Study regulations for the the Integrated Urban Development and Design (IUDD) Degree Programme

This English translation is for information purposes only. The original German text is the legally binding version

Pursuant to section 3, paragraph 1, in conjunction with section 38 paragraph 3 of the Thuringian Higher Education Act (ThürHG) of 10 May 2018 (GVBI. p. 149), last amended by Article 31 of the Act dated 2 July 2024 (GVBl. p. 277), Bauhaus-Universität Weimar issues the following study regulations for the Integrated Urban Development and Design (IUDD) degree programme leading to a Master of Science (M.Sc.) qualification.

The Faculty Council of Architecture and Urban Studies agreed the study regulations on April 9th 2025.

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Section 1 – Scope of Application

Based on the examination regulations, the study regulations regulate the objectives, content and structure of the consecutive, English-language Master's degree program Integrated Urban Development and Design leading to a Master of Science (M.Sc.) qualifiaction and its specializations Reflective Urban Practice (RUP) and International Academic Mobility (IAM).

Section 2 – Admission Requirements

(1) In addition to the general university entrance qualifications specified in section 67 of the ThürHG, the admission requirement for the Master's degree program is the passing of an entrance examination (in accordance with section 3).

(2) The prerequisite for admission to the course is a first degree from a German university, a degree from a university of applied sciences or a degree from a state or state-recognized vocational academy or an equivalent degree from a foreign university with at least 180 ECTS credit points and with at least "good". The following courses of study or subject areas are primarily considered relevant: Architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, urban and regional planning. Comparable space-oriented sciences are eligible for application. The selection committee decides on the comparability of degrees and exceptions and may determine any additional work to be completed on the basis of the application documents submitted.

(3) A further requirment for admission to the Master`s degree program is proof of English language proficiency at level of at least B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) through:

a. Proof of native speaker status (acquisition of a higher education entrance qualification or a first professional qualification in an English-speaking country)

or

b. Proof with one of the following certificates
   i. IELTS band 6.0 or better,
   ii. TOEFL Internet-based Score 80 or better,
   iii. Cambridge Certificate (FCE) Grade C
   iv. or with an equivalent certificate.

Section 3 – Entrance Examination according to Section 68 of the ThürHG (Special University Admission requirements)

(1) A further, special admission requirement is the successful completion of the selection procedure described below. Applicants for the Master's degree program in Integrated Urban Development and Design are selected by a selection committee consisting of a university lecturer and a member of the academic staff of the degree program in Integrated Urban Development and Design. The participation of a person from the student body is possible in an advisory capacity. If an applicant fulfills the formal requirements according to paragraphs 1 and 2, the selection committee evaluates the special subject-specific aptitude.

(2) An applicant fulfills the special admission requirements if he/she achieves a total score of at least 10 points in the selection procedure. Participation in the selection procedure requires a formal application via the online application portal of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar or, for international applicants, via the uni-assist e.V. portal.

The assessment is made up as follows:

a) Overall Grade of the first university degree 1– 3 points,
b) Professional competence/professional experience 0–9 points,
c) Linguistic expression and use of technical language applied 4in portfolio and letter of motivation 0–3 points.

(3) The overall grade of the first university degree is to be converted into points as follows

a) grade 1.0–1.5 3 points,
b) grade 1.6–2.0 2 points,
c) grade 2.1–2.5 1 point.

If the university degree certificate is based on a non-comparable grading system, the Examination Board shall determine the appropriate points based on the conversion of grades to the German system by the Department of Study and Education.

(4) The professional competence and experience for the desired course of study must be presented as follows:

- urban planning or architectural design skills, usually demonstrated by designs produced during studies in architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, urban and regional planning or in professional practice
- practical subject-specific experience, e. g. through internships, (non-university) projects or professional activities as well as international experience (proof required);
- Ability to reflect on spatial science, analytical thinking and understanding of the subject area.
- Affinity to digital applications and methods

(5) Motivation, linguistic expression and the use of technical language in the presentation of the requirements mentioned in paragraph 4 are examined on the basis of a portfolio and a letter of motivation formulated in English, which justifies and comprehensibly explains the interest in the degree programme, the subject area and the value of the degree programme for personal professional development with reference to the focus of the degree programme. This involves a clear and comprehensible textual explanation in connection with the presentation of professional competence, professional experience and motivation, using basic specialised vocabulary.

(6) The selection committee can invite applicants to an English-language aptitude interview, which takes place online and lasts a maximum of 30 minutes. This serves to further determine professional competence/professional experience/motivation/explanations regarding the applicant's work and competences presented in the application or regarding general knowledge in the field of urban development and urban planning as well as strategies and instruments of urban development.

