Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning

Why should I apply for this program? Two main reasons. If you enjoy geography, economics, politics and sociology and want to use them in your career, then urban and regional planning is the ideal profession to choose. If you are seeking a program in which there is a high demand for its graduates, this is it.

What are the entrance requirements? Units 3 and 4 – a study score of at least 30 in English (ESL) or at least 25 in any other English. Current Year 12: ATAR score, VTAC application. Middle Band (approx 20% of applicants): Consideration may be given to Special Entry Access Schemes (SEAS) applicants who have experienced educational disadvantage. Non Year 12: Supplementary Information Form, interview, GPA. Extra Requirements: Refer to VTAC Guide for specifics.

What is the ATAR score? ATAR scores vary annually and are indicative only. The ATAR for this program for admission in 2011 was a clearly in ATAR in the low 70’s.

How long does the degree take? 4 years full time study.

How many students are accepted into the program? Approximately 45 students.

How many contact hours per week are there? Full-time students are expected to attend 12 hours of class and undertake approximately 24 to 36 hours of extra study and research weekly.

How many students are in a class? One hundred or so in some first-year classes, around 30 in later years. Larger classes are broken down into smaller tutorials of approx 20 students.

What will I study in this program? You begin by studying the origins of the profession and the key ideas behind planning practice. You study how major plans are constructed and implemented. You study planning law and gain an appreciation of urban design. Social and transport planning are covered. You do undertake a 60-day Work Practice. Finally, you write either a thesis or a group report.

What is the focus of this program? The focus is very much on cities and regions, particularly Melbourne and Victoria.

How are work placements arranged? Most Melbourne planning agencies offer work placements to RMIT students. The majority of work placements are paid. Work Practice enables students to meet prospective employers before graduating.

Can I study overseas as part of this program? Yes. Exchange agreements exist with universities in Canada, Finland, The Netherlands, Sweden and The Philippines. These enable students to spend a semester overseas in their second year.

Is there work placement? Yes, students will be required to undertake a work placement in the third year of the degree.

Where do graduates of this program work? Job prospects are good. The better question nowadays is: which job offer do I take? It is usual for graduates to start full-time work at a council to learn how plans and planning law are applied in an often political setting. Some move to the private sector; there are many highly-regarded planning consultants in Melbourne. Others go overseas or interstate where there are demands for RMIT-trained planners. Weekly earnings (before tax) up to $1500 (Source: ABS EEBTUM survey August 2008 cat. no. 6310.0.)

Visit this government website for more information on Planners (urban and regional) http://www.joboutlook.gov.au

Please note: Information supplied in this document was correct at the time of publication, August 2011. Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate. Prospective students are advised to confirm details with the appropriate school or area prior to application.