

Information for and structure of the Quality recognition report

I - GENERAL INFORMATION	
Name of the school	Polytechnic School - University of Tours
Name of the programme	Urban and regional planning
Address	35 Allée Ferdinand de Lesseps, 37000 Tours - France
Website	http://polytech.univ-tours.fr/
Official representative of the school	Abdelillah Hamdouch, Head of the Planning and Environment Department (abdelillah.hamdouch@univ-tours.fr)
Contact person	Abdelillah Hamdouch, Head of the Planning and Environment Department (abdelillah.hamdouch@univ-tours.fr)

II - OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME	
Level of university education/degree	Master degree level
Duration of the study in the programme	(6 semesters / 3years)
Profile of graduates	Graduates are typically professionals in urban and regional planning. They are trained for planning projects management, implementation and evaluation. The main professional occupations are in local and regional governments, urban planning offices, transport networks, energy providers, environment agencies, consultancy and specialised business service companies.
Scientific objectives/knowledge offered	This program aims to help students acquire technical and practical competences for addressing contemporary planning challenges for cities and urban regions, in the context of climate change and the need for designing and implementing workable models and approaches toward more sustainable urban and regional development dynamics. The training is based on complementary units and pedagogical activities: - natural and formal sciences: mathematics, liquid mechanics and hydrology, ecology, earth sciences, information and system processing science - technical sciences of planning : ecological engineering and environmental sciences, transport systems, urban engineering, scientific approach of urban project, energetics - economics, management, law and human sciences : environmental regulations and policies, town planning laws, spatial economy, water management laws, sociology, geography, political sciences - labour laws, public relations - Project design and management - English and foreign languages The program is based on a balance of knowledge, practical exercises, workshops, case studies, international exchanges, research methods and training period in a private or public organization
Professional objectives/skills offered	Combine scientific and technical knowledge, savoir-faire and social skills is the target of the program. The knowledge and the contents of the program are related to a field, planning: - with strong changes and characterized by ruptures, heightening of economic disruptions, a problematic share of limited resources, the need to protect our natural environment - to plan, from the conceptual level which makes up the possible alternatives to the operational level which designs and achieves the plan and the programs it underlies - which combines the scales and different kinds of spaces, from the block to the large, and even the very large scale of spaces or territories

	- which must anticipate the next stakes, make liveable our space, exchange and share and not waste the resources, design and assist the stakeholders of a project. The savoir-faire applied to the project management and design. The trained planner will be able: - to develop approaches of prospective, of strategy, to use study and design tools, to contribute to studies in urban or territorial projects at different scales - to lead a project combining observation, design, and management - to drive and fill with life a project - to be creative and inventive Social skills linked with team work and oriented toward the greatest number of stakeholders through: - listening and dialogue abilities - organizational capabilities - professional convictions and affirmed professional ethics
Requirements for entering the programme (previous education profile)	Resume with 120 European credits (ECTS), major in technologies and sciences
Standard presentation (optional)	(if applicable)

III - CONTEXT and CONTENTS	
Position in the academic environment: country, university, department	In France, design and planning of inhabited spaces is covered by four kind of professional fields which match with 4 domains of training: - Urbanism, urban and regional planning: Schools of engineering and University departments - Civil engineering, urban engineering - Schools of engineering - Architecture, Landscape - Schools of Architecture and Landscape - Economic and social domains - Faculties The program offered in the Planning and Environment Department at the Polytechnic School of the University of Tours is unique in France.
Accreditation obtained (if applicable)	The program is the sole Engineering degree in Territorial Planning accredited by the engineering title committee (CTI). It has been reassessed recently and accredited by the CTI for 6 years (Sept. 2014-Sept 2020). It is also labelled by the French speaking association of schools in urban and regional planning (APERAU).
Team	24 Full Faculty members, 6 Faculty contractual professional associate professors, 3 part-time lecturers, 50 teaching practitioners, 11 Administrative and technical staff. A network of 3,100 alumni 1 CNRS research unit The faculty members regularly cooperate in international research projects (ESPON, EU Framework programs...). They also teach in a fully English taught research master (accredited by the Ministry of Higher Education), "Planning and Sustainability: Urban and Regional Planning", organized in the Planning and Environment Department of the Polytechnic School of Tours. Finally, in the scope of Erasmus Plus bilateral agreements (about 23) and other cooperation arrangements around the world (Canada, China, India, Brazil, etc.), the Department welcomes every year 5-6 foreign visiting professors who offer lectures and seminars in the Master programs.
Programme structure	1. Curriculum: Three-year curriculum conferring the official qualification of Engineer in Urban and Regional Planning
	2. Number of credits: 180
	3. ECTS if applicable: 180
Methods of teaching	Besides conventional lectures and applied classes, the program offers also various innovative methods of teaching: field work and reports, project teamwork, workshops, seminars and discussions, professional

