Urban and Regional Planning Courses (Planning and Public Affairs) (URP)

This is a list of all urban and regional planning courses. For more information, see Planning and Public Affairs.

**URP:2013 Introduction to Sustainability**  arr.  
Introduction to sustainability knowledge, skills, and habits as a means to shape one's vision of a sustainable citizen; emphasis on basic skills of literacy, applied math, and finding information; traditional sustainability knowledge areas related to society, economy, and environment; intersecting themes (e.g., informed consumerism, eco-economics, and livable environments). Same as BUS:2013, GEOG:2013, SUST:2013.

**URP:3001 Planning Livable Cities**  3 s.h.  
Development of livable cities in the United States; economic, physical, environmental, and political forces that shape their growth; impact of planning, how it shapes the future of cities. Same as GEOG:3920.

**URP:3134 Regional and Urban Economics**  3 s.h.  
Theory of location and regional development; central place theory; why cities exist and trade with one another; models of land use patterns, rents; empirical tests of models; policy applications. Prerequisites: ECON:1100. Same as ECON:3640.

**URP:3135 Environmental and Natural Resource Economics**  3 s.h.  
Environmental and resource use problems; efficient mechanisms and other policies for environmental protection, management of common property resources. Prerequisites: ECON:1100. Same as ECON:3625.

**URP:3217 Negotiation and Conflict Resolution**  3 s.h.  
Strategies of successful negotiation across a wide range of conflict situations; keys to success in peacefully resolving conflicts; personal, professional, legal, and political negotiations; apologizing; mediation as alternative to litigation; analysis of conflict characteristics to determine optimal negotiation strategies; development of negotiation interpersonal skills; practice negotiating under real world scenarios. Prerequisites: RHET:1030 or RHET:1040 or RHET:1060. Same as PBAF:3217, RHET:3009.

**URP:3350 Transportation Economics**  3 s.h.  
Overview of transportation markets—intercity, rural, urban; transportation modes—rail, highway, air, water, pipeline, transit; issues in finance, policy, planning, management, physical distribution, and environmental, economic, and safety regulation. Recommendations: ECON:1100 and ECON:1200. Same as ECON:3750, GEOG:3940.

**URP:3360 Urban Transportation**  arr.  
Transportation in the urban market; urban transport modes, technologies, costs, pricing, and ways to develop and analyze urban policy in order to promote city livability and sustainability; development of urban transportation and transport operations in the U.S. and worldwide; urban transport policies, plans, and policy development processes; major urban transportation issues, investigation of possible means of attacking urban transportation issues. Prerequisites: ECON:1100. Same as ECON:3770.

**URP:4170 Megacities Seminar**  1-3 s.h.  
Global historical, political, economic, urban, and cultural aspects of megacity development; planning methods to address contemporary and emerging issues; critical analysis of peer-reviewed literature and computational simulations; topics include urban sprawl, poverty and inequality, economies, food scarcity, population growth, governance models, environmental and health concerns, sustainability.

**URP:4262 Transportation Demand Analysis**  3 s.h.  
City planning procedures and traffic engineering techniques applied to transportation problems; trip generation, distribution, assignment, mode choice models; travel surveys, data collection techniques; arterial flow, intersection performance, parking; transit system analysis. Same as CEE:4176.

**URP:4750 Environmental Impact Analysis**  3 s.h.  
In-depth exposure to the history and evolution of the U.S. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process; discussion of major court cases; ecological, economic, and political aspects of current environmental controversies; exposure to real-world scenarios that are crucial to understanding the EIA process in action; field trips to six or seven environmental control facilities in Iowa City and neighboring areas. Prerequisites: GEOG:1070. Same as GEOG:4750.

**URP:4752 Eight Generational Planning: Envisioning Cities for Year 2228**  3 s.h.  
Star Trek tells us that Captain Kirk will be born in Iowa in 2228, what should cities look like in that year? Students envision and design great regenerative cities in the age of Anthropocene—the period we are in which features substantial human influence on climate and the environment; exploration of contemporary philosophies and urban strategies for sustainability, resilience, post-scarcity abundance, human well-being, social inclusiveness, and justice in an era of rapid changes in society, technology, climate, and environment.

