OVERVIEW

Index

2-3 Overview
4-5 Within the Department
6-7 Mentoring, How to apply & careers
8-9 MPhil in Real Estate Finance
10-11 MPhil in Environmental Policy
12-13 MPhil in Planning, Growth and Regeneration
14-15 MSt in Real Estate
16-17 MPhil in Land Economy Research
18-19 MPhil in Land Economy by Thesis
20-23 PhD in Land Economy
24 Contact information
ENVIRONMENT

Our world, both built and natural, from growing cities to shrinking icecaps.

LAW

The policies that underpin society, from contracts and constitutional law, to UN and EU policy.

ECONOMICS

Economic forces and markets, from private investment to public sector intervention.

The Department of Land Economy has one of the strongest records for employment across the University, undoubtedly a reflection of our emphasis on a broad base of applicable knowledge and skills.
The Department of Land Economy offers tools, resources, and study spaces to meet your needs throughout the course.

In addition to resources within the Department, the interdisciplinary nature of Land Economy means that the Department has strong ties with industry and departments across the University.

**CLEAB**

The Cambridge Land Economy Advisory Board fosters a unique partnership between industry and academia. CLEAB is made up of senior managers, directors, executives, and partners of professional firms working in areas related to Land Economy. CLEAB supports the Department by offering advice and financial support to academics and students, supporting the mentoring scheme, and developing connections between the Department and industry. [http://www.cleab.org/](http://www.cleab.org/)

**CULS**

The Cambridge University Land Society (CULS) is the oldest, largest and most active Departmental Alumni Society in the University. CULS organise a range of events annually where students can interact with some of the most influential players in the property industry. [https://www.culandsoc.com/](https://www.culandsoc.com/)

**Student Liaison**

The Department has an active Student Liaison Committee and student representatives on the Board of Land Economy. These representatives give students a voice in the Department, and allow them to pass on any concerns, problems or suggestions, which are then discussed at meetings with senior staff.

“Although a small, friendly department, Land Economy benefits from a wide array of resources, both within the Department and across the University.”
Marshall Library

You can register to use the Marshall Library, which services the Faculty of Economics and the Centre of Development Studies. The Marshall Library contains a large collection of economic journals, periodicals and books.

Squire Law Library

Land Economy students can use the Squire Law Library on the Sidgwick Site. The Squire houses specialist collections on a variety of legal topics including International Environmental Law and European Union law.

SPS Library

You can use the Social and Political Science Library at Free School Lane.

College Library & University Library

In addition, the central University Library contains over eight million books, journals and other items. With over two million of these housed in open shelves, Cambridge University Library has one of the largest collections on in Europe.

Bloomberg and Datastream

As a Land Economy student, you will have access to the library and resources at the Judge Business school including print resources and archival financial data on Bloomberg and Datastream.
Mentoring

The Department runs a Mentoring Scheme to connect current students with contacts in industry. This is a unique opportunity to explore possible areas of specialization and is supported by the Cambridge University Land Society and the Cambridge Land Economy Advisory Board.

How to apply

For all MPhil and the PhD courses at the University of Cambridge applications for graduate study are processed centrally by the Postgraduate Admissions Office. The application form and supporting documents are submitted electronically via their website and the online self-service system, though academic decisions on applications are made by the Department.

For MSt in Real Estate course applications are processed centrally by the MSt Admissions Office. To submit an application please download the MSt Application Guide. Applicants are advised that the Department will not formally consider an application for any of the courses it offers until an application form and full set of supporting documents is received via the online system.

The closing date for applications to all Land Economy courses can be found on the course directory.

There are numerous offices involved in processing and managing your application to study at Cambridge.

“I found the course really well-balanced, establishing and building on the fundamentals of finance”
The Department will not communicate its decision on your application to you directly. Once a decision has been taken the result will appear on your CamSiS Self-Service page.

If your application is successful and you are made a conditional offer you will be able to access the details of your offer and what you need to do in order to confirm your place via your Self-Service page.

We strongly advise students who are made an offer to regularly check their Self-Service account. If you do receive an offer, you are advised to meet the conditions made as soon as possible. This is particularly important if you require a visa to study in the UK.

Unfortunately the Graduate Admissions Office can not give feedback if your application was unsuccessful.

**Careers**

The Department of Land Economy runs an Employment Programme open to all current Land Economy students. The Programme is designed to assist the students to find their ‘ideal’ job position upon finalising their studies.

At the University level the Careers Service maintains links with relevant employers and takes into account employer needs and opinions in the services which it provides for students. The Careers Service also allocates a Careers Advisor to each College, Faculty and Department to act as a point of contact.

“You always bump into people that you know wherever you go, so you’re never far from a friendly face.”

