



UNIVERSIDAD  
COMPLUTENSE  
MADRID



Máster Universitario Internacional  
Facultad de Ciencias Políticas y Sociología

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4CITIES: UNICA EUROMASTER  
IN URBAN STUDIES.  
ERASMUS MUNDUS

# MÁSTER UNIVERSITARIO INTERNACIONAL 4CITIES: UNICA EUROMASTER IN URBAN STUDIES. ERASMUS MUNDUS

Branch of Knowledge: Arts and Humanities

Centre Responsible: Faculty of Political Science and Sociology. Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM)

Conjunto: Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB): Coordinator - Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) - Universität Wien (UW) - Københavns Universitet (KU) - Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM)

[www.4cities.eu](http://www.4cities.eu)

Orientation: **professional, academic and scientific**

Credits: **120 ECTS**

Duration: **2 academic years (4 semesters)**

Mode: **blended learning**

## OBJECTIVES

4CITIES is an immersive, two-year, interdisciplinary Erasmus Mundus Master Course in Urban Studies, incorporating geography, sociology, history, cultural studies, and governance studies. Organised within UNICA, the Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe, and co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union, Graduates receive a Master of Science (MSc.) Degree in Urban Studies. 4CITIES is, however, much more than its formal description. Because of the exploratory nature of a programme in which travel is a constant, because of the diversity of each cohort of students, and because of the intention of the programme to provide a holistic education in urbanism, 4CITIES is also a crossroads where academic research, professional practice, urban exploration, and civic activism overlap and intersect.

## TARGET

Students in in urban studies, incorporating geography, sociology, history, cultural studies, and governance studies.

The language of instruction is english and proof of fluency is required.

While the 4CITIES teaching and administrative staff provides guidance, students are expected to be highly independent. They must find their own housing as they move from city to city, navigating a gauntlet of practical, cultural, and linguistic differences. After four months, just as students begin to find a routine and feel comfortable with their surroundings, it's time to move again. Students must also be cooperative and collaborative, as much of the academic work in 4CITIES is done in groups. Spending two years traveling and studying

and socialising together can turn cohorts into extended families, with all the support and occasional conflict of traditional families. The experience can be intense, and adaptability is a prerequisite for success.

## WHY STUDY THIS MASTER'S?

The intention of the programme is to provide a holistic education in urbanism, 4CITIES is also a crossroads where academic research, professional practice, urban exploration, and civic activism overlap and intersec. 4CITIES bridges disciplinary limitations by combining sociology, geography, history, cultural studies, and humanistic urban studies while providing students with an array of means and methods for analysing and understanding the specific character of cities. Academic courses are supplemented with fieldwork and excursions, reframing The City as a dynamic, immersive learning laboratory.

4CITIES leads to the following kind of occupations: research and teaching on issues of urbanity and urbanism; urban policy advising; urban project management; urban planning and design consulting.

## STRUCTURE

Students must decide which track(s) they would like to join during the application process for 4CITIES. Once accepted and enrolled, changing tracks is not allowed. Research and Practice Track students are required to submit a proposal for their internship / work placement and coursework to the 4CITIES coordination team before the end of the Brussels semester.

## CLASSICAL TRACK

Students in the Classical Track travel to Copenhagen and Madrid for their third and fourth semesters, respectively. As in the first two semesters, the program consists predominantly of academic courses, supplemented by excursions and fieldwork. Courses in Copenhagen are held at the Københavns Universitet (KU), and those in Madrid are split between Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) & Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM).

## RESEARCH TRACK

For those students who already intend to pursue a PhD and/or research career after their master's degree, we offer a Research Track that allows for

more specialization during the second year of 4CITIES. Students in this track will spend part of their second year in 4CITIES interning at a research institution (for which they will receive 15 ECTS) and part completing 25 ECTS of coursework relevant to their research focus.

## PRACTICE TRACK

For students with a particular interest in gaining relevant work experience, we offer a Practice Track. Whereas the Research Track guides students towards a research career, the Practice Track caters to students who want to apply their urban expertise to settings such as city administrations, NGOs and associations, cultural organisations, consultancy work, or architectural and urban design offices. Practice Track students will choose a work placement (15 ECTS) in a non-academic organisation engaged in urban issues. This work placement can be anywhere in Europe.

## SYLLABUS

TYPE OF SUBJECT	ECTS
Compulsory	90
Final Project / Master Thesis	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>120</b>

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS	ECTS	SEMESTER
<b>Core Courses</b>		
Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) & l'Université libre de Bruxelles (ULB)		
Geographies of a Globalizing Europe - VUB	6	1°
Urban Social Geography - VUB	6	1°
Urban Analysis 1 & 2 - VUB and ULB	3+5	1°
Urban Economic Geography - ULB	5	1°
Urban Sociology - ULB	5	1°
Universität Wien (UW)		
Contemporary Challenges in Urban Development	4	2°
Geographies of Innovation and Transition	4	2°
Principles of Urban Planning and Urbanism	3	2°
Urban Analysis III. Research Design and Methodology	6	2°
Urban Population Dynamics	3	2°
<b>Classical Track</b>		
Københavns Universitet (KU)		
Urban Analysis 4	5	3°
Urban Culture and Cultural Theory	7,5	3°
Urbanism and Architecture	7,5	3°
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) & Universidad Complutense de Madrid (UCM)		
Governance and Local Welfare - UCM	10	4°
The Sustainable and Liveable City - UAM	10	4°

FINAL PROJECT	ECTS	SEMESTER
Final Project / Master Thesis	30	4°



[una-europa.eu](http://una-europa.eu)

Másteres UCM



## Faculty of Political Science and Sociology

Campus de Somosaguas  
[politicasysociologia.ucm.es](http://politicasysociologia.ucm.es)

For further information: [www.4cities.eu](http://www.4cities.eu)

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