M.SC. PROGRAM IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

Program Handbook

FOR Faculty and Students

1st. Edition ©2024

KAUAP

جامعة الملك عبدالعزيز
كلية العمارة و التخطيط
King Abdulaziz University
Faculty of Architecture &Planning

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

MISSION AND GOALS

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Introduction

The Faculty of Architecture and Planning is concerned with teaching urban planning and design sciences at all standards. The Faculty contains four departments: architecture, environmental architecture, urban and regional planning, and geomatics. The college grants bachelor's degrees in its four specializations. In addition, a master's degree is awarded in two specializations in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the Department of Architecture, and a doctoral degree is awarded in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and work is currently underway to establish master's programs in other departments. The duration of study in bachelor's programs is five years, during which the student studies theoretical and practical subjects that keep pace with the latest specialized trends globally and meet the requirements of the labor market locally and regionally.

About the URP M.Sc. Program

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning was established in 1396 AH as part of the Evidence Design School at that time in response to the growing demand for a professional specialized in planning issues, urban development policies and in response to the steady population increase and the rapid economic growth witnessed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the wake of the economic boom that the Kingdom witnessed in that period from history . Urban and regional is the science and art of developing and managing cities and villages of different sizes and all human settlements and their territories. It sets appropriate solutions, strategies and policies for all of them while achieving the foundations of sustainable development. It also aims to create residential environments in which there is economic efficiency and societal balance, and in which the element of attractiveness and characterization of the urban environment and its design is achieved, through an effective process of spatial and functional distribution of urban activities and spaces.

The Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Urban and Regional Planning at King Abdulaziz University, offered by the Faculty of Architecture and Planning, is designed to equip students with the expertise needed to become leaders in the field of urban and regional planning. This graduate program emphasizes a comprehensive understanding of planning theories, principles, and best practices on both local and international levels. It aims to foster the development of sustainable human settlements and prosperous regions through rigorous research and applied planning projects. Graduates of this program are well-prepared for careers as assistant researchers, lecturers, city managers, and heads of planning sections in various professional sectors including universities, ministries, city councils, and development organizations.

Mission

Preparing qualified leaders in Urban and Regional Planning, proficient in aligning with both local and international benchmarks, and dedicated to developing prosperous regions and sustainable human settlements through research and applied planning projects.

Goals

Provide M.Sc. courses and research practice in Urban and Regional Planning for both local and international Physical Planners, Architects, and Civil Engineers in order enable them to be qualified leaders and researchers in Urban and Regional Planning and produce or manage the production of high-quality research and development projects with high autonomy, which applies the international academic standards of Higher Education.

Requirements

1. Registration of the thesis:

(Requirements/conditions and procedures for registration of the thesis as well as controls, responsibilities, and procedures of scientific guidance)

