## Work with our students

Placement, graduation and practical assignments





CREATING MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCES



BUas.nl



About Breda University of Applied Sciences

Breda University of Applied Sciences (BUas) is a specialist and global higher education organisation in Breda, the Netherlands.

On our green and small-scale campus and in our diverse learning communities, students, staff and industry partners empower each other to shape a better world by Creating Meaningful Experiences.

They do so in the fields of Tourism, Leisure & Events, Hotel & Facility Management, Built Environment, Logistics Management, Game Design, Creative Business and Data Science & Al.

For more information, please go to **BUas.nl/en**.

As a partner in the discipline of Built Environment we would like to work together with you. Our students of the professional bachelor's programme of Built Environment would be happy to work for you with a work placement, graduation project or practical assignment.

#### **Built Environment**

The programme of the professional bachelor's programme of Built Environment prepares students for a career in the world of mobility, urban planning and urban design.

The programme has a practical orientation and is delivered by highly qualified lecturers with ample industry experience. In addition to a Dutch-taught programme, there is also an internationally oriented English-taught programme.

Education in the first year of study involves a broad integral basis. Within this broad basis, they opt for a specific specialisation area: Mobiliteit (Mobility), Ruimtelijke Ordening (Urban Planning) or Urban Design.

Students of the various specialisation areas work together a lot. In this way, they learn to use each other's knowledge to solve complex issues. Students take part in (international) excursions and work on projects in our workshops together with consultancy firms, provincial and municipal councils. In the third year of study they do a work placement. They complete their studies by doing research as part of their graduation project.

#### In short

- > 3 Dutch-taught and 3 English-taught specialisation areas
- > 18-week work placement in year 3
- > 17-week graduation project
- > Graduation title: Bachelor of Science
- Positions in which students, for example can give support:
  - Traffic manager
  - Mobility manager
  - Urban manager
  - Strategic spatial planner
  - Area developer
  - Urban designer



#### SPECIALISATION AREAS OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT DOMAIN

#### ── Mobiliteit ☵౯ Mobility

In the world of mobility, developments and innovation follow each other in rapid succession. Smart mobility, shared mobility, attention to active modes (cycling and walking), big data, new vehicle technology and experience are just a few examples. In our education we give shape to these developments and introduce our students to and let them (co)work on these themes.

### Ruimtelijke Ordening

In this specialisation area students work on spatial developments in cities and rural areas. They ensure that they have been agreed on with the parties concerned. Students take societal and technological developments into account in their plans, and they also study trends in the field of living, working, and doing recreational activities. Finally, they coordinate whether everything is financially feasible and complies with all laws and regulations.

## ■ Stedenbouwkundig Ontwerpen ₩ Urban Design

Students opting for this specialisation area of Urban Design learn to create designs at different scale levels. They learn to combine the craft of design with a critical attitude towards current societal issues affecting our living environment.

#### Good to know

- Best-rated Built Environment programme in the Netherlands offering small-scale education.
- > For many years, our study programmes have recorded high scores in Keuzegids HBO. This is an independent consumer guide that assesses and compares the quality of all professional bachelor's programmes in the Netherlands.
- > Students, lecturers and industry partners work together on innovations in our learning community. We facilitate students who want to start their own business. They can even graduate on this!
- > Students work together intensively with students from other specialisation areas within the study programme. Through this integrated approach, they learn to solve complex issues.
- > A unique feature of our study programme is that our students – in all years of study – work on real-life issues in our workshops. This means that students can be deployed quickly and take on projects energetically.
- > With some 50 years of experience, we have a large national and international network.





#### In our work we always take human behaviour as a starting point

"Almost everyone comes into contact with traffic and public space every day. These human and spatial factors in our discipline make me enthusiastic. My background in traffic management ensures that I can start working on mobility assignments across the full breadth of the industry. Thanks to the combination of theory and practice during my studies, I was able to get to work quickly and independently in my job."

#### Danique Gommers

Graduated in the specialisation area of Traffic Management. She now works as an Advisor Mobility & Space at Goudappel reconstruction

## Work placement and graduation project

#### Our students' fresh outlook

Does your organisation have plans for developing residential care projects for the elderly? Do you want to have research carried out into multiple use of a specific location? Or are you curious about the effects of parking fees? Our students are happy to help you.

They are educated to become professionals in the field of mobility, urban planning and urban design. They opt for a study programme focusing on the Dutch situation (Dutch-taught) or take an international perspective (English-taught) and are motivated to gain practical experience at home and abroad.

#### Availability of our students

Our student complete one individual placement lasting 18 weeks in their third year of study. This placement starts in September every year. In the fourth year of study they are available as of February to carry out a graduation research assignment lasting 17 weeks. Research assumes a central role in the graduation internship, which is commissioned by the company. Upon completion, the research will be usable for your organisation. In addition, throughout the years of study there are possibilities for offering real-life assignments (cases).

#### What can our students offer?

When one of our students carries out an assignment or project for your organisation, you may expect this student:

- > to be interested in and familiar with your line of business;
- > to possess topical knowledge, relevant to carrying out the assignment or research;
- > to be able to work in a flexible, creative, independent, communicative and solution-oriented manner.





