



**Hochschule Düsseldorf**  
University of Applied Sciences



**Peter Behrens  
School of Arts**  
Faculty of Architecture

**Master of Science**

# Civic Design

**Architecture with an Emphasis on  
Urban Design**

## Profile

The Faculty of Architecture of Peter Behrens School of Arts (PBSA) at HSD offers a combined bachelor's programme and three specialised master's programmes in architecture, interior architecture and civic design. The master's programme in civic design consists of contents at the interface of architecture and urban studies.

The main concept, goals and characteristics of the programme build on the synthesis of two major areas of competence: architectural design and urban design research. Beginning in semester 1, you learn methodical skills enabling you to academically analyse and critically reflect on matters. Topics include amongst others:

- Investigation of interdisciplinary positions on the production of the city

- Investigation of agglomerations, urban landscapes and core areas regarding their spatial potential and conflicts in the light of architectural practice
- Conceptualisation as a strategic, content-specific and artistic process and implementation of projects at architectural as well as urban design level

In addition, you can choose a design studio supervised by an international visiting professor or you can spend a semester at a partner university abroad.

The programme is research-oriented. It systematically enhances your competences and concludes with the master's thesis. As a graduate, you know how to apply theoretical and conceptual knowledge to practice in a confident manner. You are able to conceptualise, design and implement complex architectural and urban design projects in a strategic, content-specific and artistic way.

**Please note:** The usual language of instruction is German. In many courses, English is available on demand.

## Career Options

With the completion of the master's programme in civic design and two years of professional experience, you are eligible to apply for registration with the chamber of architects. The degree also qualifies you for admission to higher public service. Potential professional fields include executive positions in e.g. urban and regional planning, urban development and housing design.

## Admission Requirements

Please check if you meet all requirements for admission to the study programme. Further information (in German only):  
[hs-duesseldorf.de/mcd-voraussetzungen](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/mcd-voraussetzungen)

# SYLLABUS

## SEMESTER 1

- Design Studio: Architecture as Urban Design 1
- Intra Muros: Project Week
- Instruments and Methods for Urban Planning
- Landscape and Urban Space
- Graphics and Graphic Communication
- Urban Design Theory

## SEMESTER 2

- Design Studio: Architecture as Urban Design 2
- Extra Muros: Excursion
- Planning for Urban Development
- Graphic Analysis and Communication
- Urban Sociology and Economy
- Civic Design Theory

## SEMESTER 3

- Design Studio: Architecture as Urban Design 3
- Ecology and Energy in an Urban Context
- German Planning and Building Laws and Regulations
- Urban Districts

## SEMESTER 4

- Master's Thesis (consisting of 3 disciplines)
  - Discipline A: Urban Design (incl. written paper)
  - Discipline B: Options for advanced studies
  - Choose from:
    - Instruments and Methods for Urban Planning
    - Landscape and Urban Space
    - Planning for Urban Development
    - Ecology and Energy in an Urban Context
    - German Planning and Building Laws and Regulations
  - Discipline C: Graphics and Graphic Communication
- Colloquium

## Further Information

### Events for prospective students (in German only)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/zsb\\_veranstaltungen](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/zsb_veranstaltungen)

### How to apply

[hs-duesseldorf.de/prospectivestudents/degreeseekings/application](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/prospectivestudents/degreeseekings/application)

### Information for international applicants

[hs-duesseldorf.de/degreeseeking](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/degreeseeking)

### About the programme and admission requirements

(in German only)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/mcd-voraussetzungen](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/mcd-voraussetzungen)

## Get in Touch

### Dean's Office at the Faculty of Architecture

[dekanat.architekt@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:dekanat.architekt@hs-duesseldorf.de)

### Student Advisory and Counselling Service (ZSB)

[studienberatung@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:studienberatung@hs-duesseldorf.de)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/zsb-en](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/zsb-en)

### Admissions Office

[zulassung@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:zulassung@hs-duesseldorf.de)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/zulassungsstelle](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/zulassungsstelle) (in German only)

### International Office (IO)

[international-office@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:international-office@hs-duesseldorf.de)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/io-en](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/io-en)

### Family Support Centre

[familienbuero@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:familienbuero@hs-duesseldorf.de)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/fam-en](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/fam-en)

### Disability Services (ABS)

[barrierefrei@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:barrierefrei@hs-duesseldorf.de)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/abs-en](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/abs-en)

### Psychological Counselling Service (PSB)

[info.psb@hs-duesseldorf.de](mailto:info.psb@hs-duesseldorf.de)

[hs-duesseldorf.de/psb-en](https://hs-duesseldorf.de/psb-en)

HSD on social media  
[facebook.de/hsduesseldorf](https://facebook.de/hsduesseldorf)  
[instagram.com/hsduesseldorf](https://instagram.com/hsduesseldorf)

Publisher: Hochschule Düsseldorf – University of Applied Sciences  
Student Advisory and Counselling Service (ZSB)  
in cooperation with the Department of Communication and Marketing and the Diversity unit  
Last updated: April 2025