

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING (URB R PL)

URB R PL 215 – WELCOME TO YOUR URBAN FUTURE

3 credits.

We live in an increasingly urban world and anticipate that 70% of the world's population will live in urban areas by 2050. For many of us, our shared future experience will be urban and interconnected. How can we make the future of urban areas as bright as possible for everyone? The answer begins with us. Building equitable and sustainable urban futures for everyone will require the efforts of a diverse group of people from many disciplines, backgrounds, and ways of thinking. Guest presenters introduce different disciplines and perspectives through major themes related to the planning and design of urban systems and environments. Imagine and develop your plan to effect positive change in an urban area focused on relevant topics like community food systems, water conservation, multimodal and active transportation, affordable housing, and urban nature.

Requisites: None

Course Designation: Breadth - Humanities

Level - Elementary

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Recognize and articulate the challenges facing the future of urban systems from academic and practitioner points of view.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Integrate different disciplinary perspectives and relate them to solving problems in cities.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Explain the social, economic, and/or environmental dimensions of the sustainability challenge(s) of future cities.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Identify opportunities and appreciate careers that are relevant for innovating in cities domestically and globally.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Analyze sustainability issues and/or practices using a systems-based approach (e.g., urban metabolism).

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Understand the interactions between diverse groups living together in cities, and analyze the tensions and possibilities.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Translate course concepts into opportunities for leadership and action from the private, non-profit, and public sectors within cities, especially as it relates to being an urban leader grounded in equity and social justice.

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Frame complex public issues concisely in writing to city leaders about the issues.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL/GEOG 305 – INTRODUCTION TO THE CITY

3-4 credits.

Investigates urbanization as a general process, as well as the resulting contemporary physical, social, cultural and political- economic forms of cities. Emphasis will be placed on the history and current forms of spatial and social segregation of cities by race, class, ethnicity, and gender. The myriad ways that cities have addressed the tensions emerging from this history of spatial and social segregation will be highlighted. Further, emphasis will be placed on understanding the experiences of those most-affected by historical and continuing segregation.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Ethnic St - Counts toward Ethnic Studies requirement

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify the largest factors influencing where, when, and how cities develop.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain historical and contemporary patterns of social inclusion and exclusion in cities and identify and explain their underlying causes and effects.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply lessons of the past to the puzzles of today's cities.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Recognize and question assumptions about current city form, including racial segregation.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Recognize and question assumptions about the experience of contemporary urban dwellers, particularly as these are shaped by race, class, and gender.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Develop a consciousness of self and others.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Participate effectively in a multicultural society by embracing your role as a citizen of Madison; valuing the positive aspects of American urban culture, including diversity in its many forms; and understanding cities as primarily social entities and problems of organized complexity.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL/A A E/ECON/REAL EST 306 – THE REAL ESTATE PROCESS

3 credits.

Introductory overview focused on the key aspects of the real estate process: developing real estate, permitting real estate, buying and selling real estate, understanding the economics of real estate, financing real estate, valuing real estate, leasing real estate, and managing real estate.

Requisites: (ECON 101, 111, A A E 101, or 215 prior to Fall 2024) or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science
Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Develop a working knowledge of the real estate process, including the roles of the various key real estate professionals and the unique challenges associated with the real estate asset class.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages of the primary commercial real estate property types.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Discuss the role of debt and equity in a real estate transaction as well as the fundamental terms, conditions, and requirements of commercial real estate financing.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Navigate the basic regulatory framework governing the real estate process, including land use planning, zoning and the required project approvals.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Describe the role of leasing in the commercial real estate transaction, including the critical terms and conditions of commercial leases.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL/JOURN/POLI SCI 373 – INTRODUCTION TO SURVEY RESEARCH

3-4 credits.

