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“A CITY’S ENVIRONMENT IS SHAPED NOT ONLY BY PEOPLE WHO HAVE AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE, BUT BY EVERYONE WHO LIVES OR WORKS THERE.”

ROBERT COWAN
Mission: Using Silicon Valley as a living lab, the Master of Urban Planning (MUP) Program at San José State University prepares diverse planning leaders who affect transformative change and create just, sustainable, and vibrant communities.

- The department was established in 1970.
- Strong foundation on general knowledge and skills, while providing specialized training in a planning sub-field.
- Balance of practice and theory.
- Special focus on community-based training and applications; partnership with local planning agencies and neighborhood groups.
- Special emphasis on accommodating working professionals who attend on a part-time basis (~2/3 attend part-time).
PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

CORE CLASSES (26 UNITS)

- URBP 200 (seminar)
- URBP 204 (quantitative methods)
- URBP 225 (land use planning and law)
- URBP 236 (policy analysis)
- URBP 241 (planning sustainable cities)
- URBP 275G (geographic information systems overview)
- URBP 295 (capstone studio: community planning)
- URBP 297P (planning report – preliminary proposal)

ELECTIVES (16 UNITS)

Sample electives:

- URBP 278: Introduction to GIS for Urban Planning
- URBP 223: Housing Economics and Policy
- URBP 226: Regional Transportation Planning
- URBP 231: Urban Design in Planning
- URBP 232: Urban Design Studio

See Grad advisor for approval to take electives in other SJSU departments.

PLANNING REPORT (6 UNITS)

You take these during final three semesters:

- URBP 297P
- URBP 298A
- URBP 298B

NOTE: Students must pass 297P before enrolling in 298A. Students must also pass the Writing Skills Test, and complete URBP 200 or URBP 225 before enrolling in 298A.

Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) course/certificate program:

If you are interested in taking one or more Master of Science in Transportation Management (MSTM) classes as part of your MUP course requirements, you will need to check with the URBP Grad Advisor for permission.

For help registering for the classes, which will require some extra administrative steps, contact the MSTM Educational Program Assistant, Viviann Ferrea (viviann.ferea@sjsu.edu; 408-924-7570).

If you have questions about the content of the MSTM classes and whether they would be appropriate given your career goals, you can contact URBP Professor Asha W. Agrawal, who is also the MSTM Program Director (asha.weinstein.agrawal@sjsu.edu).

For more information on the MSTM program visit:
http://transweb.sjsu.edu/MTIportal/education/MSTM/index.html
WRITING SKILLS TEST (WST)

The department requires students to take the WST before they begin the MUP program or during their first semester. Students must submit WST score reports to the urban planning department office during their first semester in the program. Proof of passage of the WST is required to enroll in URPB 236, URPB 298A, and for graduation.

This WST requirement is waived only for students who have completed a bachelors or masters degree from a California State University campus.

The WST is administered at the SJSU campus. For information on registration and test dates, visit the Testing and Evaluation office website at testing.sjsu.edu or call (408) 924-5980.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Students must have at least 180 hours of professional work experience in urban and regional planning or a closely related field, prior to graduation. Students fulfill the requirement with an internship or professional employment during their time in the program. See the Graduate Advisor to discuss possible waivers for past professional work experience.

MUP alumna Dana Huang at the CSU East Bay Grad School Fair to talk to other students about our MUP program.
THE URBAN PLANNING COALITION

The Urban Planning Coalition (UPC) is a student-run campus organization that aims to enrich the academic experience for all students interested in urban and regional planning by facilitating the exchange of ideas and thoughtful discussions, building professional networks, and advising students of the opportunities in the field of urban planning.

If you would like to get involved with UPC, please email admin@theupc.org or join our Facebook group. Monthly board meetings are open to all students.

UPC plans and participates in several events throughout the school year, including an annual Spring Symposium focused on a current urban planning topic, workshops, fundraisers, and social and professional networking events.

UPC is a Planning Student Organization (PSO) affiliated with the American Planning Association, and the recipient of the 2015 National Outstanding PSO Award for the Fall 2014 symposium, "Boomers and Millennials: Planning for Changing Demographics in the Bay Area."
WHAT IS MURPS?