- A- Each student is expected to write an MSc thesis relevant to his area of specialization.
- B- To do so, each student must write a thesis proposal and after he gets the approval, he reviews all the related theories, collects all the relevant information, conducts the field work, and finally presents his thesis according to the guidelines and regulations of the Deanship of Graduate Studies at KAU.
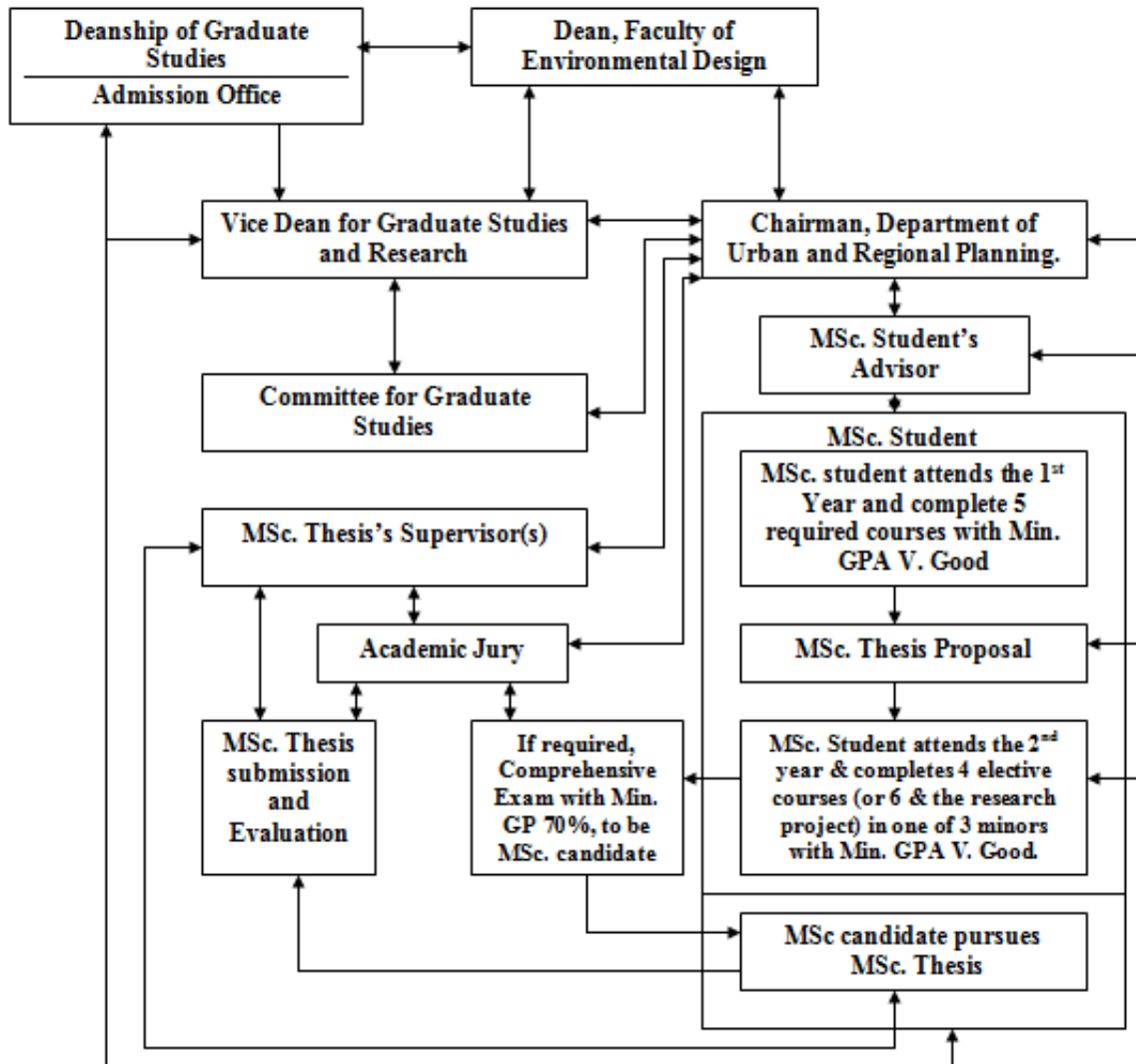
2. Scientific Supervision:

(The regulations of the selection of the scientific supervisor and his/her responsibilities, as well as the procedures/ mechanisms of the scientific supervision and follow-up):

As per the rules & regulations of Deanship of Graduate Studies at KAU.

3.Thesis Defense/Examination:

(The regulations for selection of the defense/examination committee and the requirements to proceed for thesis defense, the procedures for defense and approval of the thesis, and criteria for evaluation of the thesis):

As per the rules & regulations of Deanship of Graduate Studies at KAU.

URP M.Sc. program administrative flowchart

Flowchart of the URP M.Sc. program administration:

- **Deanship of Graduate Studies / Admission Office** ↔ **Dean, Faculty of Environmental Design**
- **Vice Dean for Graduate Studies and Research** ↔ **Chairman, Department of Urban and Regional Planning.**
- **Committee for Graduate Studies**
- **MSc. Student's Advisor**
- **MSc. Thesis's Supervisor(s)**
- **MSc. Student** — MSc. student attends the 1st Year and complete 5 required courses with Min. GPA V. Good
- **Academic Jury**
- **MSc. Thesis Proposal**
- **MSc. Thesis submission and Evaluation**
- **If required, Comprehensive Exam with Min. GP 70%, to be MSc. candidate**
- **MSc. Student attends the 2nd year & completes 4 elective courses (or 6 & the research project) in one of 3 minors with Min. GPA V. Good.**
- **MSc candidate pursues MSc. Thesis**

URP M.Sc. Program Study Plan

The M.Sc. in Urban and Regional Planning program offers a structured curriculum that combines both coursework and thesis components. The program requires the completion of 42 credit hours, divided into core required courses and electives, alongside a significant research thesis. In the first two semesters, students will engage in foundational courses such as Planning Theory and Process, Research Methods in Planning, Urban Land Economics, and Planning Techniques Workshops. Advanced electives allow students to specialize in areas like Geospatial Technology, Urban Transportation Modeling, and Real Estate Development.