**URP:4760 Sustainable Urban Development: The Hong Kong Experience**  3 s.h.  
Today about 52 percent of the world's population lives in urban areas; by 2050 almost 70 percent will be living in cities and towns; how the shape, size, and form of urban areas and how people live in them have significant impact on the environment; students explore theories and practices pertaining to sustainable urban development and learn about urban environmental issues around the world and significant socioeconomic problems arising from current patterns of urban development that are, on the whole, not sustainable; introduction to many innovative approaches for making cities more sustainable.

**URP:5678 Application Simulation to Transportation**  3 s.h.  
Transportation system management and traffic engineering; application of real-time simulation and visualization. Prerequisites: CEE:3763 or CEE:4763. Same as CEE:5678.

**URP:5800 Environmental Economics and Policy**  3 s.h.  
Reasons why markets fail in environmental realm (e.g., externalities, common pool resources, club goods, public goods); ecosystem services and techniques used for their valuation; revealed and stated preferences; cost-benefit analysis and role in policy-making process; tools to address environmental market failures, particularly command and control, taxes and subsidies, and mitigation markets; focus on air pollution, climate change, and water-related policies. Same as GEOG:5800, PBAF:5800.
URP:6200 Analytic Methods I 1-3 s.h.
Methods used in planning and policy analysis; emphasis on application of statistical techniques and quantitative reasoning to planning problems; use of computers and data systems in planning analysis. Same as PBAF:6200.

URP:6201 Analytic Methods II 3 s.h.
Integration of methods with the planning process; application of multiple regression, population estimation and projection, survey methods, time series analysis, industrial growth and change; presentation of results to decision makers and the public. Prerequisites: URP:6200. Same as PBAF:6201.

URP:6202 Land Use Planning: Law and Practice 4 s.h.
Legal, social foundations of land use planning; comprehensive planning, zoning and subdivision review; legal aspects of land use, environmental planning; ordinance drafting; staff report writing; citizen participation.

URP:6203 History and Theories of Planning 3 s.h.
History of urban planning and policy in America as a reflection of social and economic forces; alternative planning philosophies, roles, and ethical choices open to planners and policy leaders; special attention given to ways in which urban planning has confronted issues of racism and social justice, as well as climate change and its implications for cities and social justice. Same as HIST:6203.

URP:6205 Economics for Policy Analysis 1.3 s.h.
Principles of economic for planners; concepts and techniques of microeconomic analysis; income inequality; the role of government in the economy; tax and pricing policy; project evaluation; externalities. Same as PBAF:6205.

URP:6208 Program Seminar 1 s.h.
Planning process, roles of planners, professional ethics and standards. Same as PBAF:6208.

URP:6209 Field Problems in Planning I 3 s.h.
Experience working on a two-semester project involving a current planning issue, usually for a client. Requirements: urban and regional planning graduate standing.

URP:6210 Field Problems in Planning II 3 s.h.
Continuation of URP:6209. Prerequisites: URP:6209. Requirements: urban and regional planning graduate standing.

URP:6211 Community Outreach Practicum 1-3 s.h.
Application of planning skills to community work by nonprofit organizations in local area; urban planners contributing to their communities; community outreach.

URP:6225 Applied GIS for Planners 3 s.h.
Analysis of Census of Population data using GIS software; data and analytical needs of urban planners; coverage of GIS topics to plan functions of GIS and spatial analysis, varied GIS software in a planning organization; structure of the Census.

URP:6227 Spatial Analysis in Planning and Policy Making 3 s.h.
Databases, GIS, planning support systems; spatial model building and use of spatial statistics; applications to substantive problems in transportation, environment, housing, economic development. Recommendations: completion of an introductory GIS course.

