Urban Regions
Man Swedish Nature
Town School Forms
Design of Architect
City Planning Space
THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF PLANNING

The Swedish School of Planning at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) provides the most extensive education of its kind in Sweden. Our vibrant department runs four study programmes – one BSc programme and three MSc programmes – in subjects ranging from spatial planning to urban design, to European spatial planning and regional development. We also have a number of PhD students and senior researchers undertaking research in several topical planning subjects.

Despite our broad range of education and research, our focus is clear: developing a comprehensive knowledge base of how to adapt, manage and develop environments for human needs. Our education and research emphasises social, environmental and aesthetic qualities acting alongside technical skills for the planning of sustainable communities, cities and societies.

The international context is also very important. Several international staff members, lecturers and an international Advisory Board ensure that a global approach to learning and research is present at the School. Close co-operation with partner universities world-wide, as well as our international students on our English-language MSc programmes, also contribute to this.

This brochure will give you an introduction to the education, research and collaboration activities of the Swedish School of Planning. You are also invited to visit our website or to contact us directly for further information!

Sincerely,

Prof. Abdellah Abarkan
Head of the Swedish School of Planning
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STUDY ENVIRONMENT

The old naval city of Karlskrona is situated on the south-east tip of Sweden, built upon 33 islands in the Blekinge archipelago. The campus is beautifully situated just by the sea, close to both the city centre and surrounding nature. Karlskrona is listed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as an outstanding example of a late 17th-century European planned naval city and has many well preserved historical buildings.

Karlskrona is well linked by train, air or ferry. By train you can easily reach major cities such as Stockholm, Malmö, Gothenburg or Copenhagen. Air connections to Stockholm are available from Ronneby airport, which is less than 30 minutes by car from Karlskrona. The closest major international airport to Karlskrona is Kastrup in Copenhagen, Denmark. From there, it is easy to travel to Karlskrona by train or car, either of which takes about three hours. A ferry line has daily traffic from Karlskrona to Gdynia in Poland.

The newly refurbished premises of the School provide an attractive study and research environment which is adapted for project work, group work and lectures. Students have access to design studios, exhibition ateliers and workshops, to group rooms and dedicated class and lecture rooms. Computer rooms and comprehensive wireless coverage allow students to utilise software applications extensively during their studies.

The BTH library is centrally located on campus and provides a natural place for study and work. The library has an extensive collection of planning and architecture journals and literature and a wide access to academic electronic resources. A dedicated specialist librarian is available to assist staff and students.
Field trips are a special feature of all the education programmes at the Swedish School of Planning. Students get the opportunity to visit several locations, cities and organisations in Sweden and abroad during their studies.

BTH Career Centre and the Study Advice Counsellors provide help to students on academic and employment matters. The Career Centre is at hand to ‘coach’ students on a wide range of issues – from writing CVs and completing job applications to assistance with study and presentation skills.

Housing for students in Karlskrona and Blekinge is varied and can be found in a range of locations. Several housing companies offer student rooms, furnished as well as unfurnished, and the BTH Student Union is also able to assist students looking for accommodation. Visit www.bostad.bthstudent.se/bostad or www.karlskronahem.se for further information.

The International Office work actively with students as well as staff on exchange and other international issues. The International Office’s reception assists international students on arrival and provides mentors to help new students find their way around BTH and town. The International Office is also responsible for exchange agreements and hosts visits from partner universities.

BTH and the Swedish School of Planning offers an excellent and supportive learning environment where staff work closely with individual students to help them achieve their full potential. Furthermore, the city of Karlskrona with its vibrant social scene and its plentiful opportunities for leisure activities, provides an ideal place to live and study.
Bachelor of Science in Spatial Planning, 180 ECTS credit points (3 years). Teaching is mainly conducted in Swedish.

The Spatial Planning programme is a unique programme in Sweden. Three years of study leads to a Bachelor of Science in Spatial Planning.

The programme trains students to work with spatial planning and the physical environment in our cities and communities. Students are trained in urban planning and design and develop a comprehensive knowledge of how to manage and adapt the environment to human needs. Students learn to analyse planning issues and to prepare planning and design proposals. Graduates go on to further study or to careers in both the public and private sectors.

The programme combines architectural and urban design, urban planning and technical subjects as well as natural and social sciences. The context of human physical and social needs and the necessity for an effective management of natural resources and cultural heritage form the basis of the numerous planning projects undertaken on the programme.

In addition to planning projects and courses, students study subjects which allow for the development of their artistic skills, their written and oral communication, as well as their understanding of the role of science and theory in planning.

Students with a BSc may apply to the MSc programmes at the Swedish School of Planning or Master programmes at other Swedish or international universities.