M.Sc. Program in Urban and Regional Planning

M.Sc. Program with Thesis [42 Credit Hours]

Year	Course Code	Course Title	Required/ Elective	Credit Hours
General Compulsory Courses for the two M.Sc. tracks [13 Credit Hours]	URP 600	Planning Theory & Process	Required	3
	URP 694	Research Methods in Planning	Required	3
	URP 602	Urban Land Economics	Required	3
	URP 605	Workshop in Planning Techniques	Required	4
Courses of the 1st Track: Land-use Planning [13 Credit Hours]	URP 611	Land Use Analysis	Elective (1st track)	3
	URP 612	Land Use Control Policies	Elective (1st track)	3
	URP 613	Management of Urban Development	Elective (1st track)	3
	URP 614	Workshop in Land Use Planning	Elective (1st track)	4
Courses of the 2nd Track: Community Development Planning [13 Credit Hours]	URP 621	Urban & Community Economic Development	Elective (2nd track)	3
	URP 622	Local Development Finance	Elective (2nd track)	3
	URP 623	Regional Development Policies	Elective (2nd track)	3
	URP 624	Workshop in Community Development Planning	Elective (2nd track)	4
General Elective Courses for all tracks Two courses only [6 Credit Hours]	URP 603	Planning Laws	Elective	3
	URP 628	Geospatial Technology in Planning	Elective	3
	URP 606	Real Estate Development and Market Analysis	Elective	3
	URP 607	Urban Transportation Modeling	Elective	3
	URP 608	Rehabilitation and Development of Historic Areas	Elective	3
	URP 609	Space Analysis in Urban Design	Elective	3
	URP 610	Planning of Recreational Areas	Elective	3
	URP 696	Special Studies in Planning	Elective	3
	AR 622	Digital Morphology	Elective	3
Thesis [10 Credit Hours]	URP 699	M.Sc. Thesis	Required	10

General Compulsory Courses for all Tracks
[13 Credit Hours]

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 600	Planning-Theory & Process	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Enables the students to understand, formulate, and evaluate the philosophies of urban and regional planning with emphasis on planning theories and process to develop cities and regions in sustainable, effective, efficient, and equitable ways. **Topics:** Topics include discussion, review, and evaluation of planning theories, thoughts, and trends; in addition to the steps of strategic, integrated, and comprehensive planning processes, with respecting the related socio-economic, administrative, environmental, and physical milieus. Principle focus is on their relevance to the development of cities and regions in Saudi Arabia. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 694	Scientific Research Methods	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Discusses both orthodox and new scientific methods and theories to do research in the realm of urban and regional planning. **Topics:** Core theme is on how to formulate the objectives of a planning research, its used method, and its implementation process, as well as how to ensure the feasibility of implementing the research project within the limits of time and budget. Topics include sampling, data collection/analysis, modeling, and proposing alternative solutions. International and local practices of best research examples will be discussed to show the applications of quantitative and qualitative analyses, using the automated research assessment techniques. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 602	Urban Land Economics	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Reviews and discusses the economic theorems on the use of land to consolidate the main and secondary economic functions of a city or a region, and the related urban/rural markets, e.g., housing, social services, tourism, industrial, agricultural, etc. **Topics:** Principal focus is on the use of land as a resource to maximize the urban productivity/performance, increase city revenues, reduce economic loss, create job opportunities, and providing the population with adequate affordable houses and services based on equitable geographic distribution. Discussions will also include showing the various techniques regarding how to evaluate the current land uses of the city, how to conserve lands for unforeseen future uses, and how to reduce the commuting costs and control the land prices. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 605	Workshop in Planning Techniques	4	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Trains the students on how to formulate a set of development policies to solve real planning problems; using the analytic techniques in urban and regional planning, multi-criteria analysis, and graphic presentations. **Topics:** Planning themes include, e.g., city management, land-use planning, regional planning, community development, road and transport management, municipal services and infrastructure planning, multi-sectors investment planning, and environmental management. **Assessment Method:** Planning project (group work) 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

Courses of the 1st Track: Land-use Planning.
[13 Credit Hours]