(7) Corresponding documents and evidence must be submitted for the required prerequisites in accordance with paragraph (2),

- according to a) Proof of higher education entrance qualification and the admission requirements mentioned in paragraphs (2) and (3)
- according to b) Proof(s) of professional competence/existing professional experience: At least three work samples (portfolio) with excerpts from own work (from studies, internships, profession or other), if possible with a precise explanation or summary. In the case of group work, your own work or contribution must always be identified or described
- letter of motivation (in English, max. 1 DIN A4 page)
- curriculum vitae
- additional evidence of the applicant's motivation (e. g. work certificates, assessments) can also be submitted.

(8) The passed entrance examination is valid for the current and the following admission year.

(9) Rejection notices will be provided with information on howe to appeal.

Section 4 – Start, Duration and Scope of Studies

(1) The first semester may only be started at the beginning of the winter semester.

(2) The degree programme has a total of 120 credit points (CP) in the compulsory and compulsory elective areas in accordance with the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), including 30 credit points for the Master Module.

(3) 30 credit points must be earned per semester. One credit point corresponds to a student workload of approx. 30 hours of attendance and self-study.

(4) The degree programme can be studied part-time in the 1st and 2nd semester. An application for part-time study must be submitted to the responsible examination board.

Section 5 – Aims of the Degree Programme

(1) The aim of the consecutive degree programme is to qualify locally and internationally active urban planners. This is achieved by combining a project-based, urban design-orientated education using special, digitally-based, integrated planning methods with an integrated practical component (*Reflective Urban Practice* (RUP)) or an in-depth semester (*International Academic Mobility* (IAM)) at a partner university abroad. The degree programme aims to deepen, expand and apply previously acquired specialist and methodological skills. These should also be considered in the context of international perspectives and enable interdisciplinary work.

(2) The programme is internationally oriented in terms of content and structure.

(3) Students acquire or deepen key competences in the following areas:

a. project-related scientific analysis and reflection of current problems of contemporary urban development in an international context and their complexity

b. Processes of spatial, regional and urban development in the German, European and international context

c. Contextualisation of methods and practices in developed, emerging and developing countries

d. Expanding and specialised skills in computer-based spatial (physical and social) analysis methods in theory and application

e. professionally relevant working techniques such as text production, moderation, presentation

f. general understanding of methods and science

g. social skills such as teamwork and process-orientated work, intercultural communication skills, e. g. by spending time abroad, teaching in English, as well as international student groups to understand international challenges

h. interdisciplinary cooperation

i. transferability of theoretically based knowledge into practice and its reflection (in particular through the international model projects) and

j. planning in intercultural contexts (especially in a country-specific context through the study visit to a partner university)

(4) The competences acquired under paragraph 3 should open up various professional development perspectives for graduates to pursue professional activities. These include, for example,

a. professional activities in the context of urban development, such as urban and regional planning, architecture/urban planning, project management, urban planning in the broader sense

b. professional activities in social areas in which creative, social, scientific, interdisciplinary and intercultural qualifications are required in the private sector, state and local sectors, public institutions, media, internationally active organisations

c. professional activities with an international orientation in city-related fields of activity in Europe and worldwide, taking into account global sustainability goals

d. professional activities in scientific institutes, training and further education institutions with an interdisciplinary and international focus in teaching and researching urban and spatial development

(5) The aim of the interdisciplinary approach is to provide students with a holistic view of integrated urban development and to apply appropriate methods in project studies. Students' teamwork skills are promoted through collaboration in international teams. Project-orientated teaching is implemented in two study projects, which are interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary in nature. The study project in the first semester introduces students to basic interdisciplinary and experimental approaches and methods of urban development. The study project in the second semester works on computer-based scenarios and modelling based on digital applications, for which the application principles are taught in the first semester. The respective study project deals with a specific problem solution and combines scientific analysis methods with design and creative skills.

(6) Internationality is deepened in the third semester in accordance with the specialisation through

a. the integrated practical component of the model projects (Model Projects Integrated Urban Development and Design) in the study specialisation *Reflective Urban Practice* (practical module RUP)

or

b. the study visit to a partner university in the study specialisation *International Academic Mobility* (IAM) (exchange and mobility module).

Section 6 – Programme Structure and Course of Study

(1) The Integrated Urban Development and Design degree programme focuses on scientifically based and application-oriented design methods that are of particular relevance in the international context of integrated urban development. The language of instruction and examination is English.