Theory and practice of survey research; questionnaire design, sampling, data visualization, statistical analysis.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science
Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Formulate and construct logical arguments about political phenomena and evaluate those arguments using survey research
Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the theoretical components of survey research

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Interpret survey results in general with a particular focus on political polling

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Design and assess political surveys, including questionnaire design, question wording, survey mode, sample size, nonresponse, survey experiments, standard error, and margin of error

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Demonstrate statistical analysis skills in the context of political surveys including: hypothesis testing, confidence intervals, difference of means tests, data visualization and linear regression

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Recognize ethical issues in survey research

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Assess the state of a body of scholarly literature related to course themes, identify gaps in that literature, and formulate an original research question in the context of those gaps.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 375 – SPECIAL TOPICS

1-3 credits.

Exploration of special issues or problems in urban planning.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Learning Outcomes: 1. Demonstrate critical thinking and the ability to explore ideas and synthesize information, both independently and in collaboration with interdisciplinary team members.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Understand, apply and evaluate the principles, theories and research findings underlying urban planning.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Integrate social, cultural, ecological and technological dimensions in solving design and urban planning problems.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL 411 – MARKETPLACES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

3 credits.

The history, practices, processes, and prospects of marketplaces generally and farmers markets in particular. Includes the history, practices, and processes, of entrepreneurship and the tight fit between markets and entrepreneurship. Explores marketplaces and entrepreneurship in through the lens of economic development, food justice, and political regionalism.

Requisites: Sophomore standing

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B

Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Apply concepts of social scientific analysis

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Understand the history of marketplaces, and more recently, of farmers markets, how they developed

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Evaluate their relationship to trends in economic development, food justice, and political regionalism

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Distinguish and judge the various legal and social practices and processes that unfold in establishing markets and market entrepreneurs/farmers, as well as distinguishing descriptive from normative concerns

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Describe how markets relate to bioregionalism, places, and place making

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Understand and apply basic knowledge of entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, and community economic development, as well as how these embody normative concerns and bioregional/placemaking interests

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Apply knowledge from the course in executing research on markets and vendors in order to contribute to an existing market in Wisconsin or elsewhere

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL/ECON/REAL EST 420 – URBAN AND REGIONAL ECONOMICS

3 credits.

Focuses on the study of the allocation of scarce resources across space. Uses economic methods to analyze urban real estate. Topics covered include the determinants of real estate values, the location decisions of households and firms, land use, urban growth and agglomeration, real estate pricing, cycles, development, housing market and policies, and sustainable development.

Requisites: (ECON 101 or 111) or declared in undergraduate Business Exchange program

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the economic forces that drive urban growth and regional development.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Analyze how business and residential location decisions are made and how these decisions impact housing prices, land use, labor market, and many other aspects of cities.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Apply the spatial equilibrium concepts to urban development and real estate analysis.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Develop statistical models to assess residential and commercial real estate and perform sensible business and policy analysis.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Apply the economic decision-making framework to real estate development decisions.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Demonstrate understanding of cycles, risks and bubbles in residential and commercial real estate markets.

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Evaluate the challenges in economic, social and environmental sustainability in urban development around the world.

Audience: Undergraduate

8. Apply urban and regional economics to real estate business decisions and policy analysis.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL/ECON/ENVIR ST/POLI SCI 449 – GOVERNMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

3-4 credits.

Problems of public policy and administration for development and use of natural resources.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2025

URB R PL/LAND ARC 463 – EVOLUTION OF AMERICAN PLANNING

3 credits.

The nature and cultural significance of contemporary methods for the systematic formulation of public policies for community, metropolitan, and state development through comprehensive planning. Historic roots, recent trends and new directions in American planning concepts, institutions and professional specializations.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Evaluate urban form and design using ideas from planning history and contemporary practice.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Explain the legal, institutional, economic, political or moral justifications for planning.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Analyze planning as a collective enterprise in relation to individual freedom, politics, autonomy, and private property.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Explain the concept of the public interest in relation to planning.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Describe the role of urban planners and the tensions planners face as professionals.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. Evaluate the relevant scales for urban planning, e.g., Individual parcels? Neighborhoods? Communities? Municipalities? Counties? States? Regions? Nations? Watersheds?

