1. Applications are invited for admission in September 2016 to read for the degree of Master of Science in Urban Planning through the advanced standing route.

2. To be eligible for admission to the programmes, a candidate shall satisfy both the University Admission Requirements and the Programme Specific Requirements:
   
   (a) shall comply with the General Regulations;
   
   (b) shall hold a Master of Urban Design or a Master of Arts in Transport Policy and Planning degree of this University.

3. The curriculum extends over 1 to 1.5 years of full-time study. The programme is fully recognised for membership purposes by the Hong Kong Institute of Planners, the Royal Town Planning Institute of the United Kingdom. Students specialised in transport planning are also recognized by the Hong Kong Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport. Graduates who have completed additional credits in surveying meet the academic requirements for admission to the Assessment of Professional Competence (APC) scheme of the Planning and Development Division of the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) for professional membership via the non-cognate but relevant graduate degree route.

4. The programme consists of two major components: a spatial planning component with core courses and studios in spatial, territorial and community planning practice; and a specialist planning component which allows students to develop an area of specialism in planning through the completion of optional courses and a dissertation that is directly related to the chosen area of specialisation. Students admitted through the advanced standing route will have to complete the core courses and two of the planning studios in the spatial planning component. The actual courses and studios to be taken will vary with the background of the students. For the specialism component, the students will be exempted to do the optional courses but they have to complete a dissertation showing their understanding of the relationship between their area of expertise and spatial planning.

5. Applications for a taught postgraduate programme has to be made via our on-line application system at http://www.als.hku.hk/admission/tpg.

6. This is a credit-based programme. Each credit will be $2,430* (payable per semester)^. Master of Urban Design graduates are required to take 90 credits. Master of Arts in Transport Policy and Planning graduates are required to take 96 credits.

7. The closing date for application is 2 January 2016.

8. Successful applicants will be notified before June 2016. If you do not receive any notification by the end of June 2016, please call 2859 2721 to enquire about the status of your application.

* Subject to final approval by the University.

^ Payment is based on the number of credits enrolled in each semester.

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1 The programme’s curriculum, regulations and syllabuses are subject to the Senate’s approval.
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following are some frequently asked questions raised by potential applicants.

What are the admission requirements?
Applicants must hold a Master of Urban Design or a Master of Arts in Transport Policy and Planning degree of this University.

Who can be nominated as professional referees?
- Friends and relatives’ reference letters will not be considered.
- A professional referee should be the applicant’s colleague who is in a senior position, and can comment on the applicant’s professional ability.
- This senior person does not need to be in the field of planning.

Is it necessary for overseas students to attend an interview?
- Telephone or SKYPE interviews will be conducted with overseas applicants.

Are there field trips?
- Field trips are compulsory and will be organized by the Department and on demand by students.

How can graduates become urban planners?
- Upon completion of the M.Sc. (Urban Planning), graduates satisfy the academic qualifications of the various accreditation institutions.
- A graduate needs at least two years of relevant working experience in the planning field before he/she is eligible to apply for full membership of the professional institutes.
- Interested applicants can join the Department’s Admissions Talk to be held on 28 November 2015 (Saturday) at 10:00 am in Room 8-20, 8/F, Knowles Building, The University of Hong Kong. Details will be released closer to the date of the event.