“It has a world class reputation and the subjects offer bridge the gap between the social sciences and the humanities which I find a compelling offering”
MPhil in Real Estate Finance

In a competitive international business environment, real estate professionals need a sophisticated understanding of finance, economics and law to succeed. The MPhil in Real Estate Finance has been designed to provide rigorous training in the latest concepts from these three key areas as applied to international real estate markets.

The MPhil in Real Estate Finance involves an intensive period of full time study. It is the only programme that runs a Pre-sessional course in late September. The course is compulsory and is composed of numerous sections ranging from Technology and Real Estate to Investment strategies. There is also a session solely focused on careers.

The programme may also serve as an entry point into PhD training for those interested in pursuing research in real estate finance in greater depth.

THE FACTS

- Full time
- Taught masters programme
- 10 month duration
- Thesis requirement of between 10,000-12,000 words
- RICS accredited
Aims

The course is aimed at those who may already have some experience or interest in real estate markets, banking or investment and wish to upgrade their skills or for those who are looking to commence a career in this area. The programme offers an opportunity to study theoretical and practical finance, investment and law applied to global commercial real estate markets, while enjoying the cultural, social and recreational facilities of Cambridge. The course takes students from a wide variety of backgrounds: finance, geography, economics, law, biology, international business, mathematics. These students have in common a strong desire to work in property and investments coupled with strong academic skills.

Course objectives

The course aims to provide integrated theoretical and practical instruction in finance, investment, economics and law as they relate to global commercial property markets. Students are provided with the methods and techniques of analysis needed for commercial property financing, investment and development. The course is designed to ensure that property specialists are able to interact with other corporate finance related professionals. To this end, particular emphasis is placed on ensuring that students are familiar with the latest concepts in mixed-asset portfolio analysis, risk management, financial engineering and option-based valuation models.

UNIQUE ASPECT:

- Production of the MPhil REF Resume Book
- Resume Book is sent to the Departments associate companies
MPhil in Environmental Policy

Successful environmental policy depends on the ability of its makers to bring together scientific information, analytical thinking and an awareness of the legal, socio-economic and political realities of environmental regulation. There is an increasing need for experts with sophisticated analytical skills, a profound understanding of the current nature of regulatory structures and a sound knowledge of both local and global environmental trends. These experts are increasingly sought after by governments, international organisations, companies and non-governmental organisations in order to identify environmental problems, assess their nature and scale and provide solutions.

The course involves an intensive period of full time study.

The programme may also serve as an entry point into PhD training for those interested in pursuing research in environmental policy in greater depth.

THE FACTS

- Full time
- Taught masters programme
- 10 month duration
- Thesis requirement of between 10,000-12,000 words
- RICS accredited
Aims

The course provides state-of-the-art knowledge and skills in environmental policy analysis. It is designed for those with prior experience in a related field or for those who are looking to re-orient their career in this area. It is suitable for students who plan to pursue careers in governmental and non-governmental agencies, consultancy or companies where the management of environmental problems is of increasingly important.

Programme objectives

The programme’s core objective is to closely integrate concepts in economics and law with a solid understanding of the nature, causes and implications of environmental problems. It ensures that students are equipped with the analytical foundations, the specific skills and the areas knowledge necessary to thrive in a professional setting. The programme offers advanced training in:

- Analytical, quantitative & qualitative methods;
- Environmental law (international, European and comparative dimensions)
- Environmental economics and policy-making
- The nature, causes and implications of environmental problems

The programme also focuses on developing students’ ability to approach policy questions in an informed, methodical and critical manner. In addition to the coursework, the MPhil programme offers ample opportunity to interact with environmental policy experts as well as to gain exposure in a wide range of cognate subjects through seminars, conferences, and other events taking place in Cambridge.

“The MPhil in EP is exceptional and is unparalleled by any like course globally.”
MPhil in Planning, Growth and Regeneration

In the United Kingdom, moves to devolved government and decision taking at the regional and local levels are generating an increased requirement for well trained professionals who are capable of providing the knowledge and analytical skills required. Across Europe increased economic and monetary union is emphasising the need for Member States to consider how those involved in urban and regional government can tackle the spatial disparities in economic growth and development that have been such an entrenched feature of the last twenty years.

In the Far East and North America a similar level of interest is being shown in how governments can best ensure more geographical balance in development.

The design and implementation of spatial policies to manage the process of growth requires professionals with a multidisciplinary skill base and an international perspective on best practice.

THE FACTS

- Full time
- Taught masters programme
- 10 month duration
- Thesis requirement of between 10,000-12,000 words
- RICS accredited
Aims
The course provides relevant skills to professionals involved in managing local economic growth and regeneration, regulating land use, undertaking strategic planning and who seek an international perspective.