Audience: Undergraduate

7. Explain suburbs and the process of suburbanization. Describe the role of race and racism in shaping cities and metropolitan regions.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL/GEOG 503 – RESEARCHING THE CITY: QUALITATIVE STRATEGIES

3 credits.

Explores, and applies, qualitative methods in the field of urban geography. An introduction to debates around the analysis and interpretation of qualitative data is provided, grounded in concrete urban research. Participation in a three-day field course is required.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2020**URB R PL/GEOG 505 – URBAN SPATIAL PATTERNS AND THEORIES**

3 credits.

Various urban empirical regularities and theories which explain them.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025**URB R PL 512 – GENTRIFICATION AND URBAN RESTRUCTURING**

3 credits.

An intensive analysis of the process of gentrification through its historical and spatial development within moments of post-fordist urban restructuring in the United States. Highlights urban theory and methodological questions important to the study of gentrification that are relevant to the fields of urban planning, geography and sociology. Case study investigation of particular locations will provide examples to test the applicability of the various analytical frameworks presented in the class.

Requisites: Junior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand the development of gentrification from its origin as an urban anomaly in the eastern seaboard and rustbelt region during a period of "crisis-generated restructuring" to a "global urban strategy" of urban development.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Analyze the complicated urban processes behind gentrification and the forces and actors that work to create them.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Evaluate important concepts in urban planning theory through questions regarding development and the negative consequences associated with the process of gentrification.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Understand the role of urban planning in the gentrification process and the forms of resistance/mediation communities have used to challenge gentrification.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Apply and strengthen research skills through written, oral, and graphic communication with written reflections, formal essays, and in-class engagement around the material as well as a final project that asks students to operationalize the concept of gentrification.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Apply urban theory to an original research project on gentrification for the final project.

Audience: Graduate

7. Analyze the primary theoretical approaches to gentrification and urban restructuring through particular and additional focus on relevant theory-based scholarly articles.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/A A E/REAL EST 520 – COMMUNITY ECONOMIC ANALYSIS

3 credits.

Economic theory (location and growth) applicable to community economic development; the role of private and public sector in local economic development, and techniques for economic analysis of community.

Requisites: ECON 301 or 311 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Synthesize an overview of economic theory as applied to small open economies.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the community's economy.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Implement alternative processes for affecting change at the community level.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Demonstrate literacy of economic factors affecting change at the local level.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Describe the community within a sustainable systems thinking approach.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Identify appropriate roles for community economic development practitioners in a variety of community settings.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/ENVIR ST/GEOG/LAND ARC 532 – APPLICATIONS OF GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN PLANNING

3 credits.

Explores planning-related Geographic Information System (GIS) data, applications, analytical tools, and implementation issues.

Requisites: GEOG/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 377 or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify how planning agencies use GIS.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Explain the nature, characteristics, and possible ways of analyzing spatial data in a planning context.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Communicate geospatial data and analyses effectively.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Obtain and analyze geospatial data using a range of spatial analysis tools for a number of planning practices.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Conduct site-selection and land-suitability analysis.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Identify ethical issues surrounding access to and use of geospatial data.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Analyze and provide written feedback on undergraduate student presentations.

Audience: Graduate

8. Produce a memo on land-suitability analysis.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 550 – TRANSPORTATION AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

3 credits.

Investigation of multi-modal transportation, travel behavior, and urban form. Attention to site, neighborhood, regional, and global scales. Consideration of public health, environmental, economic, and social equity outcomes.

Requisites: Senior standing**Course Designation:** Breadth – Social Science

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand major debates, issues, and theories in transportation, land use, urban design, and travel behavior at the site, neighborhood, regional, and global scales.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Develop and apply strategies for collecting and analyzing data representing built environment and transportation issues such as travel behavior.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Appreciate the roles of officials, stakeholders, and community members in making decisions about transportation and built environments.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Appreciate economic, social, cultural, technological, and environmental factors in urban and regional growth and change.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Develop one's professional identity by envisioning a future self (and possibly make plans that build on the course experience), evaluating one's own learning, and assessing one's own strengths and weaknesses.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 551 – CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING: SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION

3 credits.