(2) Students can choose between two study specialisations or study programmes:

a. the integrated practical component of the model projects (Model Projects Integrated Urban Development and Design) in the study programme specialisation *Reflective Urban Practice'*(internship module RUP, Annex 1):

In the 3rd semester of the specialisation, this is a three- to five-month internship with selected domestic and foreign project partners from the fields of architecture and planning offices, scientific institutions, municipal institutions, international organisations, project developers/investors. The presentation and discussion of practical experiences and their reflection takes place at the annual Model Projects Forum. A preparatory seminar takes place in the 1st semester.

or

b. the study visit to a partner university in the *International Academic Mobility* (IAM) specialisation (exchange and mobility module, Annex 2):

During the study visit to a partner university, seminars and lectures as well as a design project on subject areas of urban development form the core of the 3rd semester. The country and subject-specific preparation for the stay abroad takes place in an introductory seminar in the 1st semester. The compulsory programme also includes a culture-specific course at the partner university, which promotes students' intercultural skills.

(3) The degree programme consists of lectures, seminars, tutorials, two study projects, a model project or a study visit to a partner university as well as the Master Module (see curriculum in Annex 1). The programme content is taught in modules. A module comprises courses that are linked in terms of content and/or organisation and is completed with a module examination. The programme includes compulsory modules and an elective module. The organisation of the course content at the partner university is the responsibility of the partner university; the recognition of credits is generally based on a Learning Agreement.

(4) In the 1st and 2nd semester, students complete a study project, an elective module and compulsory modules consisting of seminars, lectures, tutorials and introductory and preparatory courses in the various subject areas. The 3rd semester consists of either a model project (practical module) or a study visit to a partner university.

The 4th semester of the Master Module is primarily used to complete a scientific thesis, the Master's thesis, accompanied by a Master's colloquium. The Master's colloquium takes place during the processing phase of the Master's thesis in the 4th semester and serves to present and discuss the Master's thesis. A preparatory seminar for the thematic development of topics for the Master's thesis takes place in the 3rd semester.

(5) The lectures present the subject areas in context in a concentrated form. They provide introductory, basic and overview knowledge.

(6) The seminars serve to deepen specialised knowledge and inductively develop interdisciplinarity. They also serve the critical reflection of specialised knowledge and the acquisition of oral and written communication and mediation skills.

(7) The exercises on methodological and professional competence serve to deepen important techniques for professional practice.

(8) The study projects are designed for an interdisciplinary approach in order to provide students with a holistic view of integrated urban development and the corresponding methods. The study project in the 2nd semester primarily serves the practical and scientific application of the digital analysis methods acquired in the 1st semester.

(9) The model project (*Reflective Urban Practice*) serves as a practical module for applying theoretical knowledge in practice and reflecting on practice.

Section 7 – Study and Examination Achievements

(1) Students must register for the courses at the beginning of each semester. This enrolment also constitutes registration for the associated examination in accordance with section 6 paragraph 3 of the examination regulations. Withdrawal from course enrolment is generally possible within two weeks of the start of enrolment.

(2) Coursework is completed in modules.

(3) Examinations can be taken in various forms in accordance with the examination regulations section 8.

Section 8 – International Mobility During Studies

(1) The university expressly supports study visits abroad. This also applies to an international internship.

(2) A learning agreement must be drawn up before the stay abroad in order to recognise the coursework and examinations completed at a foreign university. In a personal consultation

with the student, the academic counselling service determines the type and scope of recognition of the coursework and examinations to be completed. After their return, students must submit the learning agreement together with the transcript of records (detailed description of the academic achievements by listing the courses or modules attended, the grades achieved and the corresponding CP) to the Student Advisory Service again in a timely manner; this is followed by recognition in accordance with section 16 of the examination regulations and, if necessary, conversion and transfer of the data to the examination management system.

Section 9 – Academic Advising

(1) The General Student Advisory Service at the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar is available for advice on studying.

(2) At the beginning of the first semester, an introductory event will take place in which an overview of the individual subject areas and the course of the Master's degree programme will be given.

(3) Individual academic advising is provided by the academic advising.

(4) Individual academic advising for students is provided by members from the group of professors and junior professors (Hochschullehrer*innen) and academic staff oft he Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism.

Section 10 – Compensation for Disadvantages for Students with Disabilities or Chronic Illnesses and Special Regulations for Students on Maternity Leave and Caring for Relatives

(1) If a student can credibly demonstrate that, due to a chronic illness or a disability, they are unable to perform unrestrictedly in coursework and examinations in whole or in part in the intended form or within the published examination deadlines specified in the study and examination regulations, compensation for disadvantages shall be granted.

(2) If a student announces an expected date of childbirth or the day of childbirth, the Maternity Protection Act applies to her, i. e. maternity protection must be granted. For this purpose, a risk analysis must be drawn up with the student regarding her studies during maternity protection. If the student on maternity leave is unable to complete all or part of the coursework and examinations in the prescribed form or within the published examination deadlines, compensation for disadvantages must be granted.

