Bachelor Degree of the Built Environment in Urban and Regional Planning (BBURPI)

Location: Steve Biko Campus (S3 Level 4)

Description of the Programme
Urban and regional planners work within a diverse range of activities in which they develop land use plans, in order to develop and help create communities, and improve existing areas. Planners engage with the effects of population growth, migration and their impact on settlements, including towns, cities and city regions within the constitutional mandate of the country and its laws. The typical work of an urban and regional planner includes:

- Meeting with communities, public officials and developers about development plans and land use,
- Administration of government policies and plans that affect land uses, for example the National Development Plan 2030 and Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act of 2013,
- Gather and analyse data from a range of sources such as land use surveys, census information, and economic and environmental information, traffic surveys, housing and community surveys for a variety of applications,
- Manage and assess proposals for development including development controls in relation to land use applications such as special consent, rezoning, subdivision of land, etc.
- Design and layout of existing township extensions, commercial and industrial layout, housing projects, or informal settlement upgrading,
- Cartographic work including the preparation of cadastral plans using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Computer Aided Draughting (CAD) software and is used to integrate data such as population density with digital maps,
- Assists in community participation processes to establish their needs, issues and goals. This is typically done through research, analysis of data and community engagement and collaboration to develop local strategies for development, and
- Planners often collaborate with a range of other professionals in the built environment such as architects, civil engineers, surveyors, environmental practitioners, property developers, lawyers and public officials.

Career opportunities
Urban and regional planning is projected to grow as the momentum for implementing the National Development Plan takes shape, and has been identified as a scarce skill. Planners are typically employed in the private sector, planning firms, local provincial authorities, and service organisations. Both technical planners and professional planners work in government departments at municipal, provincial and national levels and in state owned enterprises. In the private sector, there are career opportunities in planning firms and a range of other sectors such as community organisations and property development.

Duration & Structure of Course
The duration of the programme is 3 years of full-time study. The programme is based on semester modules. The programme is based on core planning modules and general education modules. Students are expected to complete 33 modules for this programme.

Entry Requirements

| Bachelor of the Built Environment in Urban and Regional Planning |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| ENTRY REQUIREMENTS  | NSC | SC  | NCV Level 4 |
| Compulsory Subjects  | Rating | SG | % |
| English Home Language | A  | G | 60% |
| English Additional/Second Language* | S  | C | |
| Mathematics         | A  | G | 60% |
| Additional two Compulsory Subjects** | Rating | SG | % |
| Geography          | A  | G | 70% |
| History            | A  | G | 70% |
| Life Sciences/Biology | A | G | 70% |
| Physical Science/Science | A | G | 70% |
| OR any 20 credit subjects (not a language) | A  | G | 70% |

* Either English Home OR English First Additional Language will be taken into account.
** It is required that any one of the additional compulsory subjects is taking from the following pool of subjects (Geography, History, Life Sciences or Physical Science) at a minimum level 4. No equivalent

Admission Requirement based upon Work Experience, Age and Maturity
For admission to entry level degree studies:
A person may, subject to such requirements as the Senate may determine, be admitted if such a person is in possession of a National Senior Certificate, Senior Certificate or an equivalent certificate, but lacks the minimum requirements for admission to the degree provided that:
(a) The person shall have reached the age of 23 in the first year of registration and shall have at least:
- Three years’ appropriate work experience; and/or
- Capacity for the proposed instructional programme, which shall be assessed by a Senate-approved admission test; and the person has obtained
(b) A conditional certificate of exemption from the Matriculation Board (when in possession of the Senior Certificate (SC); OR has met
(c) The requirements for Senate discretionary admission (when in possession of the NSC or equivalent), where Senate is satisfied the applicant has shown sufficient academic ability to ensure success, and that the person’s standard of communication skills, and/or work experience are such that the person, in the opinion of the Senate, should be able to complete the proposed instructional programme successfully.
(d) The person’s application for admission in terms of work experience, age and maturity is approved prior to registration.

Applicants intending to gain admission through work experience, age and maturity must submit their applications at least four months before commencement of the academic year.
Year 1 Semester 1
Planning Design 1A  PLDS111
Site Surveying 1  SSRV101
Statistics for the Built Environment  STBE101
Academic Literacy  ACDL101
Settlement History  STHS101

Year 1 Semester 2
Planning Design 1B  PLDS121
Urban Planning Theory and Practice  UPTP101
Communication Literacy  CMCL101
Cornerstone 101  CSTN101
Sustainable Earth Studies  SERS101

Year 2 Semester 1
Planning Design 2A  PLDS211
Urban Planning Theory  UPTH201
Management Principles and Project Management  MPPM101
Research Methods 1  RMDS101
Introduction to Principles of Law  IPLW101
The Global Environment  GENV101

Year 2 Semester 2
Planning Design 2B  PLDS221
Environment Management and Techniques  EVMT101
Regional Development and Planning  RDP101
Geographic Information Systems 1  GISY101
Economics for the Built Environment  ECEB101
Sociology and Society  SSCY101

Year 3 Semester 1
Planning Design 3A  PLDS311
Planning Law  PLLW101
Transportation Planning and Infrastructure  TPLI101
Research Methods 1  RMDS201
Geographic Information Systems 1  GISY201
Applied Land Economics for the Built Environment  ALEB101

Year 3 Semester 2
Planning Design 3B  PLDS321
Planning Sustainable Cities and Regions  PSCR101
Research Project  RPRO101
Public Management and Planning  PMPL101
Restorative Justice  RSJS101

Closing date for applications: 30 September 2021

CAO Code: DUD-BUR

Application Forms
Contact the Central Applications Office (CAO)
(C.A.O. code: DUD-BUR)

Address letters to:
Central Applications Office
Private Bag X06
Dalbridge 4014
Tel: (031) 2684444
Fax: (031) 2684422
Apply Online: http://www.cao.ac.za

Professional Organisations
The following are planning and professional organisations that a graduate may wish to join:
South African Planning Institute (SAPI)
E-mail: sapi@worldonline.co.za
Tel: 011-425-4502
Fax: 011-425-4502

South African Council for Planners (SACPLAN)
Postal Address:
The Registrar
The South African Council for Planners
P O Box 1084
Halfway House
Midrand 1685

Graduates are encouraged to join the Council and Institutes which provides a forum for technicians and planners.

For Further Information
Department of Town and Regional Planning
PO BOX 1334
DURBAN 4000
Tel: (031) 373 2673
Fax: (031) 373 2805 OR
Fax-to-email: 0866741456
Email: vashna@dut.ac.za

This leaflet is for information purposes only and is not binding on the Durban University of Technology

2021