	internships, individual project learning. Individual learning is introduced during the first year of the program and becomes more and more important further. Teaching methods focus on the student and the cumulative development of his/her professional and individual capabilities, especially toward improving motivation, involvement and the transposition of the acquired knowledge and capabilities in the “real world”. 40 ECTS are related to individual learning (individual project, research work and training period).
Title(s) awarded (single, double, multiple degree)	- Engineer Degree in Territorial Planning and Environmental Engineering - International Master Degree in Planning and Sustainability: Urban and Regional Planning - European Master in Territorial Development (joint degree with the universities of Hannover, Bristol, Wageningen, Stockholm and Vienna) - PhD in Urban and Regional Planning
Students in the programme	1. Number (total/per year): 100-120 in Urban and Regional Planning engineering degree; 14-16 in International Research Master “Planning and Sustainability: Urban and Regional Planning” program; 8-10 PhD new students every year
	2. Percentage of international students: 10 to 15% all programs included
	3. Examples of countries of origin (all programs included): Australia, Canada, Indonesia, India, Vietnam, Brazil, Mexico, Costa-Rica, Jordan, Iran, Afghanistan, Uganda, Pakistan, China, United Kingdom, Italy, Greece, Spain, Portugal, Croatia, Morocco, Algeria, Syria, Turkey...

IV - EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION IN TEACHING

In the courses (max. 50 words each)	1. International comparative planning: specifically taught in 3 courses in the 3 year Master curriculum and in 4 courses in the Research Master program, but also underlying many other courses
	2. European Spatial Planning: specifically taught in 2 courses in the 3 year Master curriculum and in most courses in the Research Master program
	3. Other: one of the 3 specializations in the 4 th and 5 th years of the Engineering curriculum, namely <i>Territorial Planning and Development in an International Context</i> is fully devoted to the learning and practice of planning in the European/International context, with a strong orientation toward the comparison of approaches from a technical and cultural standpoint.
In the practical activities (max. 50 words each)	1. The final training period can be done in an foreign organisation or firm (5- 10% of the students)
	2. Two intensive programs are implemented in an European country (Ankara and Bologna in 2013-2014). Each intensive programs lasts 11-14 days and involves 6 students A joint PhD program in European Spatial Development Planning (coordinated by KU Leuven): 4 months; 1-2 PhD students from Tours attend every year
	3. Systematic study tours and field trips are organised in a foreign country every year (Europe, North America). The study tours lasts one week and concerns all students not attending a 6-month study period abroad, mainly in a European country or in Canada, but also in Brazil, India and the United-States and in several other destinations.
	4. Other
In other activities (max. 50 words each)	
In the final thesis and/or project	1. Comparative or European topics for the thesis Several ongoing PhD theses are typically addressing these dimensions: trans-border effects on regional development in Europe, comparison of small and medium-sized towns models of socioeconomic development at the European scale, comparison of social housing policies and planning approaches in France and Quebec, role of accessibility and transport systems in Romania and France, planning approaches to sustainable housing in Brazil, etc.
	2. Projects in foreign countries: most PhD theses outlined above are conducted through bi-national co-tutoring agreements (University of