(3) On the recommendation of the Representative for the Needs of Students with Chronic Illnesses and Disabilities, the examination committee may, in particular, extend the time for examinations or the deadlines for taking examinations or allow equivalent examinations to be taken in a form appropriate to the student's needs. The same applies to coursework.

(4) Students must not suffer any disadvantages as a result of taking maternity or parental leave or caring leave. Advice on this is provided by the General Student Advisory Service, the Studierendenwerk and the subject-specific student advisory services.

(5) An application for compensation for disadvantages must be submitted individually for each examination and must be reapplied for each semester. The application for compensation for disadvantages should be submitted to the examination committee at least four weeks before the respective examination date. Applications for compensation for disadvantages for coursework must be submitted four weeks before the coursework is completed. The disadvantage must be substantiated; a doctor's certificate or, in justified individual cases, the submission of a doctor's certificate from a public health officer may be requested. Students can propose a specific form of compensation. The application is made in writing, the decision is communicated in writing and, in the event of rejection, reasons are given in writing.

(6) The specific needs of students who are restricted in their ability to organise their studies due to special circumstances (for example disabled or chronically ill students) shall also be taken into account when designing the course of study, including the forms of teaching and learning.

Section 11 – Equal Opportunity Clause

The statuses and functions described in these regulations apply equally to all genders.

Section 12 – Entry into Force/ Expiry

(1) These regulations shall enter into force one day after their publication in the notices of the Bauhaus-Universität Weimar. At the same time, MdU 14/2025 expires.

(2) These regulations shall first apply for the students beginning their studies in the winter semester 2025/26.

Faculty Board resolution of April 9th 2025

Annex 1: Standard Study Plan Reflective Urban Practice (RUP)

Regelstudienplan Integrated Urban Development and Design - RUP, Master of Science (M.Sc.)

	WiSe	SoSe	WiSe	SoSe
	1. Semester	**2. Semester**	**3. Semester**	**4. Semester**
Compulsory Modules	**Study project I** 12 Integrated Urban and Landscape Design *Design / Project*	**Study project II** 12 Digital Urban Design *Design / Project*	**IUDD Model Project** 27 Reflective Urban Practice Praxis semester 21 Model Project Forum 6	**Master Module** 30 Colloquium 3 Thesis 24 Presentation 3
	Preparatory Module Reflective Urban Practice			
	1,5	**1,5**		
	Digital Design Methods 6	**Digital Design Methods Advanced** 6		
	Integrated Urban Design			
	3	**3**		
	Urban Sociology			
	3	**3**		
	Applied Research Methods I + II			
	1,5	**1,5**		
	Electives		**Thesis Development** 3	
	3	**3**		
Compulsory	21	21	30	30
Electives	3	3	0	0

IUDD Model Projects: Students in the study track »Reflective Urban Practice« take the Model Project modules with the mandatory internship and seminars.

Exchange Semester: Students in the study track »International Academic Mobility« take the modules referring to the study period at the Partner University.

Elective Module: to be selected from course offers on master level in the first or second semester at any Faculty of Bauhaus-Universität Weimar or other Universities.

Regelstudienplan Integrated Urban Development and Design - IAM, Master of Science (M.Sc.)

	WiSe	SoSe	WiSe	SoSe
	1. Semester	**2. Semester**	**3. Semester**	**4. Semester**
Compulsory Modules	**Study project I** 12 Integrated Urban and Landscape Design *Design / Project*	**Study project II** 12 Digital Urban Design *Design / Project*	**Exchange Semester** 27 International Academic Mobility	**Master Module** 30 Colloquium 3 Thesis 24 Presentation 3
	Preparatory Module International Academic Mobility			
	1,5	**1,5**		
	Digital Design Methods 6	**Digital Design Methods Advanced** 6		
	Integrated Urban Design			
	3	**3**		
	Urban Sociology			
	3	**3**		
	Applied Research Methods I + II			
	1,5	**1,5**		
	Electives		**Thesis Development** 3	
	3	**3**		
Compulsory	21	21	30	30
Electives	3	3	0	0

IUDD Model Projects: Students in the study track »Reflective Urban Practice« take the Model Project modules with the mandatory internship and seminars.

Exchange Semester: Students in the study track »International Academic Mobility« take the modules referring to the study period at the Partner University.

Elective Module: to be selected from course offers on master level in the first or second semester at any Faculty of Bauhaus-Universität Weimar or other Universities.

Annex 2: Standard Study Plan International Academic Mobility (IAM)