Learn fundamental concepts of climate action planning and sustainable transportation through hands-on collaborations with the University of Wisconsin-Madison Office of Sustainability, Transportation Services, and other partners. Work with real world data to analyze policies, programs, and plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from travel, as well as the potential health and well-being co-benefits of sustainable transportation interventions. Analyze further reduction of the campus and community carbon footprints through practice-oriented green fleet management, behavior-based tools to support participation in active travel, modifications to the built environment, and other interventions.

Requisites: Senior standing**Course Designation:** Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No**Last Taught:** Spring 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Locate specific climate governance relationships and actors as they relate to sustainable transportation (i.e., climate action in higher ed nested within intergovernmental context)

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Employ the mechanics of climate action plans and processes in the context of sustainable transportation

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explain policy and planning issues in sustainable transportation broadly and with a focus on fuels, vehicles, and vmt-reduction

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Relate travel behavior and its application to climate change mitigation;

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Create a GHG emissions analysis/assessment using relevant methods and applied to sustainable campus transportation in its community context

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Explain the social, economic, and/or environmental dimensions of the sustainability challenge(s) of urban transportation systems.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Apply sustainability principles and/or frameworks to addressing the challenge of climate change mitigation in the transportation sector.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

8. Expand one's professional self-awareness through group leadership, facilitation, and cooperation

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/A A E/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 561 – ENERGY MARKETS

3 credits.

Energy resources are an essential element of the world's business, political, technical and environmental landscape. Analytic tools provided by the discipline of economics expands our understanding of this critical issue. Energy supply markets reviewed include both fossil fuels and renewable resources. Energy demand sectors include residential, commercial, industrial and transportation. Electricity represents an intermediate energy market. The interactions among these markets participants indicate how scarce resources are allocated among competing needs in the world economy.

Requisites: A A E 101 (215 prior to Fall 2024), ECON 101, 111, or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science
Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

URB R PL 590 – CONTEMPORARY TOPICS IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

1-3 credits.

Examination of special issues or problems in urban and regional planning and development, such as mineral development in Wisconsin or fringe development in Madison. Topic and faculty vary.

Requisites: Senior standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S
Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2024

URB R PL 595 – LANDSCAPE AND URBAN STUDIES CAPSTONE

3 credits.

Consider, synthesize, and culminate educational experiences. Engage with Landscape and Urban Studies (LUS) learning community and community of practice through thoughtful inquiry and reflection, respectful and collegial discussion, and communication of perspectives, findings, and recommendations through written work and class presentations. Develop critical thinking, creativity, and innovation for effective solutions to real-world challenges.

Requisites: Declared in Landscape and Urban Studies undergraduate program and senior standing

Course Designation: Gen Ed - Communication Part B
Breadth - Social Science
Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Synthesize knowledge from various disciplines to address complex design and planning challenges and opportunities.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Identify relevant, reliable, and high-quality research sources appropriate to the subject and discipline.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Make productive use of the writing process, including brainstorming, outlining, drafting, incorporating feedback, and revising, to develop a fledgling idea into a formal paper, presentation, and/or project.

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Share community-engaged research, course content, or creative activity in writing and at least one other mode of communication relevant to the discipline. Other modes of communication might include presentations using one or more media, debate, discussion, poster presentations, and other forms of expression that convey course content.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Use knowledge to build empathy and appreciation for the complexities of one's own and other people's perspectives.

Audience: Undergraduate

6. View issues from multiple perspectives and think critically about their own societies and the larger global community.

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL 597 – UNIVERCITY YEAR GUIDED EXPERIENCE

1 credit.