Course objectives
This MPhil is designed to equip students with the analytical skills required to:

- Understand the factors that lead to variations in regional growth and development and to understand the consequences of regional imbalances in growth for resource management, land use and the environment;

- Enable candidates to assess the scope for policy intervention to manage regional growth and identify the opportunities and constraints imposed by economic, social and institutional factors;

- Design efficient and effective policies to manage growth at the regional level including enhancing the growth prospects of those regions that are currently experiencing relative decline and attenuating the adverse consequences of adverse growth on those regional systems that are expanding rapidly;

- Understand how best to implement growth and regeneration policies, including planning and land use policies;

- Evaluate policy achievement and monitor and assess the effectiveness of policy initiatives.

The course emphasises the importance of adopting a multidisciplinary approach both to understanding the nature of growth and regeneration problems as well as creating successful policy solutions.

“I chose to study the PGR programme because of my determination to stand out in the competitive environment”
MSt in Real Estate

The course is aimed at experienced professionals and those identified as future leaders in the real estate industry and combines academic rigour with substantial exposure to real world problems and leading practitioners.

The course is delivered through a combination of distance learning and attendance at residential sessions in Cambridge and enables students to continue their professional career whilst studying for a Masters qualification. The course aims to equip participants with a broad knowledge of all aspects of the real estate industry, insight into a range of long-term themes and strategic issues in the market as well as developing a range of research and other technical skills.

The ultimate goal is to educate the up and coming leaders in the industry, to equip them with the knowledge and skills to lead and innovate within their organisations, improving the performance, efficiency and sustainability of the Real Estate sector.

THE FACTS

- Part-time (MSt)
- Research-based masters programme
- 2 year duration with 8 weeks of residential and distance learning.
- RICS and IPF accredited
Aims

The course aims to ensure that students have a solid understanding of the end to end processes in real estate whilst promoting innovation in real estate through highlighting some of the trends influencing the industry and the opportunities that this will bring.

- Enable students to build their knowledge across a range of disciplines around real estate including finance, investment, economics, planning and research methods.
- Enable students to build on previous study and work experience across real estate and related disciplines and to take forward their own research ideas.
- Equip students to take leadership positions in the industry and develop their understanding of key skills in management, strategy, negotiation, partnering and risk management.
- Provide opportunities to learn from others from different cultures, work backgrounds and with experience from different countries with different social, economic and legal systems.
- Build a passion for strategic thinking, analysis and research

Themes

The course themes include globalization, the relationship between the economy and real estate, technological change and risk management/sustainability.
The MPhil in Land Economy Research is a course of instruction at an advanced level. The students on this course will be those who have a strong background in Land Economy related subjects and who have good prospects of proceeding to the PhD prior to an academic career.

The course aims to provide students with a broad grounding in social science research methods and to apply this in some area of Land Economy. The course provides strong research training through the Social Science Research Methods Centre (SSRMC) Training programme. This includes coursework across both quantitative and qualitative research methods and other aspects of research training.

**THE FACTS**

- Full time
- Research Masters
- 10 months duration
- 18,000-20,000 word research dissertation and oral examination

“Land Economy by Research has been a great opportunity to get my teeth into a very interesting and significant area of research”
It is anticipated that the research training provided by the SSRMC, plus the dissertation and the choice of specialised modules from the other Land Economy MPhils will provide the necessary and sufficient background for commencing PhD research.

- Applicants should have a strong background (academic or work experience) in Land Economy related subjects;
- Applicants should demonstrate that their background is relevant to the research that they are proposing and that they have the requisite research skills to undertake the proposed research;
- Prior research experience and/or a demonstrable understanding of research methods is highly desirable;
- Applicants must demonstrate an ability to write for academic purposes (e.g. via research papers, essays and/or a research dissertation).

Applicants are required to enclose with their application an outline of their proposed research, setting out their objectives and proposed methodology. Before offering a place the Department will need to be satisfied that the proposal is one that can be undertaken satisfactorily by the candidate and that it can provide an appropriate supervisor. The proposal should be in a Land Economy related area and applicants are advised to review the research interests of the Department’s academic staff in order to ensure their work is in line with the Department’s expertise. The Department will not provide applicants with suggestions for possible research topics.
To undertake an extensive piece of original research in just one year can be a particularly challenging option and the Department will not admit students to it unless it can be satisfied that they have the necessary research skills, together with a clear vision of their topic and a good grasp of the appropriate methodology to explore it.

The 'by thesis' option is unusual for a research degree in specifying a submission deadline and in not allowing for resubmission should the necessary standard fail to be achieved in the examination.

Candidates are therefore encouraged to start their research as early as possible.

Applicants are requested to enclose with their application an outline of their proposed research, setting out their objectives and proposed methodology.
Before offering a place for the 'by thesis' option, the Department will need to be satisfied that the proposal is one that can be undertaken satisfactorily by the candidate and that it can provide an appropriate supervisor. In some cases, it may suggest that the candidate consider opting instead for the instructional degree course (MPhil in Land Economy Research) in order to build up broader research skills.