Because of the breadth of the programme and its emphasis on planning and design, students graduating from the programme are entitled to apply for membership of the Swedish Association of Architects – unique among planning education programmes in Sweden.

The students finish the BSc programme by carrying out a Bachelor thesis project (15 EC).
MASTER IN SPATIAL PLANNING

Master of Science in Spatial Planning, 120 ECTS credit points (2 years). The courses on the programme are currently in Swedish.

The two year master programme in Spatial Planning provides the most extensive education of its kind in Sweden, and its interdisciplinary approach is unique.

The MSc programme contains a compulsory set of core courses. The theoretical framework includes urban theory perspectives and planning theory. The planning system is studied through advanced courses in planning law and is applied on comprehensive and detailed development planning. At the heart of the education are courses dealing with complex planning problems and urban change processes – and methods how to deal with these. Environmental and climate issues, as well as the planning process from a democracy perspective are also studied. Optional courses allow for in-depth studies of subjects such as regional planning, infrastructure, urban analysis, design of public space, and project/process management.

The students finish the MSc programme by carrying out a Master thesis project (30 EC).
Master of Science in European Spatial Planning and Regional Development, 60 ECTS credit points (1 year). Teaching is conducted in English.

The European element within planning and regional development has increased, as has the role of the European Union in this field. In the EU, as well as in the immediate surroundings of the EU, neighbouring countries and territories, EU-supported programmes and projects of planning, development, and infrastructure have come to occupy a more prominent and important position.

The international aspects of spatial planning, regional planning and territorial development are in focus. European planning and development ideas play an increasingly important role in many subject fields and countries. This means that within planning and regional development there is an increasing need for competence development with a clear focus on European and EU matters – both for professionals and recent graduates.
The MSc programme in European Spatial Planning and Regional Development, 60 ECTS credits, prepares students for professional activity or continued studies in the field. The programme is given in co-operation with, among others, the Centre for Spatial Development and Planning (CTUP) and Nordregio Academy. The programme builds on the solid competence and experience of the Swedish School of Planning, as well as on well-established contacts with the community, public sector and enterprise.

The programme is based on three distinct and linked ‘pillars’ that exist in the subject field of European spatial planning and regional development: economic and social cohesion, sustainable development and innovative regions. These ‘pillars’ are reflected in both policy and practice at a European level, and in the set-up and courses of the programme.

The education consists of qualified lectures, supervision and seminars, as well as of study visits and exercises where ICT-based tools for analysis, planning- and decision support are used. International guest lecturers within the discipline and profession are a distinct element of the education.

Students from certain countries may qualify for scholarships from the Swedish Institute. See the programme website for further details.

For more details, and application information, visit the programme website: www.bth.se/europeanplanning

**DETAILED SET-UP OF THE PROGRAMME**

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<tr>
<td><strong>Planning course</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Perspectives on the European Union</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Planning course</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>European Spatial Planning</td>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>7.5 EC</td>
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URBAN DESIGN IN CHINA AND EUROPE

Master of Science in Spatial Planning with an emphasis on Urban Design in China and Europe, 120 ECTS credit points (2 years). Teaching is conducted in English.

Professions dealing with town planning, city development and urban design are increasingly working on an international scene. Spatial planners, landscape architects and urbanists can participate in design projects on several continents simultaneously. The great design projects encompass people from various professions and different countries. Thus evolves a notion that experience and knowledge is no longer developed within a national context. A deeper inter-cultural understanding seems necessary. Professional work within the subjects of town planning, city development and urban design is increasingly complex and demands a multi-disciplinary attitude. Migration, move ability, integration issues and climate change are examples of the complex challenges posed. The joint Master’s programme at BTH and Nanjing Forestry University, College of Landscape Architecture (NJFU) strives to address the issues that meet a contemporary design profession. Through the cooperation between BTH and NJFU, the view on public space in different cultures is studied.

The education emanates from the design professions where focus is on action and intervention meeting an academic, critical analysis. The result of this interaction is tangible proposals for change of public space and common environment. During the courses, practically oriented design tasks are intertwined with tutoring in studios or at a site. Lectures and seminars and are running in parallel with project work. Courses in the range of 3 to 15 European Credits are finalized with a diploma work of 30 ECTS.

The MSc programme in Urban Design is a professional education. The student’s knowledge deepens by training in successively more complex urban design tasks. The main field of study is Spatial Planning. Basic approaches to planning processes and design methods are applied on the public space with ever more complex functions and demands.
During the course the students are progressively expected to identify problems, conduct original research and find alternative solutions. The students practice their ability to critically reflect on and evaluate their own work, as well as training their capacity to anticipate how various stakeholders might respond to a proposal. The education is alternating between The Swedish School of Planning and the College of Landscape Architecture, Nanjing Forestry University (NJFU). Professors from each university follow parts of the teaching in the other location in order to ensure a common understanding.