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 611	Land-use Analysis	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Deal with the methods of data management and evaluating the status-quos of land uses, and the predictive analysis of land-use planning in urban, rural, and regional contexts. **Topics:** Topics include the methods of analyzing the threshold capacity of: land-uses (houses, services, etc.), infrastructure, and roads; based upon and correlated to the forecasts of population and economic growth targets and the unforeseen changes; in addition to preparation of the integrated land-uses and critical areas' planning in sustainable and resilience ways. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 612	Land-use Control Policies	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Shows and discusses the chronological development, institutional setting, rational of land-use control measures by governmental authorities, and land use policies at various levels, with an emphasis on the local level. **Topics:** Themes include theories and methods on: the impact of zoning regulations, the city-growth and land management, land banking, land pooling and readjustment, land acquisition, development of cadastral systems, and diverse mechanisms to control the land-uses. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 613	Management of Urban Development	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Discusses various urban managerial concepts and mechanisms. **Topics:** Topics include fiscal and administrative autonomies, decentralization in decision making process, participatory urban management, top-down and bottom-up managerial discourse, fiscal functions, public-private partnership, levying taxes and/or impact-fees, vertical and horizontal cooperation; in addition to steering, controlling, and liberalization mechanisms in the management of urban development. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 614	Workshop in Land-use Planning	4	URP 605

Course Description	**Objectives:** Trains the students on applying the evaluation techniques of land-use allocation on the economic sectors of the city, using quantitative analysis, development policies, and graphic presentations. **Topics:** Theme focuses on how to achieve the effective and efficient land-use distribution in terms of area and location in the city, while conserving lands for future uses as well as to control the lands to prevent, e.g., the misuse of land, land freezing, and land banditry. **Assessment Method:** Planning project (group work) 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

Courses of the 2nd Track: Community Development Planning.
[13 Credit Hours]

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 621	Urban & Community Economic Development	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Discusses theories and thoughts on economic consolidation and social enhancements of the local community in districts of the poor and low-income families, in order to increase the city's productivity and family income. **Topics:** Topics includes problems of the informal sector, e.g., low skills, labor marginality, and vulnerability; in addition to the related policies and mechanizes, e.g., empowerment, enablement, improving skills, and facilitating mortgage finance. Special focus is on the downgraded urban areas and the informal sector in Saudi cities in comparison to similar cases in other countries. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 622	Local Development Finance	3	

Course Description

Objectives: Reviews and discusses the conventional and new approaches to finance the community development and local government projects.

Topics: Topics include fiscal functions and policies; strategic planning; project management; market studies; and feasibility analysis. Theme also includes the concepts of fiscal and administrative autonomy, government grants, subsidies, cross-subsidies, decentralization, privatization, public private partnerships, self-financing, and cooperative finance.

Assessment Method: Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 623	Regional Development Policies	3	

Course Description

Objectives: Discusses the new thoughts on regional development policies and the related strategic projects and programs of actions.

Topics: Main theme is on the efficient/effective mobilization of human, natural, and physical resources in the regions, provinces, cities, and villages of the country in sustainable ways. Special focus is on the strategic development goals, and the main and secondary functions of, and in, the cities and regions at the national level in Saudi Arabia, and based on knowing the economic function(s) of similar cities in the nearby countries.

Assessment Method: Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 624	Workshop in Community Development Planning	4	URP 605

Course Description

Objectives: Trains the students on how to effectively propose solutions for real planning problems, using the qualitative techniques in urban and regional planning (e.g., multi-criteria analysis) and graphic presentations.

Topics: Planning themes include economic consolidation, social enhancement, and physical improvement in various physical and non-physical contexts, e.g., urban conservation of historic areas, rehabilitation of residential areas, revitalization of city center(s), resilience planning of environmentally prone areas, and/or upgrading of informal areas.

Assessment Method: Planning project (group work) 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

General Elective Courses for all tracks

Two courses for the M.Sc. program with Thesis. [6 Credit Hours]

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 603	Planning Laws	3	

	Course Description
	Objectives: Highlights and discusses the methods of formulation and evaluation of legislative policies, and the related bylaws in the realm of urban and regional planning in order to develop cities and regions in a sustainable way. **Topics:** Topics include comparative analysis between urban and regional planning laws and regulations in developed and underdeveloped countries. Principle focus is on the legislations related to urban and regional planning in Saudi Arabia. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 628	Geospatial Technology in Planning	3	

	Course Description
	Objectives: Develops and improves the GIS knowledge of students through the uses of advanced GIS functions and tools. **Topics:** Topics include using three ArcGIS modules called Spatial Analyst, Network Analyst, and 3D Analyst of ESRI, INC. Student will be trained first on how to capture and integrate data in ArcGIS as well as how to analyze data using ArcGIS modules. **Assessment Method:** GIS project 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 606	Real Estate Development and Market Analysis	3	