	Quebec at Montreal, University of IASI, University of Bahia, University of Lomé, etc.) 3. Possibility to submit in different languages: Yes: English, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese 4. Other
Involvement of foreign teachers	1. Visiting professors: 5-6 visiting professors from Erasmus and other partners every year 2. Guest lecturers: two months of guest lecturers each year provide lectures and research seminars 3. Other forms of involvement (reviewers, evaluators, jury members...): foreign reviewers, evaluators and jury members in PhDs are occasionally invited, depending on the topic addressed and the cooperation agreements with partner universities.
Language(s) of tuition	The engineering degree (180 ECTS) is taught in French, 30 ECTS in lectures are taught in English. The international research master in Planning and Sustainability: Urban and Regional Planning (60 ECTS) is fully taught in English.
V - INSTITUTIONAL EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION	
International institutional collaborations (max. 50 words each)	1. Active cooperation agreements (specify type of cooperation): Erasmus Plus, CREPUQ (with Quebec), Bilateral cooperation general agreements and double-degree programs (2 in Canada, 1 in Brazil, 1 with Hannover in Germany), ARCUS program with Tamil Nadu State in India, several agreements with Chinese universities, 2. Erasmus: 23 bilateral agreements, 5 incoming students, 35 outgoing students 3. Joint courses: PhD program in European Spatial Development Planning (coordinated by KU Leuven) 4. Joint diplomas: - European Master in Territorial Development (joint degree with the universities of Hannover, Bristol, Wageningen, Stockholm and Vienna) - 2 double diplomas are under finalization in Quebec 5. Mobility of students (capacity): 40 mobility semesters are available to a European country (Erasmus+ agreements) and 35 mobility semesters are available to USA or Canada, 5 places are available to India and Brazil 6. Mobility of staff (capacity): 10 short teaching assignments are planned each year within Erasmus Plus program 7. Summer schools: Heritage Conservation & Urban Sustainable Development (5th EUROPEAN URBAN SUMMER SCHOOL 2014, 1-8 September 2014: Tours, France) 8. Intensive programmes: 2 9. Distance learning 10. Other
VI - EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION IN RESEARCH	
Research programmes/projects with European scope	New Rurality - Towards an integrated institutional regime for sustainable rural development (ANR international) AQAPA - A Qui Appartiennent les PAYSages ? (Whose landscape is it ?) (ANR international) DSS_Evac_Logistique - Système d'Aide à la Décision Multicritère pour la Logistique de l'Evacuation à Grande Echelle
Research programmes/ projects with European funding	Climate Induced Changes on the Hydrology of Mediterranean Basins (CLIMB) (FP7) DROP - Benefit of governance in drought adaptation (Interreg) STARFLOOD - STrengthening And Redesigning European FLOOD risk practices Towards appropriate and resilient flood risk governance arrangements (FP7) A cross-national approach on community planning (ESA-AURORA) TOWN. Small and medium sized towns in their functional territorial context (ESPON)

Other

(max. 50 words)

VII OPTIONAL INFORMATION HIGHLIGHTING DISTINCTNESS OF THE PROGRAMME

(max. 300 words)

Our curriculum in urban and regional planning benefits from 45 years of experience in planning and environment teaching and research at the University of Tours since its foundation. It builds also on the competences and potential of 30 full position teaching staff, about 50 professional lecturers and a regular flow of international visiting professors and researchers. In addition, the International Research Master in Planning and Sustainability: Urban and Regional Planning (entirely taught in English), is increasingly targeted by high-level foreign students from all continents. Finally, the strong openness and involvement of the Planning and Environment Department faculty members, researchers and students in European and international networks and projects is a key ingredient of the capability of the Department to welcome students, PhDs and young researchers in planning and environment from Europe especially, and from virtually everywhere, as our incoming students' origin records show. Our school was a founding member of AESOP and of APERAU.