This is an e-group that was formed in 2000 by students in the MUP program at San Jose State University (SJSU). You will find announcements about jobs and internships, in addition to educational and networking events of interest to Bay Area planners.

It is a centralized location for information exchange among SJSU students, faculty, alumni, and anyone else interested in planning in the Bay Area.

*Note that this e-group is not officially sponsored by the Urban and Regional Planning Program at SJSU, and the department does not in any way endorse the messages posted.*

HOW TO JOIN?

Visit: groups.yahoo.com/group/SJSU_MURPs

"CITIES HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF PROVIDING SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY, ONLY BECAUSE, AND ONLY WHEN, THEY ARE CREATED BY EVERYBODY."

JANE JACOBS
# Course Pathway Options

**Recommended Pathways through MUP Course Requirements**

*Note: Courses are 4 units unless otherwise noted. Feel free to visit the Graduate Advisor to discuss course selection options.*

## Two-Year Program, Entering Fall

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1, Fall</th>
<th>Year 1, Spring</th>
<th>Year 2, Fall</th>
<th>Year 2, Spring</th>
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<tr>
<td>204</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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# COURSE PATHWAY OPTIONS

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## FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM, ENTERING FALL

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<th>YEAR 1, SPRING</th>
<th>YEAR 2, FALL</th>
<th>YEAR 2, SPRING</th>
<th>YEAR 3, FALL</th>
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1. Sign into MySJSU at http://my.sjsu.edu/
2. Once you have signed in, find the Academics section below View my Messages. On the left side of your Fall 2017 Schedule, there is a drop down menu where you can select MyProgress, as shown below.
3. Once you are on the MyProgress page, scroll to the next box titled General Information and click the option to: Expand All. After you have selected Expand All you will see all the courses you have taken (green check mark) or will need to take (red box).

4. It is in your best interest to review your MyProgress page at the start and end of each semester, to ensure that you are on track to graduate. All of the information can be printed as well; look for Print Report above the Current Academic Summary, as shown below.
AREAS OF FOCUS AND ADVANCED CERTIFICATES

Areas of focus are a recommended series of elective courses in planning subfields. Focus areas do not appear on student transcripts.

Advanced certificates are available to formalize a student's work in one or more focus areas.

We offer six focus areas and certificates:

- Affordable Housing and Community Development Finance
- Applications of Technology in Planning
- Community Design and Development
- Environmental Planning
- Real Estate Development
- Transportation and Land Use Planning

To learn about each certificate visit:
www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning/programs/certificateprogram/index.html

NOTE: No one course (e.g., URBP 225) can count towards earning more than one certificate. See Graduate Advisor to discuss course substitutions.

Be sure to download an Advanced Certificate Audit Form from the GAPE website and submit it to the Graduate Advisor when you complete all courses needed to earn a certificate. You do not need to wait for graduation to do this.

"ONE OF THE WONDERFUL TRAITS OF CITIES: HOW THEIR DIVERSITY AND VITALITY CAN SATISFY THE NEEDS AND DESIRES OF MANY DIFFERENT PEOPLE."

PETER NUNNS
GRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND PROGRAM EVALUATIONS (GAPE)

GAPE is a university department and an important resource because this is where you will find most of the forms you will need during the MUP Program. For instance, if you are pursuing a certificate, remember to complete an Advanced Certificate Audit form.

Visit this link: http://www.sjsu.edu/gape/forms.

List of forms from GAPE:

- Change of Classification in Master's Program
- Application for a Change of Graduate Major
- Master's Level Double Degree Application
- Request for Validation of Transfer Credit
- Petition for Advancement to Graduate Candidacy
- Request for Course Substitution in Master's Degree Program
- Request for Re-validation of Course that has Exceeded the Seven-Year Time Limit
- Guide for Interdisciplinary Studies
- Online Graduation Date Change Request
- Online Duplicate Diploma Request
- Graduate Petition for Excess Units
- Graduate Petition for Course Drop/Semester Withdrawal
- Healthcare Provider Verification of Medical Condition Form
- Graduate Petition for Extension of Time Limit for Removal of Incomplete Grade
- Graduate Petition for Extension of Time Limit for Removal of Report-in-Progress Grade
- Graduate Reinstatement Petition
- Verification of Culminating Experience
- Advanced Certificate Audit
TIPS FOR SUCCESS IN THE MASTERS PROGRAM

Quotes from MUP graduate students and faculty:

"All of the faculty are really nice and are here to help you, so take advantage of visiting them during their office hours! They are more than happy to provide you with guidance and letters of recommendation."