	Course Description
	Objectives: Discusses the real estate development processes and techniques, as well as how to analyze the demand and supply sides of the real estate market. **Topics:** Topics include, e.g., business/construction cycles, decision making process, regional and urban growth trends, land development, commercial, industrial and residential location theories, demographic analysis, projection techniques, and feasibility studies. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 607	Urban Transportation Modeling	3	

Course Description

Objectives: Enables the students to build computer models on the interactions between transportation and land use systems.

Topics: Topics include historical perspective on transportation; characteristics of travel demand and its estimation; evaluation of system performance; location theory; models of transportation and urban structure; empirical evidence of transportation to land-use impacts; and case study examinations.

Assessment Method: Transportation project 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 608	Rehabilitation and Development of Historic Areas	3	

Course Description

Objectives: Reviewing the theories of revitalization of urban and architectural heritage, in relation to the concepts of authenticity and contemporaneity. In addition to discussing the related approaches of urban conservation, development control, urban design, and urban management for developing and improving the historic parts of cities and other heritage sites.

Topics: Themes include discussing, e.g., the trends of rehabilitation, conservation, preservation, rejuvenation, upgrading, and/or renewal of historic sites. Theme also includes the concepts of renovation, restoration, and reuse of monuments; in addition to the sustainable ways for consolidating the urban markets: e.g., tourism, housing, and social services; as well as for enhancing the living conditions of the target community, and reviewing conservation projects in KSA.

Assessment Method: Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 609	Space Analysis in Urban Design	3	

Course Description

Objectives: Shows and explains the trends in urban design, using the new theories, techniques and analysis of spatial configurations (e.g. analysis based on: integration, choice, and depth distances).

Topics: Topics include analysis and evaluation of paths-systems and urban-spaces of cities for guiding the developmental and improvement decisions regarding, e.g., spatial-configurations, street-network, traffic-management, and pedestrian-paths.

Assessment Method: Design project 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 610	Planning of Recreational Areas	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Reviews and discusses the theories and approaches of planning and development of recreational areas as well as sports clubs and tourist resorts. **Topics:** Themes include the latest trends and best practices in planning the recreational areas and the related facilities and services from around the world. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 696	Special Studies in Planning	3	

Course Description	**Objectives:** Discusses special theories, trends, and/or issues in planning, related to the minor specializations of the M.Sc. program. **Topics:** Core theme depends on the availability of the faculty member. **Assessment Method:** Term papers 40%, oral presentations 20%, and final exam 40%.

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
AR 622	Digital Morphology	3	

Course Description	**Objectives**: Explores the role of significance of visualization in the design process, and the use of computer applications as a generative tool for the derivation of form and its transformations. **Topics:** Themes include the use of computer applications in representing internal and external spaces of buildings. Employing the current state-of-the-art software, this course analyzes the use of visual architecture in concept generating. **Assessment Method:** Design project 60%, oral presentations 30%, and report 10%.

M.Sc. Thesis [10 Credit Hours]

Course Code	Course Title	Credits	Prerequisite
URP 699	M.Sc. Thesis	10	Complete 25 CH

Course Description	**Objectives:** Prepare and write a M.Sc. thesis in Urban and Regional Planning, using methods of scientific research and respecting its rules. **Topics:** MSc. thesis in Urban and Regional Planning is original research work that targets and intends to study in details, and propose rational and effective solution for one of the real planning problems in cities, villages and/or regions, or to pinpoint and prove its primary cause, using the orthodox theories and thoughts as well as the new concepts and theories related to the minor specialization of the thesis. **Assessment Method:** Short articles, seminars, and MSc. Thesis.