URP:6228 GIS for Local Government 1 s.h.
Development, maintenance, and operation of an enterprise-wide Geographic Information System (GIS); implementation of a parcel-based data system model common to government entities; practical experience using data for land-use planning analysis.

URP:6229 Practicum 1-5 s.h.
Full-time internship of at least five months with a planning-related organization. Requirements: urban and regional planning graduate standing.

URP:6233 Public Finance and Budgeting 3 s.h.
Local budgeting process and revenue instruments available for local governments to finance their infrastructure; local budgeting process, mechanics of property tax and other revenue sources, connection between taxation and land use, economic development, growth management, and transportation; issues regarding financing K-12 public schools. Prerequisites: URP:6205 or PBAF:6205. Same as PBAF:6233.

URP:6235 Geodatabases and GIS 1 s.h.
Geodatabase implementation in the management of large GIS data sets. Prerequisites: URP:6225.

URP:6240 Public Management 3 s.h.
Public management in a democratic society; balancing of administrative and democratic values and interests; examination of institutional, political, organizational, and ethical context of public management and policy making; students acquire important management, leadership, and decision making skills, as well as reflect on their values and behaviors with regard to administration and public service, particularly in a diverse and changing society; service in public sector contrasted with service in private and nonprofit sectors. Same as PBAF:6240.

URP:6242 Planning and City Administration 1 s.h.
Relationship of planners and other local government personnel; how planning fits into city management; city management view of local political process, provision of city services, finance and budgeting, human resources, intergovernmental relations, how meetings are run, dealing with the public.

URP:6243 The Land Development Process 3 s.h.
How land is developed; analysis of site suitability, preparation of subdivision plan, site plan review, development approval process, infrastructure and site preparation, negotiating local development politics; field trips. Prerequisites: URP:6202.

URP:6245 Growth Management 3 s.h.
Causes and consequences of urban sprawl, shortfalls in conventional land use planning; local and state growth management policies, techniques of policy implementation, positive and negative impacts of such policies; Smart Growth; emerging challenges. Prerequisites: URP:6202. Same as PBAF:6245.

URP:6249 Sustainability Seminar 1 s.h.
Focus of increasing interest for planning students and practicing planners; involves environmental effects, economy, social justice; discussion and investigation of sustainability practice applied to local and regional efforts of public and private entities; greater awareness and understanding of the effectiveness and resource requirements of local activities addressing sustainability; presentations by the instructor, local tours, guest lectures.

URP:6253 Designing Sustainable and Healthy Cities 1-3 s.h.
Principles and practical elements of urban design for sustainable and healthy cities; general urban design background for policy makers and planners; impacts of urban design for environmental sustainability and for community health and well-being; physical, mental, social, and environmental health as they are affected by urban form, air and water quality, green spaces and climate change impacts. Same as PBAF:6253.
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<td>URP:6268</td>
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Some courses require prerequisites, such as URP:6205, and there are options for thesis and independent study.
**URP:6330 Developing Graphic Content** 1 s.h.  
Skills necessary to develop graphic content utilized by professionals in the field of urban and regional planning; students learn to use programs such as SketchUp, LayOut, Google Earth, and Lumion; produce maps, diagrams, experiential perspectives, renderings, and other visuals; and convey a variety of ideas pertaining to the urban environment.

**URP:6335 Internship** 2 s.h.  
Work in a planning or related agency or nonprofit organization.

**URP:6340 Public Policy Analysis** 3 s.h.  
Rationales and goals of public policy; major steps, key methods, and tools in policy analysis; professional delivery of policy recommendations. Same as PBAF:6340.

**URP:6400 Sustainable Development: The Kerala Experience** 3 s.h.  
Exploration of student interests in social entrepreneurship, global health, microfinance, cultural production, environmental sustainability, or other development issues in India; varied disciplinary perspectives (i.e., public health, business, social work, geography, art); student work with Indian NGOs employing a diverse variety of techniques to address social problems such as child labor, health care for the poor, illiteracy, and disability services. Winter session. Same as PBAF:6400.