

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MASTER OF URBAN PLANNING DEGREE (FOR STUDENTS ENTERING THE PROGRAM IN SPRING 2009)

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

The program leading to the degree of Master of Urban Planning (MUP) consists of 48 semester units of coursework, normally requiring the equivalent of two years full-time graduate study to complete. In addition, students without prior planning experience complete a professional work experience requirement.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Core Seminars and Laboratory/Fieldwork Courses

Students take a series of eight required courses that, collectively, provide a comprehensive background in the theories, methods, and practices underpinning contemporary planning practice. These required classes are URBP 200, 201 (6 units), 204A, 204B, 213, 225, 229, and 236.

Course descriptions and syllabi can be found at <http://www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning/courses/>.

Planning Report or Thesis

Students enroll in URBP 298A and 298B (or 6 units of URBP 299) during the last two semesters of study. In these classes, students prepare a major planning report that represents an independent contribution to the field.

Electives

Students select a total of five elective courses in conference with their advisor. At least four of these courses must be taken from the list of courses offered by the department (see the catalogue), and students are strongly encouraged to take these all from within a single specialization (see reverse). The fifth elective may be chosen from graduate and upper division undergraduate courses within the department or elsewhere, if approved by the Graduate Advisor.

WRITING SKILLS TEST (WST) REQUIREMENT

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. Students who fail the WST must take corrective action immediately to prepare to take the test again.

Proof of *passage* of the WST is required to enroll in URBP 236, URBP 298A, and URBP 299, 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 <https://testing.sjsu.edu/> or call (408) 924-5980.

PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

To graduate, students must have at least 180 hours of professional work experience in urban and regional planning or a closely related field. Students fulfill the requirement with an internship or professional employment during their time in the program. (If the student has completed such work on a paid or voluntary basis within five years of entering the program, then additional professional experience is recommended but not required.)

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

COMMUNITY DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

This specialization provides students with knowledge and skills that planners use to enhance the quality of the physical environment and ensure that development in our communities addresses the needs of all residents. This area examines the interactions among social, economic, political, and cultural factors and the built environment. Elective courses in this concentration are:

URBP 203	Collaborative Neighborhood Planning
URBP 223A	Housing I
URBP 228	Urban Community Development
URBP 231	Urban Design in Planning
URBP 232	Urban Design Studio
URBP 233	Social Issues in Planning
URBP 250	Urban Planning Public Finance
URBP 275	Urban Planning Topics: Facilitation and Conflict Resolution
URBP 275D	Seminar in Real Estate and Urban Planning
URBP 275E	Historic Preservation Planning

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND LAND USE

The linkage between the built environment and the natural environment is a subject of growing concern to planners at the local, regional, and national levels. This concentration prepares graduates to understand the linkages between land use patterns and the natural environment, as well as the policy tools that planners use to promote sustainable urban development. Elective courses in this concentration are:

URBP 185	Environmental Impact Analysis
URBP 211	Regional Analysis and Planning
URBP 240	Environmental Planning
URBP 255	Urban Growth Management
URBP 256	Local Transportation Planning
URBP 260	Environmental Planning Topics
URBP 275	Urban Planning Topics: Facilitation and Conflict Resolution
URBP 278	Geographic Information Systems Planning Applications

TRANSPORTATION AND LAND USE PLANNING

Students in this program learn the principles of transportation and land-use planning at the local and regional levels. In today's rapidly growing regions, planners recognize that transportation and land use planning are intricately connected and must be planned together to allow residents and freight carriers to access destinations quickly and efficiently, improve accessibility options for residents who cannot or choose not to drive, and build economically and environmentally sustainable communities. Elective courses in this concentration are:

URBP 211	Regional Analysis and Planning
URBP 226	Regional Transportation Planning
URBP 255	Urban Growth Management
URBP 256	Local Transportation Planning
URBP 275	Urban Planning Topics: Facilitation and Conflict Resolution
URBP 278	Geographic Information Systems Planning Applications

APPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY IN PLANNING

This specialization enables students to develop knowledge and skills for using computer technology in the planning process. Classes and studies draw on the rich agglomeration of technical applications and skills available in the Silicon Valley region. Elective courses in this concentration are:

URBP 248	Computers in Urban Design
URBP 278	Geographic Information Systems Planning Applications
URBP 279	Advanced GIS Planning Applications
GEOG 170	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
GEOG 172	Cartography: Compilation and Presentation
GEOG 175	Geog Info Systems Project Development