

MSc in Urbanism

Topics for the Master exam

A: SPATIAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

1. Discuss the key levels of planning; using example of Poland define the names of the planning documents that are in use at each of these levels.
2. Discuss the key characteristics of structure planning, regulatory planning and action planning.
3. Define the role of urban planning in sustaining local development.
4. Discuss the role of strategic planning in the process of shaping urban development policy.
5. Define the specifics of contemporary integrated urban planning
6. Difference between *local plan* and *masterplan* in planning large-scale developments projects.
7. Functional and spatial programme options and methods for solution variants in *masterplan*.
8. Define the concept of action planning.
9. Present the key elements of planning for urban regeneration.
10. Types of provisions in legal acts.
11. Systematisation of provisions in legal acts.
12. Content of the local plan.
13. Structure of the local plan.
14. Explain what FAR is and how it can be used in the local plan resolutions.
15. Provide an example of a local plan provision relating to a historic building.
16. Define the concept of public participation in urban planning and planning for urban transformation/regeneration and discuss how they are implemented in legal planning documents.
17. Characterize the concept of New Economic Geography.
18. What are public policy instruments and tools?
19. What is regional development policy?
20. Discuss the issue of territorialisation of regional development policy.

B: ENVIRONMENT, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

1. Discuss the structural and functional features differentiating ecological corridors, assess the impact on the development of urbanized areas.
2. Present examples of dispersed urbanization of suburban zones, assess the environmental effects of generating chaos and spatial disorder.
3. Reflect on the problems of protection forest complexes. The role of afforestation and shaping forest complexes in the context of ecological corridors; discuss the existing spatial conflicts.
4. Discuss the legal instruments of spatial governance as an element of shaping the environment and landscape in relation to urban development opportunities. Assess their effectiveness discussing selected case.
5. Discuss and explain issue of adaptation to climate change - from the point of view of reducing the vulnerability of natural and human systems to the actual or expected effects of climate change.
6. Describe and present the conditions and mechanism of the formation the Urban Heat Island (UHI).
7. Discuss and compare the goals and methods between adaptation and mitigation to climate change (provide examples).
8. Present the bioclimatic factors and discuss the conditions and mechanism of the formation the Urban Heat Island (UHI) and its impact on the life of people in the city.
9. Discuss management functions.
10. Present types of organisational structures.
11. Describe material and immaterial motivational incentives.
12. Describe task and macro environment of an organisation.
13. Discuss Strategic balanced scorecard.
14. List and describe five dimensions of territorial marketing.
15. Place brand: external and internal assets on examples.
16. Kevin Keller's model of place brand development.
17. The concept of emotional branding in place marketing.
18. Explain and discuss what is the process of building a positive image of the city and region in the frame of territorial marketing.

C: PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT POLICIES IN POLAND AND IN THE WORLD

1. There are five commitments of planners defined in the Charter of European Planning (2013) prepared by the European Council of Spatial Planners (ECTP-CEU). Please briefly describe one of them.
2. Please explain the responsibility and competencies of the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union, and the European Commission.
3. What is the EU Cohesion Policy?
4. Enumerate three examples of the cross-border cooperation in the European Union and explain its importance in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Discuss one example of the planning system of two different countries.
6. Compare planning system of one EU and one non EU countries.
7. Present and discuss the pivotal problems of governing large-scale urban projects using a chosen example.
8. The multimodal Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T) equipped for sustainable and smart transport with high-speed connectivity will be operational for the comprehensive network. Explain the goals of this system.
9. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) is one of the main financial instruments of European cohesion policy. Explain its meaning and give examples of its use.
10. Discuss Goal 11 of the Sustainable Development Goals in the context of urban development in developing countries.
11. Why urban planning is an important tool for achieving SDG 11?
12. How can urban planning counteract the aggravation of urban development problems in developing countries?
13. In what ways does urban planning contribute to addressing the reasons for social discrimination in cities in developing countries?
14. Development of public space in cities of developing countries vs. solving major development problems such as escaping from poverty and overcoming discrimination.
15. The concept of sustainable development and its relation to the idea of circular economy.
16. The transparency and inclusiveness issues in planning process.
17. The measurement of efficiency and involvement level in planning process.
18. The risk management in coordinatory planning.

D: URBAN PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Discuss the territorial transformations of cities and the concepts that describe these transformations (including FUA and metropolitan region/area). Describe the European Commission and OECD definition of a city.
2. The structure of a city: definition, characteristic types of internal urban structures, three schemes of city structure.
3. The concept of a compact city. Discuss five recommendations for compact city policy strategies defined by OECD.
4. Suburbanization: nature of the phenomenon, implications for the functioning of a city.
5. Policentricity of urban structure. Discuss typology of urban centres. Use example for each kind of urban centre.
6. The concept of green-blue infrastructure and its importance for the functioning of a city.
7. Describe the conditions and problems for improving the quality of life in cities by introducing blue and green infrastructure into cities in order to reduce thermal risk.
8. Climate adaptation of cities: objectives, planning measures and urban structure transformation.
9. Present examples of the ecosystems of urbanized areas, the specificity of their functioning in urban structures and discuss the threats and possibilities of environmental protection in cities.
10. Using the example of *Hafencity* Hamburg discuss the principles of urban composition.
11. The importance of the vista in shaping a large-scale urban composition.
12. Designing a system of public spaces using the qualities of the urban landscape.
13. Define the very concept of model and its relation to cities. Define main types of models according to the way they represent reality and characterise briefly their range of applicability.
14. Describe the concept and the contemporary validity of the Central Place Theory.
15. Rank-size rule and its application to urban systems.
16. Discuss the selected concentric models of a city development (authors, concept) and present examples of their application in theory and practice.
17. Discuss the selected linear models of city development (authors, concept) and present examples of their application in theory and practice.
18. Complex Adaptative Systems and their relation to urban models.
19. Conceptual models of a city – definition, description, and examples.
20. Simulation models – concept and typology. Relation to cities.
21. Classification of mathematical simulation models (according to M. Batty) and their relation to cities.