“By far the greatest and most admirable form of wisdom is that needed to plan and beautify cities and human communities.” Socrates
A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

“"For the first time in human history, more than 50% of the world’s population live in cities unparalleled in their scale and complexity. This urban growth trend is projected to continue throughout the 21st century, with nearly two-thirds of all humanity living in cities by 2050. This surge in global migration towards urban centers means that we need to be ready to sustain and provide for these large populations. Therefore, the need to design sustainable, inclusive, healthy, smart, and resilient cities has never been greater.

The Master of Urban Design and Digital Environments (MUDDE) is a program that responds to these current and future needs for better cities and urban environments. The program adopts a technology-informed philosophy for designing cities and neighborhoods. Located in the School of Architecture, Arts, and Design (SAAD) and closely affiliated with the Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.) program, the Center for Research and Innovation and Design (CRID), and AUD’s Middle East Cities Center the master’s program benefits from the creative and innovative synergies within the School, the strong digital design traditions, and from the available pool of internationally recognized educators, scholars, and designers.

The MUDDE prepares architects, landscape architects, urban planners, and designers to become experts in urban design and city planning and introduces them to some of the latest and best practices in the field. Through a combination of design studios, advanced seminars, technology-related courses, including BIM, Rhinoceros, and GIS, in addition to specialized thematic courses, it aims at equipping its graduates with the best set of skills. It is suitable for working professionals as its evening classes and flexible schedules address their busy careers. Those who join the program are also expected to be involved in research and scholarly activity in close-coordination with program faculty and the various research centers. Perfectly positioned in Dubai, a rapidly growing urban laboratory, it is easy to witness first-hand how the future of cities is being shaped and to be an active participant in shaping this future.

I encourage you to explore our program online or come visit our campus in person. I also invite you to get in touch to find out more about how the MUDDE program can help propel your career.”

Dr. Nabyl Chenaf
Dean, School of Architecture, Art & Design & Professor of Architecture
WHY STUDY URBAN DESIGN AT AUD?

• The program is aligned with international standards and reflects the latest innovations in the field.

• It is situated within the School of Architecture, Arts, and Design, which has an established record of excellence in design and art. It is the only school in the region with all three prestigious North American accreditations for design programs. These are the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD), National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), and Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA).

• The School of Architecture, Art, and Design recognizes that the digital world has become an integral part of education, communication, and social networking. This emphasis on technology is evident throughout the program curriculum and the facilities available. These include the availability of the latest computer labs, relevant software packages, and necessary 3D printing, VR, and digital design tools.

• The School is a certified Certiport Authorized Testing Center. Certiport certification solutions are used to administer the Autodesk® Certified User certification exams. The CRID center within the School is the only authorized Rhinoceros 3D-certified training center in the region.

• The MUDDE faculty are well-established academics with significant experience in the industry. They are also active researchers with experience in areas relative to areas of urbanism, architecture, and technology. The program also has strong industry and public sector connections. High-caliber professionals are involved in lectures, seminars, and research collaborations. The program advisory board reflects this with its impressive roster.

• The program is located within the beautiful campus of the American University in Dubai. The campus is in the heart of the city, connected to public transportation via metro and tram, and in close proximity to some of the most famous attractions in Dubai such as Dubai Marina and Palm Jumeirah Island.
AUD’s MUDDE Program Offers

- A two-year, professionally-oriented program tailored for practicing design professionals and consisting of 30 credits.
- A studio-based experience, which emphasizes integrating technology to inform and aid the design process.
- Course-work that reflects the breadth, depth, and complexity of the urban environment.
- A platform for research, innovation, and creative work relative to the built environment.
- An opportunity to engage with designers and scholars locally and internationally.

How You Will Learn

- Through studio courses with site-specific urban design problems and while incorporating technology to solve these problems.
- Through graduate-level seminars, based on readings, debates, guest speakers, and discussions.
- Through computer-lab courses focusing on specific relevant software packages.
- Through specialized guided research courses, including a two-part graduate thesis experience.
- Through collaborative teamwork, fieldwork, and stakeholder engagement.

What You Will Learn

You will learn

- How to design urban environments, including urban design interventions, and master-planning exercises.
- How to use technology, including BIM for landscape, parametric urbanism, GIS, and urban analysis to inform the design process.
- How to conduct research, including how to write research papers, collect data, and prepare appropriate research tools.

Who Should Apply

- Architects, urban designers, landscape-architects, and urban planners.
- UAE nationals, expatriates, and international students.
- Working professionals, part-time students, and full-time students.
- Those working in the private sector, and those in the public sector.
**Program Mission**
The mission of the MUDDE program is to prepare students to solve complex and multi-faceted urban problems using the best-practices and the latest technologies. The program looks to create high-caliber design professionals who are also critical thinkers, capable researchers, advocates of social justice, and are life-long learner.