Admission and Registration

Submission for the Master of Urban and Regional Planning Program at the Faculty of Architecture and Planning electronically through the admission system in the website of the University Deanship of Graduate Studies as follows:

Saudi students	Through the electronic admission portal of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Default-306-EN	
Students of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries	Through the electronic admission portal of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Default-306-EN	
Non-Saudi students residing in KSA	Through the electronic admission portal of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Default-306-EN	
International students	Through the electronic admission portal for postgraduate scholarships for international students https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Content-306-EN-278671	
Teaching assistants and lecturers at King Abdulaziz University	Through the electronic admission portal for Teaching assistants and lecturers at King Abdulaziz University https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/content.aspx?Site_ID=306&lng=AR&cid=283514&URL=www.kau.edu.sa	
Teaching assistants and lecturers in other Saudi universities	Through the electronic admission portal of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Default-306-EN	
Applicants with disabilities	Through the electronic admission portal of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. - Applicants must fulfill all required program conditions. - It is necessary to attach reports proving the type of disability. - The exception feature is shown to the	

	department head to accept applicants with disabilities in excess of the number proposed for admission and in accordance with the capacity of the scientific department. - https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Content-306-AR-286367	
King Abdulaziz University employees	Through the General Administration of Human Resources, according to the university's plan, for general programs only. As for specific programs, applications are made through the electronic admission portal	
Students expected to graduate (according to the controls and conditions determined by the deanship)	Through the electronic admission portal of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. https://graduatestudies.kau.edu.sa/Default-306-EN	

General admission requirements:	
1. The applicant must be Saudi, or on an official grant for graduate studies if he is not Saudis. 2. The applicant for the academic master's programs must have a Bachelor's degree with a general grade of no less than a good from a Saudi university or another recognized university. 3. The applicant must have the required degree in the general capacity test for university students (65) as a minimum for academic programs. 4. Bring the employer's approval to study if he is an employee of programs that are presented in official working hours. 5. The scientific department may, after coordination with the executive management of graduate studies when approved or amended the program, to add other conditions in accordance with the nature of the program.	

Specific admission requirements by M.Sc. Program in Urban and Regional Planning:

In addition to the general admission requirements, the following are required of applicants to the Master's program in Urban and Regional Planning:

1. The applicant must have at least a "Very Good" grade in the bachelor's program.
2. The applicant must have a Bachelor's degree in any of the following disciplines:
    - Urban and regional planning
    - Architecture
    - Environmental architecture

- Geomatics
- Road engineering and transportation

3. General aptitude test for university graduates: A minimum score of 65 is required.
4. English language test: A score of 5 in IELTS or its equivalent is required in the tests approved by the deanship.
5. Differentiation mechanism:
   - General bachelor's rate is 50%
   - General aptitude test for university graduates 40%
   - The applicant's bachelor's degree specialization is close to the program specialization by 10%, which is evaluated by URP Scientific Department.
6. Employer approval:
   All postgraduate programs (general academic) require that the applicant bring approval from his employer if he is an employee (whether in a government or private sector) according to the following mechanisms:

A. For employees:

Job	Employer approval required
Teaching Assistant/Lecturer	Bringing the scholarship decision from his university
Judges	Bringing the approval of the Supreme Judicial Council and the Administrative Judicial Council in accordance with their special reference
All employees (Except for the categories mentioned above)	One of the following approvals is accepted: 1. Fill out the deanship's employer approval form located in the admission system and attach it. 2. Delegation decision from his employer. 3. Bring a "letter of approval for study" from his employer addressed to His Excellency the Dean of Graduate Studies, provided that the approval letter does not contain the following phrases, such as: evening study - study outside official working hours - affiliated study - does not conflict with official working hours - approval is not conditional on other conditions). 4. Study leave/or exceptional leave, provided that the total number of leaves covers the aforementioned minimum period of study (one year for a diploma, two years for a master's, and three years for a doctorate). If the duration of study exceeds the leave period, the remaining part is covered by another regular leave for the purpose of study. **Note:** If it is proven that the leave has been canceled after submitting it to the university, the university has the right to cancel the student's admission.

B. For Non-employees:
Proof of employment status stating that he is not an employee must be brought from the Ministerial Agency of Civil Affairs.

- The above regulations do not apply to teaching assistants and lecturers at King Abdulaziz University, and their studies are in accordance with the university's internal scholarship regulations.
- The above controls do not apply to King Abdulaziz University employees, including administrators and technicians, and their studies shall be according to the mechanism of scholarship and training of university employees.