"You are here because you are determined to be a planner, you want to serve the community you live/work/play in. So be persistent until you reach this goal, grow dynamically and be opportunistic during this course of action because your success will be your community’s success."

"Attend planning events on campus and off campus to better understand course material."

"Keep a calendar with important deadlines such as assignment due dates, class meeting times, and team meetings."

"Consider joining or building a study group that meets weekly to review course material."

"Give research a shot! You may have started a project in a class that called to you. Or perhaps there is an issue or question you would like to explore more fully. URBP 280 offers the perfect environment for exploring ideas."

"Speak up in class. Undergraduate education is often about absorbing information. However, in graduate school, you are a generator of knowledge!"

"I found it to be extremely beneficial to make connections with fellow classmates. There are often times when views can be exchanged with one another in order to develop better ideas."

"Reputations you form here in the MUP program will stick with you long after you graduate. Cultivate a reputation of professionalism, helpfulness, accuracy, and good humor."
Mission of the Planning Accreditation Board:
The Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) ensures high quality education for future urban planners.

Why is Accreditation Important?
Although graduating from an accredited program does not guarantee jobs or licensure for individuals, it may facilitate such achievement. It reflects the quality by which a program conducts its business. It speaks to a sense of public trust, as well as professional quality.

Accreditation provides prospective and current students the assurance that the program is engaged in continuous review and improvement of its quality, that it meets nationally endorsed standards for the profession, and that it is accountable for achieving what it sets out to do.

Core Values
The PAB embraces the following five core values:

- **Stewardship**: preserving and enhancing the knowledge base of the urban planning profession with which the Board has been entrusted.
- **Collaboration**: building and sustaining a bridge between the academic and practitioner communities.
- **Communication**: fostering awareness of urban planning education and its environment.
- **Integrity**: maintaining a commitment to fairness, transparency, and consistency.
- **Leadership**: maintaining currency with regard to state-of-the-art accreditation practice and instructional innovation.

Functions
In order to accomplish its mission, the PAB:

- **Accredits** graduate and undergraduate planning programs in North America.
- **Mentors** programs to further academic excellence in professional education.
- **Collects** and provides data on the state of planning education (student profiles, performance, placement, effectiveness, etc.).
- **Strengthens** professional education in partnership with its sponsors: the ACSP (Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning), the AICP (American Institute of Certified Planners), and APA (the American Planning Association).

For more information visit: [www.planningaccreditationboard.org/](http://www.planningaccreditationboard.org/)
ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

MUP HONORS 298 REPORTS:
> www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning/courses/URBP298/Sample298urbanplanningreports/

WEBSITES:
> www.planetizen.com
  • A great resource for planning-related news, jobs, and online courses.
> www.spur.org
  • A nonprofit research organization that seeks to bring planners together in the San Francisco Bay Area.
> www.planning.org/join/students
  • An organization dedicated to bringing professional planners together at annual conferences and providing educational resources for members. APA membership is now free for any student actively enrolled or matriculated in any university or college degree program. It remains free for the duration of an individual's studies.

BLOGS AND PODCASTS:
> www.urbanophile.com
  • Aaron Renn from the Manhattan Institute for Policy Research discusses various planning related news along with political interviews with key leaders in the urban planning field.
> www.strongtowns.org/podcast
  • The Strong Towns Podcast advocates for bottom-up and inclusive planning approaches for solving urban problems.
> usa.streetsblog.org/category/special-features/podcast
  • StreetsBlog is a podcast and blog that focuses on the topics of transit, bike/pedestrian, and smart growth.
> 99percentinvisible.org/episodes
  • This podcast focuses on architecture and urban design. Select the following filter options: Cities, Infrastructure, Architecture

SOCIAL MEDIA:
> www.facebook.com/sjsuurbanplanning/
> www.facebook.com/SJSUCoSS/

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT:
> Phone: (408) 924-5882
> Email: urbplan@sjsu.edu
> Website: www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning

"PLANNING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW MEANS ENGAGING IN REAL COMMUNITIES TODAY."

GREG GRIFFIN