# Inspiration for tasks and assignments





To give you a picture of what our students can do for you, some examples are given below of tasks and assignments that students can work on during a work placement or graduation project.

- > Research into the multiple use of railway station locations
- > Restructuring zoning plans
- > Research into inner-city retail trade
- > Research into traffic safety in city and motorway tunnels
- > Satisfaction survey among users of bicycle routes
- > Study into the use of road / motorway traffic signalling
- Formulating housing corporation policy on independent living with care facilities for the elderly
- > Research and advice in villages and rural areas
- > Design research into urban infill sites
- > Project support in participation processes
- > Development of a toolbox for redeveloping neighbourhoods in a climate-adaptive way





#### I took a look at the blind spots for the company

"The study programme laid a good foundation for my successful placement periods. I applied theoretical subjects (e.g. housing market, finances, law, sustainability, research) as early as during my studies when carrying out real-life projects, and during my placement periods. At Rijkswaterstaat (RWS) I conducted research into the relation between urban planning and climate adaptation of the main road network. By means of a business case, I showed RWS how spatial adaptations can contribute to reducing climate risks in the main road network. At ContourdeTwern I conducted research into a spatially liveable neighbourhood for the elderly in Tilburg West. Mapping the bottlenecks in the neighbourhood, and doing research into the policy vision hereof. I took a look at the blind spots - things they did not see - for the company."

#### Laura Faes

Former student doing her placements at RWS and ContourdeTwern

## How does it work?

Practical information at a glance

The work placement and graduation project are important components of the study programme, intended to give students a possibility to apply the knowledge and skills they developed to practice.

#### Responsibilities of the host company

#### If you want to work with our students, we ask the following of you:

- > On average, the student will work 40 hours a week on assignments, which are substantively relevant to the host company and contribute to the student's competency development. You will formulate the objective (the final result) of the assignment together with the student.
- You will appoint a company supervisor, who introduces the student within your organisation, and who supervises the student in a work- and assignment-oriented way and holds regular progress meetings with the student (at least twice). In the case of a graduation project, the company supervisor will also attend the student's final presentation.
- > Your company will be ultimately responsible for the work performed by the student. A placement or graduation report will not be published if the client has indicated in writing that the report contains confidential information.
- > Your company will offer a professional workplace and a placement allowance (usually between €300 and €500 per month). Students are required to take out their own third-party insurance, as well as necessary insurance for travel and accommodation.

#### **Responsibilities of BUas**

- > On the part of the study programme, the student will be supervised by a lecturer or supervising lecturer.
- > The role of this supervising lecturer includes advising the student and organisation on the concrete details of the placement and the execution of the assignment, visiting the organisation and solving any problems that may arise. The company supervisor will assess the student on the process.
- > There will also be a presentation supervisor from the study programme. This person will also assess the student on the product during the final presentation.



## Creating a better world

Cooperation possibilities in addition to work placement and graduation project

We attach great importance to collaboration with partners in the field. This keeps education current and relevant. What's happening in your line of business, what problems are you facing, and what questions do you have? We could be your partner for projects and research. Students doing their work placement or graduation project learn within your organisation and can provide you with new insights. Apart from these well-known ways, there are other possibilities for cooperation and learning together.

#### **Optional extension courses**

In years two and three, students are offered various optional extension courses in all sorts of themes, such as energy transition, participation, and new trends affecting the discipline. If you have an interesting issue related to one of these themes or if you are curious as to what else we offer within these courses, please contact us. There is also a possibility to collaborate and learn within learning communities.

#### **Guest lectures and excursions**

Industry input is essential in education. We would like to invite you to present your knowledge and skills to our students in a guest lecture. Demonstrating real-life cases to students gives them an opportunity to test their knowledge against practice. The study programmes of the first and second years contain field trips to domestic as well as foreign destinations. For our students, these trips are an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with your company or organisation.

#### Research

We share our knowledge and develop new knowledge through practice-oriented research into current issues together with industry partners. Research is conducted and projects are carried out within the areas of expertise below:

- > Urban Mobility Planning: smart mobility and urbanisation solutions for the future
- > Bicycle, public transport and sustainable (partial) mobility solutions
- > Liveable cities and logistics: Innovation in (zero-emission) last and first miles

In this process, our experts operate on the interface of research and application in professional practice. This means that, together with industry partners, knowledge is translated into products, services or new business initiatives which, in turn, contribute to the improvement of education.

You can find more information about our knowledge development at Builtenvironment.buas.nl

## We are happy to work for you!

Practical experience is very valuable to us. Do you have an interesting placement for our students, or a challenging research assignment? We would be happy to get to work for you.

ALS. 8245

#### How do you submit a vacancy?

Do you have a suitable and challenging placement, graduation or practical assignment? Or would you like to contribute to one of our optional extension courses? If so, please contact our team at **BEplacements@buas.nl**.

Do you have any questions or want to discuss what best suits your business or assignment? Please contact us by phone at +31 76 533 26 00.

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#### ADDRESS Mgr. Hopmansstraat 2 | 4817 JS Breda | The Netherlands

**E-MAIL** BEplacements@buas.nl **теlephone** +31 76 533 22 03

**website** www.BUas.nl