Orientation to the UniverCity Year program and underlying theory and applied knowledge around community engagement, the function of local governments, and working with local officials and professional staff. Gain core competencies for applied, community-based learning projects and the importance of place-based learning. Includes multidisciplinary approaches to problem-solving, access and use of information resources, reflection and action on ethical and professional issues, consideration of social and systemic roots of issues faced by local municipalities, and preparing written reports.

Requisites: Junior standing

Course Designation: Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2019

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand concepts of community-based learning and their application to community-based projects.

Audience: Undergraduate

2. Understand local government structure and opportunities for engagement in light of existing strategic plans, priorities, and initiatives.

Audience: Undergraduate

3. Observe and understand professional relationships with project clients and other community partners

Audience: Undergraduate

4. Understand the UniverCity Year program and how individual projects fit within a larger context of UW-Madison's civic engagement and community-based learning efforts.

Audience: Undergraduate

5. Understand the role of students as ambassadors of UW-Madison

Audience: Undergraduate

URB R PL 601 – SITE PLANNING

3 credits.

Survey of site planning theory and methods; standards for municipal review of site plans and related design proposals. Topics include architecture, vehicle circulation and parking, pedestrian circulation, stormwater management, landscaping, outdoor lighting, and signage.

Requisites: Senior standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Either Humanities or Social Science Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain land use regulations and site planning guidance embodied in local comprehensive plans, zoning codes, ordinances, and design review policies.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Assess design quality and evaluate potential site planning improvements.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Communicate site and contextual analyses, design reviews, and planning recommendations through reports and presentations.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Compare subjects covered by this course to those included in the American Institute for Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Exam.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 611 – URBAN DESIGN: THEORY AND PRACTICE

3 credits.

Focusing on three basic components of the built environment (buildings, transportation systems, and open spaces), addresses the forces that shape land use and transportation patterns, the effects of urban form on public health, safety, and welfare, and ways that communities can make their built environments more livable and environmentally sustainable.

Requisites: Senior standing

Course Designation: Level - Intermediate

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Outline the basic building blocks of design and the design process.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Articulate how design of the built environment affects public health, safety, and well-being

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Explore the history of the changes in design of the built environment and the current state of practice in the planning and design professions.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Analyze the built environment and assess the performance of design with a common lexicon of design terms

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Diagram, sketch, and deconstruct design case studies

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

6. Cultivate spatial awareness and critical "seeing" of space and design.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

7. Compare subjects covered by this course to those included in the American Institute for Certified Planners (AICP) Certification Exam.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/C&E SOC/SOC 617 – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

3 credits.

Social, cultural and personality factors influencing community development, with reference to developing countries as well as contemporary rural communities; consideration of theoretical and operational issues.

Requisites: SOC/C&E SOC 140, 210, 211, SOC 181, or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth - Social Science

Level - Advanced

L&S Credit - Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain how social science arguments related to community development are constructed and evaluated

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Assess data quality and whether particular data is appropriate to answer specific questions

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Define general theories on basic social processes, especially those related to the relationships between society and the environment and the social organization of communities

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Apply verbal and written communication skills to discuss complex issues in the social sciences

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Synthesize and evaluate scholarly social science literature related to community development

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/C&E SOC/SOC 645 – MODERN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

3 credits.

Relevance of the concept of community to American society. Review of several basic theories of community and analysis of the nature of community in the broader political and economic context.

Requisites: SOC/C&E SOC 140, 210, 211, SOC 181, or graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Breadth – Social Science

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2021

Learning Outcomes: 1. Critically analyze arguments and evidence in scholarly and public-facing materials concerning residential segregation and integration, housing access and choices, and the role of police and prisons within communities

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Formulate an empirical question concerning at least one of the three identified course themes and answer it drawing on course reading materials and data sources

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Communicate ideas and arguments about course themes rooted in theory and evidence through written and audio-visual mediums

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

4. Synthesize current research in an issue related to community or urban sociology and identify areas for novel research

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/A A E/ECON/ENVIR ST 671 – ENERGY ECONOMICS

3 credits.