**Program Goals**
The MUDDE program seeks to produce professionals who:

1. Thoroughly understand the multifaceted nature of the urban environment,

2. Are equipped with the latest knowledge, skills, technologies, and best-practices relevant to both the local and international contexts,

3. Are critical thinkers, and can develop creative solutions to complex urban problem,

4. Contribute to the wider society by becoming an important generator of scholarly activity in the areas of urbanism and design, and,

5. Can advance their careers through the knowledge, professionalism, and work ethic gained in the program.
Program Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of the Master of Urban Design and Digital Environments, students will be able to:

1. Develop creative solutions for urban design problems at different urban scales, and with varying levels of complexity.

2. Apply a holistic approach to design which looks beyond the built form and incorporates environmental, social, cultural, political, sustainable and economic themes and values.

3. Reflect knowledge of contemporary urbanism, urban history, and theory in creative and scholarly work.

4. Use various digital technologies to inform design decisions, throughout the design process, and in final productions.

5. Demonstrate a solid understanding of research methodology, and produce research reports, scholarly papers, creative, and innovative work with depth and rigor suitable for a master's degree level.

6. Collaborate successfully and professionally in demanding work environments and under tight deadlines.

7. Apply context-relevant best practices in urban design, digital design, and master planning to solve local and international design.

8. Develop areas of specialization and innovation in urban design and become life-long learners and critical thinkers.
## SUMMARY OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Classification</th>
<th>Credit Hours Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE Electives</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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### MUDDE Course Sequencing

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<tr>
<td>Year I</td>
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<td>UDDE 603</td>
<td>UDDE 608</td>
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<td>UDDE Elective</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE 610</td>
<td>UDDE 614</td>
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### Course List & Credit Hours

#### MUDDE Core

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UDDE 601 Urban Design Studio I</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE 602 History and Theory of Urban Design and Urbanism</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE 603 Digital Techniques for Urban Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE 604 Urban Design Studio II</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE 605 Sustainable Infrastructure</td>
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<td>UDDE 606 Urban Design Studio III</td>
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<tr>
<td>UDDE 608 Geographic Information Systems</td>
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<td>UDDE 610 Thesis Research</td>
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<td>UDDE 614 Thesis Studio</td>
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#### MUDDE Electives

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<td>UDDE 607 Urban Research Lab</td>
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<td>UDDE 609 Parametric Urban Design</td>
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<td>UDDE 611 Emerging and Critical Urbanism</td>
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<td>UDDE 612 Masters Internship</td>
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<td><strong>Total Electives Requirement</strong></td>
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ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST

Please make sure that the following items are included with your application. Your admission will depend on the receipt of all necessary documents that are required throughout the review of your application.

Academic Requirements
An earned undergraduate degree from an institution accredited by the UAE Ministry of Education or by the relevant national or regional institutional accrediting body in the case of international applicants.

Documents Requirements
- A completed online Application for Admission.
- A 3.00 GPA (on a 4.00 scale) or better in undergraduate study.
- Official and attested transcripts (in English) of academic records from all universities attended (e-transcripts accepted).
- Undergraduate / Graduate Diplomas.
- Confirmation of University Records.
- Equivalency letter from the UAE Ministry of Education.
- Statement of the applicant's career objectives, special professional and academic interest, and other reasons why the candidate wishes to pursue the master's degree program at SAAD.
- Recent CV highlighting the applicant’s special skills, expertise, and interests.
- Two Professional or Educational References (including contact information).
- Army exemption letter for UAE nationals.
- Official test scores: TOEFL®/IELTS™.

Financial Requirements
Non-refundable application fee of AED 420.

Program-specific Admission Criteria
- Undergraduate degree in Architecture, Urban Design, or Landscape Architecture, and Urban Planning.
- Applicant’s design portfolio demonstrating previous design and scholarly work.
- Interview with the MUDDE Admissions Committee.
The School of Architecture, Art and Design prepares graduates in the fields of Architecture, Interior Design, and Visual Communication to immerse into the profession and attain international standards of excellence. The School promotes critical thinking, creativity, cultural diversity, professional ethical values and environmental awareness.

ADMISSIONS AT AUD

The Mission of the Office of Admissions is to admit to AUD’s degree programs students who possess appropriate credentials and the demonstrated capacity and potential to successfully complete the educational programs provided by the university and meaningfully participate in the total educational experience offered by AUD.

The Office of Admissions consists of a professional team that assists prospective students gain accessibility to opportunities in higher education. The Admissions team is held to a high level of integrity and is charged with providing quality service and accurate information to all students.

AUD OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS
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T. +971 4 399 9000
admissions@aud.edu
www.aud.edu

For specific admissions requirements, please check the AUD Graduate Catalog at our website or contact the Office of Admissions.

ACCREDITED IN THE UAE & THE USA
AUD is officially licensed by the U.A.E. Ministry of Education – Higher Education Affairs (MOE-HEA). The Ministry has accredited the university’s undergraduate and graduate programs, in addition to Certificate programs in Middle Eastern Studies and Professional Teaching.

AUD is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award Baccalaureate and Master’s degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of AUD may be directed in writing to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 USA, by calling +1 (404) 679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC’s website (www.sacscoc.org).