Admission deadlines:

Application dates are announced on the electronic admission system platform on the Deanship of Graduate Studies website

ags.kau.edu.sa/psgadm/

For inquiries
Male students: Dgs.gapol@kau.edu.sa
Female students: Dgsg.aru@kau.edu.sa
Twitter: Dgs_kau

Registration:

The accepted student is sent a text message with the university number and password, and the deanship creates a new student data transaction for him, and his academic advisor and supplementary courses (if any) are determined.
Registration method:
The student must register before the start of the semester via the Odus Plus system.

https://odusplus-ss.kau.edu.sa/PROD/twbkwbis.P_WWWLogin

Teaching and administrative Staff at URP Department:

King Abdulaziz University Faculty of Architecture and Planning
Department of Urban and Regional Planning
Data of Teaching Staff

Detailed List of Teaching Staff in URP Department (2023)

No.	Faculty/ Teaching Staff Names	Gender	Nationality	Mode of study	Academic rank	General Specialty	Specific Specialty	Institution Graduated From	Date of PhD Certificate
1	Walid Abdulal Ex. Chairman, URP Department	M	Saudi	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Urban and Regional Planning	University of Wales, England	1987
2	Gamal Abdulal Ex. Vice Dean for Graduate Studies & Research	M	Saudi	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Urban Transportation	University of Wales, England	1992
3	Wahid Salem Head, EQAUP Committee at FAP.	M	Egyptian	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Urban revitalization	RWTH Aachen University, Germany	1997
4	Abdulkader Murad Editor in Chief, JEDS & Ex. Vice Dean for Graduate Studies & Research	M	Saudi	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Spatial Information system	University of Newcastle, England	1998
5	Mohamed Maatouk Head, NCAAA Committee of BSc program in URP.	M	Egyptian	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Analytic Techniques in Planning	University of Texas A & M, USA and Asyut University, Egypt.	1999
6	Ibrahim Hegazy	M	Egyptian	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Environmental Impact assessment	University of Liverpool, England	2008
7	Mohamed Aljufie Ex, Dean, FAP, & Editor, JEDS.	M	Saudi	on campus	Full Professor	URP	Urban transport planning	University of Twente. Netherlands	2012
8	Hossni Aziz Alrahman Ex. Dean, FAP	M	Saudi	on campus	Associate Professor	URP	Environmental Regulations/ Land use Planning	University of Wales, England	1988
9	Abdulah Alghamdy Ex. Chairman, URP Department	M	Saudi	on campus	Associate Professor	URP	Regional planning	University of Strathclyde, England	1989
10	Hossam Aboulfotouh Editor, JEDS.	M	Egyptian	on campus	Associate Professor	URP	Development Policies	Cairo University, Egypt.	1997
11	Mahmoud Al-Sobeh	M	Jordanian	on campus	Associate Professor	URP	Urban Preservation	University of Kharkov Ukraine	2004
12	Alok Twari Editor, JEDS	M	Indian	on campus	Associate Professor	URP	Infrastructure Planning and Management	University of Allahabad, India.	2010
No.	Faculty/ Teaching Staff Names	Gender	Nationality	Mode of study	Academic rank	General Specialty	Specific Specialty	Institution Graduated From	Date of PhD Certificate

13	Ibrahem Zakaria	M	Sudanese	on campus	Associate Professor	URP	Urban Design	Waseda University, Japan.	2012
14	Yousef Neyaze Ex. Dean, FAP.	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Geographic Information system	Newcastle University, England.	2006
15	Hazem Abdulazim Head, Academic Advising Unit at FAP	M	Egyptian	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Urban Design	University of Texas A&M, USA and Asyut University, Egypt.	2006
16	Hassan Shawly Ex, Vice Dean for Development	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Urban Management and Planning	University of Stuttgart, Germany.	2007
17	Samer Baessa Ex, Vice Dean for development	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	City Management	Melbourne University, Australia.	2012
18	Emad Qrunfola Vice Dean for Graduate Studies & Research	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Planning Legislations	Newcastle University, England.	2014
19	Mansour Helmi	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Land use Planning and Legislations	Newcastle University, England.	2015
20	Ammar Naji Ex, Vice Dean for Graduate studies & Research	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Development and Regional Planning	University of Florida, USA.	2016
21	Aiman Imam	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Urban Design	University Polytechnic of Catalonia, Spain.	2017
22	Haytham Al Habashi	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Urban Management	University Polytechnic of Catalonia, Spain.	2017
23	Abdulah Mahboob	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Management and governance of cities and regions	Sorbon university, Paris France.	2018
24	Ahmed Abed Chairman, URP Department	M	Saudi	on campus	Assistant Professor	URP	Urban Housing	Heriot-Watt University, England.	2020
25	Abdulrahman Ghabban	M	Saudi	Studying abroad	Assistant Professor	URP	Urban Renewal	Monash University, Australia	2023
26	Gamal Qadah Ex. Head, Training Unit	M	Saudi	on campus	Lecturer	URP	Perusing PhD in Urban Design	King Abdulaziz University, KSA.	-
27	Wesam Iraqi Director, undergraduate students' Affair	M	Saudi	on campus	Lecturer	URP	Will be enrolled in a PhD program	King Abdulaziz University, KSA.	-

