a curriculum that is accessible to all students.

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Careers and employability

You will have a lot of options after graduating this programme.

Many of you might find work related to the core specialisms – housing and community planning – which may involve working in public, private and third sector organisations, including local authorities, consultancies, charities, and housing associations.

You'll be especially attractive to employers in the field due to your RTPI accreditation and experience you will gain on your work placement.

Previous students have entered occupations in private sector planning firms or research-based or policy and research roles within third sector organisations.

In addition to specialist knowledge, the programme will give you a broad understanding of planning practice in the UK and internationally which will enable you to take up careers in other areas of planning practice.

The programme will prepare you with a broad range of skills transferable to other occupations and to careers both in the UK and internationally, including written and verbal communication, digital fluency, and research.

Career support from day one to graduation and beyond

Career planning

From education to employment

Networking events

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Fees and funding

Your tuition fees, funding your studies, and other costs to consider.

Tuition fees

UK fees (applies to Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Republic of Ireland)

Full-time place, per year – £12,500

Part-time place, per year – £6,250

International fees

Full-time place, per year – £24,100

Part-time place, per year – £12,050

Fees stated are for the 2025–26 academic year.

Tuition fees cover the cost of your teaching and assessment, operating facilities such as libraries, IT equipment, and access to academic and personal support.

- You can [pay your tuition fees in instalments](#).
- All or part of your tuition fees can be [funded by external sponsorship](#).
- International applicants who accept an offer of a place will need to [pay a tuition fee deposit](#).

If you're a UK national, or have settled status in the UK, you may be eligible to apply for a Postgraduate Loan worth up to £12,167 to help with course fees and living costs. [Learn more about paying for your studies](#).

Additional costs

We understand that budgeting for your time at university is important, and we want to make sure you understand any course-related costs that are not covered by your tuition fee. This could include buying a laptop, books, or stationery.

Find out more about the [additional study costs](#) that may apply to this course.

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Entry requirements

The qualifications and exam results you'll need to apply for this course.

Postgraduate entry requirements

We accept a 2:2 honours degree from a UK university, or an equivalent academic qualification from a similar non-UK institution. This degree should be in a related subject, such as Planning, Geography, Architecture, Civil Engineering, Economics, or Sociology. However, there are no pre-requisites.

Non-graduates with very extensive professional experience and/or other prior qualifications may also be considered.

International qualifications

Select your country or region to view specific entry requirements.

If you hold a bachelor's degree or equivalent, but don't meet our entry requirements, a Pre-Master's can help you gain a place. This specialist preparation course for postgraduate study is offered on campus at the [**University of Liverpool International College**](#), in partnership with Kaplan International Pathways. Although there's no direct Pre-Master's route to this MA, completing a Pre-Master's pathway can guarantee you a place on many other postgraduate courses at The University of Liverpool.

English language requirements

You'll need to demonstrate competence in the use of English language, unless you're from a [majority English speaking country](#).

We accept a variety of [international language tests](#) and [country-specific qualifications](#).

International applicants who do not meet the minimum required standard of English language can complete one of our [Pre-Sessional English courses](#) to achieve the required level.

IELTS

6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0

TOEFL iBT

88 overall, with minimum scores of listening 19, writing 19, reading 19 and speaking 20. TOEFL Home Edition not accepted.

Duolingo English Test

125 overall, with writing not less than 125, speaking and reading not less than 115, and listening not below 110

Pearson PTE Academic

61 overall, with no component below 59

LanguageCert Academic

70 overall, with no skill below 65

PSI Skills for English

B2 Pass with Merit in all bands

INDIA Standard XII

National Curriculum (CBSE/ISC) – 75% and above in English. Accepted State Boards – 80% and above in English.

WAEC

C6 or above

Pre-sessional English

Do you need to complete a Pre-sessional English course to meet the English language requirements for this course?

The length of Pre-sessional English course you'll need to take depends on your current level of English language ability.

Pre-sessional English in detail

If you don't meet our English language requirements, we can use your most recent IELTS score, or [the equivalent score in selected other English language tests](#), to determine the length of Pre-sessional English course you require.

Use the table below to check the course length you're likely to require for your current English language ability and see whether the course is available on campus or online.

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
6.0 overall, with no component below 6.0	6 weeks	On campus
6.0 overall, with no component below 5.5	10 weeks	On campus and online options available
6.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	12 weeks	On campus and online options available
5.5 overall, with no more than one component below 5.5, and no component below 5.0	20 weeks	On campus
5.0 overall, with no more than one component below 5.0, and no component below 4.5	30 weeks	On campus

Your most recent IELTS score	Pre-sessional English course length	On campus or online
4.5 overall, with no more than one component below 4.5, and no component below 4.0	40 weeks	On campus

If you've completed an alternative English language test to IELTS, we may be able to use this to assess your English language ability and determine the Pre-sessional English course length you require.

Please see our guide to [Pre-sessional English entry requirements](#) for IELTS 6.5 overall, with no component below 6.0, for further details.

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