- Applicants should have a strong background (academic or work experience) in Land Economy related subjects;
- Applicants should demonstrate that their background is relevant to the research that they are proposing and that they have the requisite research skills to undertake the proposed research;
- Prior research experience and/or a demonstrable understanding of research methods is highly desirable;
- Applicants must demonstrate an ability to write for academic purposes (e.g. via research papers, essays and/or a research dissertation).

Once in the Department, all students on this course play a full part in the graduate programme. They are in any event required to attend and participate in either or both of the quantitative and mixed research methods courses. They are also encouraged to participate in any of the other relevant taught MPhil modules and the Department’s Research Management Programme.
Land Economy offers a full time and part time PhD Programme.

**Applying**

When applying to study for the PhD in Land Economy applicants are required to submit a detailed research proposal outlining their intended research topic, objectives and proposed methodology.

The research proposal submitted with the application should be sufficiently developed to give a clear indication of the research to be undertaken and to show that the topic is suitable for research at PhD level.

The topic of research is the candidate’s own choice and will be provisionally approved by the Degree Committee when accepting the applicant to the course.

**Interviews**

All prospectus PhD Students are interviewed before a final decision can be made on their application. The interview is conducted by their proposed supervisor and can be completed via Skype, telephone or face to face.

**Structure of the PhD**

Candidates undertaking a full-time PhD within the Department are required to undertake a minimum of nine terms of study (i.e. three years). Candidates are not registered for the PhD programme in the first instance. They are required instead to come into residence and commence their research, and to be assessed towards the end of their first year of full-time study.

**THE FACTS**

- Full-time and part-time
- 3~4 year duration Full time
- 5~7 year duration Part Time
- 80,000 word thesis and oral examination
Assessment

Assessment for registration of PhD is based on a written report submitted by the candidate and a discussion with two assessors.

The assessment will take stock of the progress made by the candidate to date, the scope and method of the research and the expected contribution to knowledge.

For those then registered for the PhD programme, credit is usually given for all the terms of full-time study successfully completed.

Early in the seventh term there will be a further formal assessment of progress. This assessment follows a similar format to the first year assessment.

Additional research training

Whilst there are no mandatory taught elements to the PhD degree, on the recommendation of their supervisor Candidate’s may be required to undertake specific additional research training. This will usually be undertaken in the first year of the PhD and may range from advanced research methods to more generic skills.

Such training may be desirable either to build upon existing skills, or to equip a Candidate with essential new skills (i.e. those not gained through their Masters course or other relevant prior experience).

Students may draw upon modules offered by the Social Science Research Methods Centre (SSRMC) Training Programme, as well as those run by other Departments.
PhD in Land Economy

Seminars
The Department also operates a series of weekly seminars throughout the Michaelmas and Lent terms aimed specifically at PhD students. These seminars cover areas such as the development of individual research programmes, choice of research methodologies, ethics, as well as other transferable skills such as presentation, career development and publication.

Examination
Examination for the PhD is by submission of a thesis (up to 80,000 words) and oral examination. The Degree Committee will usually appoint one internal and one external examiner to undertake the examination. Depending on the time of year, the thesis can be “under examination” for between two to four months.

Part Time Study
Land Economy offers a part-time route to the PhD. This might be suitable for someone who is employed in the Cambridge region and whose employer views such a programme of study as representing valuable staff development; or who works part-time, or who is home based for whatever reason, and wants to develop his/her research skills. Current employees of the University of Cambridge are also eligible to apply.

Applicants should note that the part-time route is not a distance learning degree. Further information can be found on our department website.

“The department has a multidisciplinary approach, it has an excellent environment to exchange ideas and experiences with experts from different backgrounds”
MPhil candidates wishing to pursue a PhD

MPhil candidates wishing to pursue a PhD with the Department may apply to continue as a Graduate Student via the Board of Graduate Studies. Each application is considered carefully by the Department and by the Degree Committee. Approval of an application will depend on three criteria:

- availability of a supervisor;
- the approval by the Degree Committee of a research proposal; and
- the achievement of a minimum overall mark and minimum dissertation mark in the MPhil examination as prescribed by the Degree Committee.

Full details of the application procedure for continuing students can be found on the Graduate Admissions Office website. [https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/portal/continuer](https://www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/portal/continuer)

Please note the Department and its academic staff are not in a position to enter into lengthy discussion with applicants about potential research topics and/or supervision arrangements prior to receipt of a formal application.
For general information about the University’s use of your personal information while you are a student please see: https://www.information-compliance.admin.cam.ac.uk/data-protection/student-data