No.	Faculty/ Teaching Staff Names	Gender	Nationality	Mode of study	Academic rank	General Specialty	Specific Specialty	Institution Graduated From	Date of PhD Certificate
28	Ahmed Al Qurashi	M	Saudi	Studying abroad	Lecturer	URP	Perusing PhD in Tourism	University Polytechnic of Catalonia, Spain.	-
29	Ammar Munshi	M	Saudi	on campus	Lecturer	URP	Will be enrolled in a PhD program	King Abdulaziz University, KSA.	-
30	Amer Alshaibi	M	Saudi	Studying abroad	Lecturer	URP	Perusing PhD in New Developments	University Polytechnic of Catalonia, Spain.	-
31	Abdulah Banjer	M	Saudi	Studying abroad	Lecturer	URP	Perusing PhD in GIS	Twente University, Netherlands	-
32	Yaser Qaffas	M	Saudi	Studying abroad	Lecturer	URP	Perusing PhD in Housing	Erasmus University, Netherlands.	-

Administrative staff:

Fawaz Alsulami - Secretary of the URP Department.

Study regulations and exams

Conducting and grading graduate courses for master's degree in King Abdulaziz University follows the undergraduate studies and examination rules and regulations which were approved by the Higher Education Council in its second meeting on 11/6/1416 H, with the exception of the following:

1. A minimum of "Good" (C) grade is required for the student to pass a course.
2. The Council of the Deanship of Graduate Studies should set appropriate policies as per the Department Council's recommendation and approval of the College Council with regard to substitute examinations and courses requiring a duration of study of more than one semester.
3. Master's students -if required by the program- and doctoral students must pass comprehensive oral and written examinations after the completion of all the required coursework. This comprehensive examination should be conducted by a specialized committee according to regulations set by the University Board as per the recommendations of the Department Council and the approval of the College Council concerned and the Council of the Deanship of Graduate Studies. This examination should cover the student's major field of study as well as the other related fields if exist. The student will be considered a candidate for the degree in question if he passes the examination at the first sitting. In case of failure in the examination or part of it, a second chance will be given to the student within the following two semesters. Failure to pass the examination a second time will incur dismissal from the program.

Guidance and counselling services

The academic advising process involves appointing a faculty member with a rank of at least assistant professor, whose role is as follows:

1. Guide the student in registering the academic schedule.
2. Inform the student about the university's graduate studies regulations and systems.
3. Conduct academic follow-up for the student and ensure their participation in scientific seminars within the department.
4. Overcome obstacles and difficulties faced by the student during their studies.
5. If the student's studies are thesis-based, the academic advisor directs and assists the student in selecting a thesis topic that aligns with the university and department's objectives and the student's interests. The advisor also helps the student in preparing a research plan proposal.
6. The thesis supervisor assumes the role of the academic advisor once they are appointed as the student's thesis supervisor.

Students' Rights and Responsibilities

King Abdulaziz University strives to provide a safe environment that fosters personal and intellectual growth and to promote mutual respect and trust within the university community. Therefore, it has issued the Student Regulations (Rights and Responsibilities), which are directed to all students (regular, affiliated, and distance learning) studying at King Abdulaziz University, as well as all staff members who have a direct relationship with the students.

Student Rights

- Providing the student with the complete regulations.
- Evaluating the student services offered to them.
- Access to financial aid or loans.
- The opportunity to attend training courses.
- Receiving incentives and rewards.
- Benefiting from university services and facilities.
- Enjoying social and health care services.

Student Responsibilities

- Adhering to proper conduct and appearance according to Islamic customs and university standards.
- Entering university facilities quietly and orderly, and refraining from smoking.
- Treating faculty members, peers, and all university staff with respect.
- Complying with the university's regulations regarding exams.
- Upholding research ethics and professional honesty in the research they are involved in.
- Carrying the university ID card while on campus.
- Abiding by the regulations and systems of the various university sectors.

You can download KAU "Student Regulations: Rights and Responsibilities"

https://www.kau.edu.sa/GetFile.aspx?id=168737&fn=Student%20Rights%20and%20Obligations.pdf