

Urban Design Studio

Urban design is a core competence in the interdisciplinary education at the Department of Spatial Planning. The Urban Design studios are created in small groups of three to five students and supervised by teachers from different disciplines. Based on the plans, the designs are presented and defended by the students in a disputation.

Urban Design Studio I and II

In the third and fourth semesters, students design a future spatial concept for a real planning area. Based on an analysis of the space, a planning model is developed and transferred into a framework plan. A design plan on a scale of 1:1,000 is drafted for a sub-area, which takes into account landscape planning, traffic planning, design, urban planning and social aspects. The concept is implemented in a draft development plan and supported by an urban planning justification. The students work together in small groups two days a week over two semesters. The students' own work is accompanied by a lecture, in-depth inputs on work steps and specialist planning as well as advice for the small groups.

The Urban Design Studio is applicable

as an independent working basis for urban project development

as a basis and prerequisite for formal plans (land use and development plans)

in transparency and communication of complex formal approval procedures

Urban Design Studio III and the Master Design Studio

In the freely selectable Urban Design III and in the Master Design Project, in-depth analytical and conceptual skills are taught over one semester. The tasks include the development of a mission statement, the framework and design plan as well as consideration of urban design aspects. Participation in student design competitions is often part of the assignment.

The Urban Design Project promotes

The analytical examination and evaluation of a space and the derivation of conceptual measures.

Knowledge of technical use requirements, use synergies and competing elements

integrated thinking in different subject contents

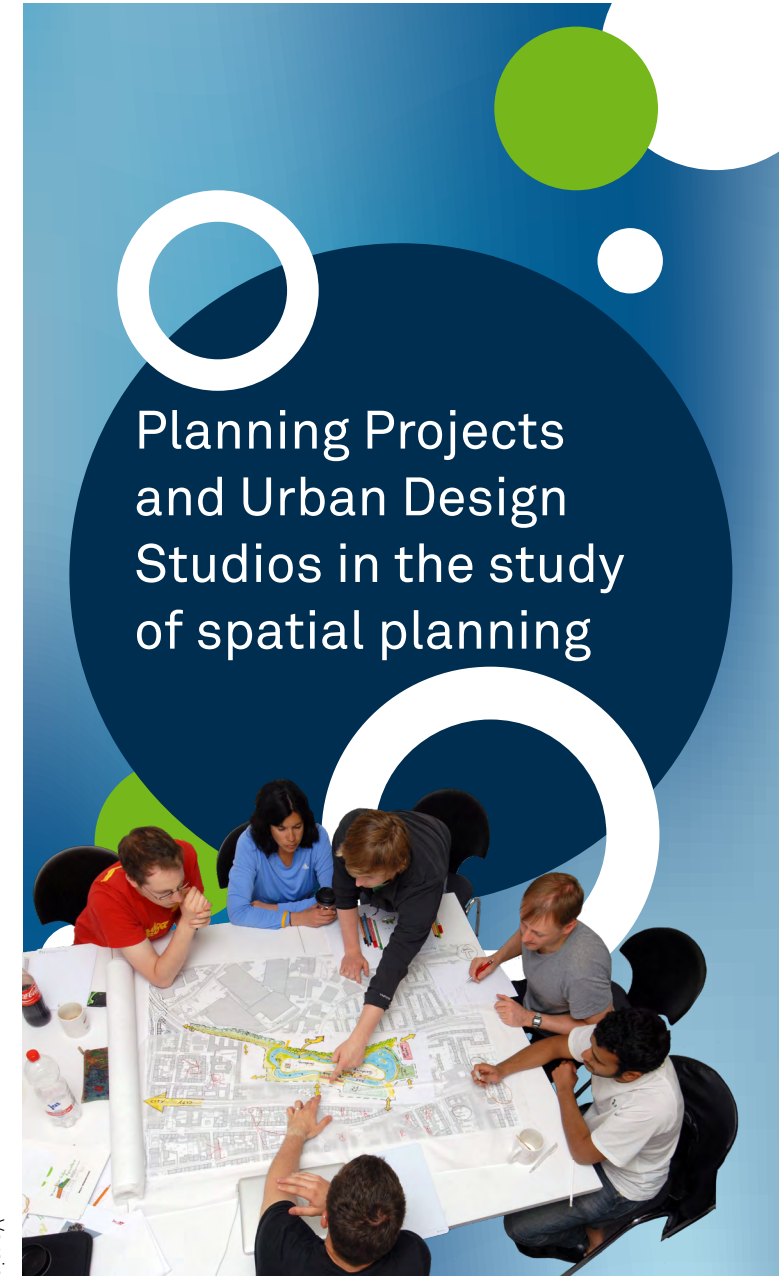
Design aspects and design quality in the production of plans

balancing different needs and concerns

the examination of space in two and three dimensions

More info

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Planning Projects and Urban Design Studios in the study of spatial planning

The interdisciplinary degree programme in spatial planning at TU Dortmund University includes realistic preparation for professional practice. This part of the training takes place in planning projects and design studios that students work on continuously and alternately. Current topics from planning practice and planning research are worked on in small groups, which are supervised by lecturers.

Semester	Bachelor								Master	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2
	Planning Project for Beginners				Advanced Planning Project				or	Master Project
			Urban Design Studio I / II				Urban Design Studio III			Master Design Studio

In addition to professional qualifications, students acquire key competences in group work: coordination of work processes, presentation, moderation and discussion, taking minutes, consensus building and conflict resolution.

Feedback from graduates on this form of teaching and learning confirms the high relevance of the qualifications acquired for professional practice. The ability to deal with complex issues, to structure work and coordination processes, to quickly familiarise oneself with new fields of work, to work in a team as well as to manage work areas are examples of central competences that are developed in research and design projects.

Planning Projects

Student planning projects address current topics in spatial planning and open up opportunities for co-operation with research and planning practice. In the Bachelor's programme, the projects are completed in groups of about 12 students, in the Master's programme in smaller groups of about five students. Each planning project deals with a different topic. The students choose their projects from a range of projects offered according to their interests.

Two projects take place in the Bachelor's programme, the Planning Project for Beginners (A-project) in the first year (A project) and the Advanced Planning Project in the third year (F-project). The project groups work continuously over two semesters on two afternoons a week. They learn to work on spatial planning-related issues in a cooperative manner and with scientific methods under the guidance of a project supervisor within a given time frame and to demonstrate possible solutions. The project work promotes the self-motivated and independent work of the students through its reference to problems, practice, process and action and develops their competence (research-based learning). In the A-project, the focus is on learning how to conduct scientific work, the ability to work in a team and the other key competences mentioned. The F-projects enable students to work on more complex and extensive spatial planning issues and allow them to deepen their knowledge within a specific subject. In each academic year, the majority of the F-projects take up supra-regional and international topics and combine the project work with excursions to the respective planning areas.

Master programme

The Master Project is completed in one semester and can be chosen as an alternative to the Master Design Studio. The focus is on the theoretical-analytical or planning-conceptual processing of a current issue in spatial research or spatial planning. The M-Project enables students to work on challenging questions according to scientific standards.



Student Planning Projects are

- problem and practice oriented
- interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary
- cross-sectional
- scientific

Student Projects promote

- innovative thinking and action
- teamwork and Cooperation
- Social competence, action-oriented competence and responsibility
- analytical and methodological skills

Examples of topics for project work can be found under: web.raumplanung.tu-dortmund.de/projektarchiv/