

**PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION
(Undergraduate)**



1	Awarding Institution	Newcastle University
2	Teaching Institution	Newcastle University
3	Final Award	Certificate Planning Practice
4	Programme Title	Certificate Planning Practice
5	UCAS/Programme Code	3038U
6	Programme Accreditation	RTPI (APC)
7	QAA Subject Benchmark(s)	N/A
8	FHEQ Level	7
9	Last updated	July 2021

10 Programme Aims

- 1 Introduce students to professional practice and to obtain practice experience
- 2 Enable students to develop depth of knowledge and/or skills in particular areas of town planning
- 3 Develop both transferable and professional skills
- 4 Meet the professional requirements of the Royal Town Planning Institute, specifically with regard to the Assessment of Professional Competence
- 5 Meet the appropriate criteria for a Level 7 programme as laid down in the FHEQ
- 6 Comply with prevailing University policies and the QAA Quality Codes of practice.

11 Learning Outcomes

The programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, qualities, skills and other attributes in the following areas.

Knowledge and Understanding

On completing the programme students should:

- A1 Demonstrate an understanding of the complexities of planning issues and problems in practice
- A2 Demonstrate depth of knowledge in selected areas of planning
- A3 Demonstrate depth of knowledge in selected areas of planning

Teaching and Learning Methods

Knowledge development occurs primarily through 'doing', as the Certificate is based on c. 12 months professional practice experience.

Assessment Strategy
A1-2 Knowledge and understanding of planning issues are assessed through Practice Issues Presentation and Practice Issues Report. A3 Knowledge and understanding of the Assessment of Professional Competence are assessed through Professional Practice Log-Book and Development Plan
Intellectual Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: B1 Define and analyse problems effectively and appropriately B2 Make effective use of evidence and information B3 Articulate reasoned arguments B4 Demonstrate the ability to reflect on their own personal development achievements and needs.
Teaching and Learning Methods
Skill development occurs primarily through 'doing', as the Certificate is based on c. 12 months professional practice experience.
Assessment Strategy
B1-B3 are assessed through Practice Issues Presentation and Practice Issues Report. B4 is assessed through Professional Practice Log-Book and Development Plan
Practical Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: C1 Formulate and propose cogent policies, strategies and course of action as responses to planning problems
Teaching and Learning Methods
Skill development occurs primarily through 'doing', as the Certificate is based on c. 12 months professional practice experience.
Assessment Strategy
C1 is assessed through Practice Issues Presentation and Practice Issues Report.
Transferable/Key Skills
On completing the programme students should be able to: D1 Effectively and fluently communicate information, ideas, principles, arguments and proposals through written and oral means D2 Develop personal self-management skills such as setting priorities and time management
Teaching and Learning Methods
Skill development occurs primarily through 'doing', as the Certificate is based on c. 12 months professional practice experience.

Assessment Strategy

D1 is assessed through Practice Issues Presentation and Practice Issues Report.
D2 is assessed through Professional Practice Log-Book and Development Plan

12 Programme Curriculum, Structure and Features

Basic structure of the programme

The Certificate in Planning Practice is an intercalated course which builds on to core knowledge and skills developed during a three year undergraduate programme. It is spent in employment with a planning body undertaking professional planning work.

The Certificate forms part of a structured route accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute and consists of a 'sandwich year' or professional practice placement. The Certificate is normally taken between Stages 3 and 4 of the MPlan programme.

Key features of the programme (including what makes the programme distinctive)

Year out placements are uncommon in accredited planning programmes. Attaching a separate award makes it unique, although there are close parallels with the Certificate of Architectural Practice in the School.

Programme regulations (link to on-line version)

[3038U Programme Regulations 21-22](#)

13 Support for Student Learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

https://www.ncl.ac.uk/ltds/assets/documents/qsh_progspec_generic_info.pdf

14 Methods for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching and learning

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

https://www.ncl.ac.uk/ltds/assets/documents/qsh_progspec_generic_info.pdf

Accreditation reports

The programme is accredited by the RTPI and subject to annual consideration as part of the Institute's Partnership Board process.

Additional mechanisms

N/A

15 Regulation of assessment

Generic information regarding University provision is available at the following link.

https://www.ncl.ac.uk/ltds/assets/documents/qsh_progspec_generic_info.pdf

In addition, information relating to the programme is provided in:

The University Prospectus: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate/degrees/#subject>

Degree Programme and University Regulations: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/regulations/docs/>

Please note. This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and of the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if she/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided.