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, giving them a distinct competitive advantage in the job market.

Normally, to apply to the MUD program, an individual must already hold a master’s degree in architecture, urban planning, or landscape architecture with substantial urban design knowledge and expertise, giving them a distinct competitive advantage in the job market.

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MUD students may apply to the MUD program once they have completed at least 12 MUD credits. Students can then take MUD lecture courses and apply them to both their MURP and MUD degrees. After graduating with their MURP degree, students conclude the MUD program by taking the two MUD studios, any remaining MUD lecture courses, and the final MUD studio/capstone requirement.

Not counting cross-listed electives, MURP students are allowed to take up to 6 credits of open electives offered by other programs. Presented above are the MUD program’s six required 3-credit lecture courses, which are 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 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 URPL courses 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.

The MURP degree requires 36 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 URPL courses 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.

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 URPL courses 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.

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 6390.

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 POSSIBILITIES

The MURP degree requires 36 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 URPL courses 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.

Learn more about the MUD program at https://cudenvercap.com/mud or contact Program Director Ken Schroeppel ken.schroeppel@ucdenver.edu or CAP Academic Advisor Roxy New roxy.new@ucdenver.edu for MUD application assistance.