The method, application, and limitations of traditional economic approaches to the study of energy problems. Topics include microeconomic foundations of energy demand and supply; optimal pricing and allocation of energy resources; energy market structure, conduct, and performance; macro linkages of energy and the economy; and the economics of regulatory and other public policy approaches to the social control of energy.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing or (senior standing and ECON 101, 111, A A E 101, or 215 prior to Fall 2024)

Course Designation: Breadth – Social Science

Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Grad 50% – Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2020

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand fundamentals of energy sources and technologies.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

2. Be familiar with microeconomic theory with applications to energy industries and markets.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

3. Build analytical skills in economic analysis and be able to apply the economic thinking to historical and contemporary energy-related issues.

Audience: Graduate

4. Analyze the causes of and solutions for the sustainability challenge of affordable and clean energy.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

5. Apply sustainability principles and/or frameworks to addressing the challenge of affordable and clean energy.

Audience: Both Grad & Undergrad

URB R PL 699 – DIRECTED STUDY

1-6 credits.

Independent study as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Level – Advanced

L&S Credit – Counts as Liberal Arts and Science credit in L&S

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

URB R PL 711 – PLANNING FOR FOOD SYSTEMS AND MARKETPLACES

3 credits.

Planning for and improving the quality of US metropolitan markets and food systems. Topics include public markets, community food security, urban agriculture, and the public health impact of food systems.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe and understand specific [planning] practice impacts with respect to the food system, over time and across space.

Audience: Graduate

2. Explain the purpose and meaning of food system activities/planning.

Audience: Graduate

3. Outline the behaviors and structures available to bring about sound food system outcomes.

Audience: Graduate

4. Describe the legal and organizational contexts of food systems.

Audience: Graduate

5. Assemble, analyze, and synthesize ideas and information from practice and scholarship, and from primary and secondary sources, related to food systems.

Audience: Graduate

6. Comprehend the importance of history and the connection between people and organization in the context of food systems.

Audience: Graduate

7. Describe the basic structures and activities of food system organizations.

Audience: Graduate

8. Prepare standard written and graphic communication modalities for use in documents and presentations.

Audience: Graduate

9. Apply knowledge of [planning] theory and interactionist theory in particular.

Audience: Graduate

10. Create and implement food system plans or activities, including their own approach to leadership, organizational analysis, and strategic behavior.

Audience: Graduate

11. Apply values and ethics used in professional planning and democratic society, incorporating issues of diversity and social justice through case examples.

Audience: Graduate

12. Evaluate ethical questions of public decision-making, research, and client representation, governance and participation, sustainability and environmental quality, and growth and development from the different roles of elected officials, stakeholders, and community members.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 717 – WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PRACTICUM PLANNING SEMINAR I

1 credit.

The first of two seminars for planning the activities of the practicum.

Requisites: Declared in Water Resources Management MS or Doctoral Minor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

URB R PL/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 718 – WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PRACTICUM PLANNING SEMINAR II

2 credits.

The second of two seminars for planning the field work, analysis, and reporting of the practicum.

Requisites: Declared in Water Resources Management MS or Doctoral Minor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

URB R PL/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 719 – WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT SUMMER PRACTICUM

4 credits.

Interdisciplinary team of students and staff working with agency personnel, citizen groups, and/or private sector representatives on the analysis of a contemporary, problem-oriented water resource issue. Physical, biological, economic and social aspects of the issue analyzed. Comprehensive written report results, practicum's findings and management recommendations.

Requisites: URB R PL/CIV ENGR/ENVIR ST 718

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Summer 2025

URB R PL/REAL EST 720 – URBAN ECONOMICS

3 credits.

