



MUD OVERLAPPING DUAL DEGREES

The Master of Urban Design (MUD) is an advanced post-professional degree program for individuals who seek a career in urban design practice or for individuals who want to enhance and expand their existing foundation in architecture, urban planning, or landscape architecture with substantial urban design knowledge and expertise. The MUD graduate acquires a holistic understanding of city design and gains a distinct career advantage.

Normally, to apply to the MUD program, an individual must already hold a professional degree in architecture, urban planning, or landscape architecture. However, the MUD Overlapping Dual Degree option gives students in CU Denver’s M Arch, MLA, and MURP programs the opportunity to apply to the MUD program and begin earning MUD credits before they have completed their M Arch, MLA, or MURP program requirements.

MURP + MUD OVERLAP PROCESS

MURP students may apply to the MUD program once they have completed at least 12 MURP credits with a cumulative GPA of 3.00. Accepted students can then take MUD lecture courses and apply them toward both their MURP and MUD degrees. After completing the MURP program requirements, students conclude the MUD program by taking the two MUD studios, any remaining MUD lecture courses, and the final MUD studio/capstone. Students are then eligible to graduate and receive both their MURP and MUD degrees.

MURP students may take up to 6 credits of open electives, and four of the 3-credit MUD lecture courses are cross-listed as MURP electives, allowing MURP students to potentially take all six of the MUD lecture courses as MURP electives. How many of these six MUD lecture courses a student overlaps, and which ones, is up to the student.

MUD LECTURE COURSES – FALL

URBN 6525: CITY DESIGN FUNDAMENTALS

Investigates the historical roots, spatial patterns, and physical forms of cities and their evolution over time; the environmental, cultural, and economic forces influencing city design; and urban design as the nexus of the planning and design professions in contemporary city-building. [Cross-listed as URPL 6350.](#)

URBN 6550: DESIGN POLICY, PROCESS, AND REGULATION

Explores the many design policies and regulations that shape the urban form, how they are created and evolve, and how policies and regulations impact design ideation, analysis, and communication using real-world scenarios to experiment with and test iterative design processes and techniques. [Cross-listed as URPL 6397.](#)

URBN 6575: ADVANCED VISUALIZATION FOR URBAN DESIGN

Provides advanced instruction in communication and visualization through the use of digital tools commonly used in urban design (e.g. Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, SketchUp, Lumion). Topics include graphic design theory, use of storyboards, renderings, diagrams, maps, sketches, photographs, and infographics.

MUD LECTURE COURSES – SPRING

URBN 6625: URBAN DESIGN ECONOMICS AND EQUITY

Explores the economics of urban design through its relationship with private-sector development, public-sector infrastructure, and budgetary constraints on design implementation while emphasizing the critical role of urban design in advocating for social equity, affordable housing, and related issues. [Cross-listed as URPL 6395.](#)

URBN 6650: URBAN DESIGN AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Provides an understanding of the relationship between urban design and the natural environment. Students learn how to design sustainable public spaces, promote environmental resilience, combat climate change, and foster environmental justice and healthy communities through urban design. [Cross-listed as URPL 6396.](#)

URBN 6675: DESIGN PRACTICE AND LEADERSHIP

Provides students with a comprehensive understanding of urban design as a professional practice; how urban design functions within a collaborative and interdisciplinary environment; and the interpersonal skills needed to successfully work as part of, and be a leader in, a complex and dynamic design team.

MURP + MUD OVERLAP... SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES!

The MURP degree requires 54 credits and the MUD degree requires 36 credits for a total of 90 credits to earn both degrees independently.

MURP students can reduce that total by 3 credits with each MUD lecture course they take as a MURP elective. With four of the six required MUD lecture courses cross-listed as MURP electives and with the other two available as open electives, a MURP student could potentially take all six MUD required lecture courses as MURP electives, reducing the total credits required for both degrees by 18, from 90 to 72, saving time and money.