Each semester starts with a course introducing broad overviews of humanities and/or social sciences topics. Theoretical subjects are intertwined with practical design oriented exercises. The larger assignments give possibilities for group work where various cultural backgrounds are exposed. Design skills are trained under recurring tutoring throughout the curriculum.

Students from certain countries may qualify for scholarships from the Swedish Institute. See the programme website for further details.

For more details, and application information, visit the programme website:
www.bth.se/urbandesign

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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Urban Design 3 EC</td>
<td>Urban Design 2 - dilemmas of the sustainable city 12 EC</td>
<td>Urban planning 6 EC</td>
<td>Diploma work 30 EC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Art, architecture and townplanning in European perspective 4 EC</td>
<td>Urban Design 1 - life in public space 15 EC</td>
<td>Urban space studies 1 8 EC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Design theory and creativity 4 EC</td>
<td>Introduction to diploma work 3 EC</td>
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<td>Urban theory perspectives 4 EC</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJFU, Nanjing</td>
<td>Art and architecture in China 6 EC</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Graphic form 5 EC</td>
<td>Landscape planning 5 EC</td>
<td>Urban space studies 2 8 EC</td>
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Each year BTH and the Swedish School of Planning offers exchange places to students within the European Erasmus programme, the NORDTEK network and the Swedish Linnaeus-Palme programme. Apart from our European and Nordic partner universities, BTH has bilateral agreements with universities around the world. Around 100 exchange students come to BTH every year.

Students from partner universities can study at The Swedish School of Planning for one or two semesters as exchange students. Exchange students can choose courses primarily from those given on the programmes given in English although a limited number of courses on the Swedish programmes may also be adapted for non-Swedish speaking exchange students.

The Swedish School of Planning, at Blekinge Institute of Technology is a full member of AESOP - the Association of European Schools of Planning.

**International partners:**
- Brazil: Universidade Federal do Amazonas, Manaus
- UK: University of Newcastle, Cardiff University, Queens University, Belfast
- Italy: Politecnico di Milano
- China: Nanjing Forestry University
- Lithuania: TU Vilnius
- Poland: TU Gdansk, Uniwersytet Warszawski
- Romania: ION Mincu, Bucharest
- Spain: EAV Barcelona
- Germany: Bauhaus-Universität Weimar, Hafencity Universität Hamburg, HTW Dresden, Universität Kaiserslautern, Universität Potsdam, Universität Siegen.
RESEARCH

The research undertaken at the Swedish School of Planning is aimed at developing new knowledge and improved understanding of the processes and factors that determine the development and planning of cities, societies and regions. A key concern is how to adapt, manage and develop environments for human needs and for the planning of sustainable communities. A special focus is on the knowledge gap that has emerged between traditional planning and architecture where the need for design of public spaces is an important area. This kind of planning research is by its nature interdisciplinary and intercultural.

Research at the School can be grouped into three broad fields: planning for sustainable urban development, environmental processes and management and regional development.

Sustainable Urban Development
Planning for sustainable urban development includes the planning, design and management of urban spaces and has an emphasis on the interaction between humans, society and planning. The focus of the research is both normative and cognitive.

Environmental Processes and Management
Research into the environmental processes and management in planning and public-sector decision-making is concerned with environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment, the handling of environmental concerns in different planning contexts, strategies and on different levels.

Regional Development
The research field of regional development is focused on the socio-economic and physical structures of regional development programmes, strategies and actions.
EXTERNAL CONTACTS AND CONNECTIONS

International Contract Training and Research

At Blekinge Institute of Technology we develop, tailor and coordinate skills development both for the private and public sector, offering a range of courses, from programmes lasting a few days to courses over several years. We offer development days, seminars and training. An important role of ours is to satisfy your needs and preferences in skills development at university level.

Advisory Board

The School’s International Advisory Board plays an important role in the internationalisation and quality assurance of our education and research. Its task is also to assist in connecting our research to our education and our external cooperation. A number of prominent international and national experts from academia and planning practice are members of the Advisory Board.

Collaboration with Enterprises and Society

BTH and the Swedish School of Planning is charged with three tasks: to education, to conduct research and to interact and collaborate with enterprises and society. Numerous guest lecturers, placement-based assignments and real-life planning tasks mean that students gain valuable contacts with the private and public sectors during their education. The School cooperates with the Swedish Board for Housing, Building and Planning, which also appoints an adjunct professor to the School. Connections to enterprises and the public sector are also maintained by research co-operation in different fields of planning and regional development.

BTH Alumni

BTH has an active alumni network for former students and staff, BTH Alumni, and organises an online community to support alumni interaction and networking. Several of the education programmes at the Swedish School of Planning also have active national and international alumni groups and networks, supported by the School.
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