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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
PROGRAM HISTORY

• 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; partnerships with local planning agencies and neighborhood groups
• Special emphasis on accommodating working professionals who attend on a part-time basis (approx. two-thirds attend part-time)

SJSU MUP Graduation, May 2017
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 in 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 Graduate advisor for approval to take electives in other SJSU departments.

PLANNING REPORT (6 UNITS)

Taken in the final 3 semesters:
- URBP 297P (listed in core classes section)
- URBP 298A (3 units)
- URBP298B (3 units)

NOTE: Before enrolling in 298A, students must (1) pass 297P (2) pass 200 or 225 and (3) pass the Writing Skills Test

Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) course/certificate program:
If you are interested in taking Master of Science in Transportation Management (MSTM) classes as part of your MUP course requirements, you will need to check with the URBP Graduate Advisor for permission. For help with registering, (since this requires extra administrative steps), contact the MSTM Education Program Assistant, Viviann Ferea (viviann.ferea@sjsu.edu)

If you have questions about the MSTM classes and if they would be appropriate for you career goals, you can contact URBP Professor Asha W. Agrawal (asha.weinstein.agrawal@sjsu.edu). For more information visit: transweb.sjsu.edu/MTIportal/education/MSTM/index.html

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

MUP HONORS 298 REPORTS:
- www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning/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 with political interviews 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 – A podcast that focuses on the topics of transit, bike/pedestrian, and smart growth
- 99percentinvisible.org/episodes – Podcast focuses on architecture and urban design

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
THE PLANNING ACCREDITATION BOARD

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 the knowledge of urban planning
- Collaboration: building and sustaining a bridge between the academic and practitioner communities
- Communication: fostering awareness of urban planning education
- Integrity: maintaining a commitment to fairness and consistency
- Leadership: maintaining currency with regard to 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
- Strengthens professional education in partnership with its sponsors: the ACSP, the AICP, and APA

For more information visit: www.planningaccreditationboard.org/

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

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. Proof of passage of the WST is required to enroll in URBP 236 and 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 office website at testing.sjsu.edu or call (408) 924-5980.

MUP alumna Dana Huang at the CSU East Bay Grad School Fair

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE
Students must have at least 180 hours of professional work experience in urban and regional planning (or closely related experience) before graduation.
Students fulfill this with an internship or employment during the program. See the Graduate Advisor to discuss possible waivers for past professional experience.
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. They accomplish this 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 the UPC, please email admin@theupc.org or join our Facebook group. Monthly board meetings are open to all students.

The 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.

The 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.”

FINANCIAL SUPPORT RESOURCES

FAFSA
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is a form that can be prepared annually by current and prospective college students, both undergraduate and graduate, in the United States to determine their eligibility for student financial aid.

CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT (AB540)
This application allows students who are exempt from paying nonresident tuition under AB540 (and who are ineligible for federal financial aid) to receive scholarships. For more information about applying visit: www.sjsu.edu/faso/Types_AID/californiadreamactof2011/

FEDERAL WORK-STUDY
The Federal Work-Study Program (FWS) allows SJSU students to gain valuable work experience while earning money to help pay for college. A focus is placed on providing jobs, both on and off campus. The minimum work study award is $5,000. For more information about work-study and your eligibility for jobs visit: www.sjsu.edu/faso/Types_AID/workstudy/

GRANTS AND LOANS
There are many grants and loans awarded to SJSU students. For more information on both state and federal grants visit: www.sjsu.edu/faso/Types_AID/Grant/
For more information on loans you can receive visit: www.sjsu.edu/faso/Types_AID/Loans/

MIDDLE CLASS SCHOLARSHIP (MCS)
The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) will notify students if selected to receive a MCS based on the eligibility requirements. For more details visit: www.sjsu.edu/faso/Types_AID/mcs/.
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!”

“You are here because you are determined to be a planner, and 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’s an issue or question that you would like to explore more fully. URBP 280 (an independent study course) 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!”

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). Using MURPs, 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 and click Join Group (see below)

“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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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](http://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.

You must complete the Audit Forum for your certificate to be listed on your SJSU transcripts.


**PETER NUNNS**

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### COURSE PATHWAY OPTIONS

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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 Spring 2018 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.