Analysis of spatial relationships in the urban economy, including urban land, labor and housing markets; urban transport; city governance and finance; and regional models. Historical and applied focus. Interdisciplinary approach emphasizing economics, geography, and planning.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze how urban environmental issues impact real estate markets and development

Audience: Graduate

2. Apply an evidenced-based framework to analyze the different types and roles of cities

Audience: Graduate

3. Demonstrate effective oral and written communication skills in individual and group projects as a means to present course concepts and market analyses

Audience: Graduate

4. Understand the role of urban public policy, particularly land use controls, and evaluate its impact on real estate markets

Audience: Graduate

5. Explain the fundamental determinants of location across and within cities, as well as rents and prices of land and real estate

Audience: Graduate

6. Explain how real estate markets affect, and are affected by, national and regional economic events and processes.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/SOC WORK 721 – METHODS OF PLANNING ANALYSIS

3 credits.

Research methods and statistics used in analyzing planning problems: conceptualization, design, and implementation of planning research; statistical methods for analyzing data including review of inferential statistics, analysis of variance, correlation, and multiple regression; use of computer; review of sources of planning data.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Discuss equity, diversity, and social justice, focusing on planners' use of planning analysis and engagement to close disparities between advantaged and disadvantaged groups and to promote racial, gender, economic and other dimensions of equity.

Audience: Graduate

2. Explain the social, economic, public health, and environmental dimensions of the sustainability challenges of urban and regional development.

Audience: Graduate

3. Differentiate between quantitative and qualitative analysis in planning.

Audience: Graduate

4. Connect planning analysis to best practices for community-engagement in the co-production of planning knowledge.

Audience: Graduate

5. Carry out research and critical analysis, including the use of quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection, analysis, and forecasting.

Audience: Graduate

6. Connect planning ethics to public decision-making, research, and client representation (including the provisions of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conducts, and APA's Ethical Principles in Planning).

Audience: Graduate

7. Relate complex ideas through written, oral, and graphic communication.

Audience: Graduate

8. Reflect on working in teams and with professionals in allied fields, including self-assessment of professional leadership in the planning context.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 731 – INTRODUCTION TO REGIONAL PLANNING

3 credits.

Broad coverage of regional planning--basic concepts, history, influences of the political, economic, and social environment, techniques of analysis and substantive tasks and problems in preparing regional plans.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2019

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the purpose and meaning of regional planning.

Audience: Graduate

2. Explore the history of regional planning in the United States and the many planning issues that transcend the jurisdictional boundaries of government.

Audience: Graduate

3. Describe the institutional framework of the different levels of government within which regional planning occurs.

Audience: Graduate

4. Interpret the behaviors and structures available to bring about sound regional planning outcomes.

Audience: Graduate

5. Discuss key issues of the ethics of public decision-making in the regional planning context.

Audience: Graduate

6. Critique the role of officials, stakeholders, and community members in regional planning.

Audience: Graduate

7. Explain sustainability, environmental quality, social justice, economic, and cultural factors in regional planning.

Audience: Graduate

8. Assemble and analyze ideas and information from regional planning practice.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/ECON/PUB AFFR 734 – REGIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEM ANALYSIS

3 credits.

Examination of major theories of regional economic development, with special emphasis upon the evolution and amelioration of regional economic problems. Selected techniques of regional analysis, including economic base multipliers, input/output models, and shift-share analysis are used in the context of setting regional development goals.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2022

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain regional economic theory, empirical justification/application, and relevant impacts of planning in the context of addressing local economic, social, and environmental problems.

Audience: Graduate

2. Understand the theoretical basis of regional science.

Audience: Graduate

3. Describe and apply basic empirical tools.

Audience: Graduate

4. Explain relevant consequences of regional policies that target economic, social, and environmental change.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 741 – INTRODUCTION TO PLANNING

3 credits.

Evolution of contemporary urban and regional planning thought. Major conceptual dilemmas in theory and practice. Emerging trends in planning, e.g., forecasting and futurism.

Requisites: Declared in Urban and Regional Planning MS or PhD

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2021

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the purpose and meaning of planning: why planning is undertaken by communities and what impact it is expected to have.

Audience: Graduate

2. Interpret relationships between past, present, and future in planning and appraise the potential to influence the future.

Audience: Graduate

3. Apply and critique the core values of planning (e.g., equity and social justice, public interest, sustainability, healthy and prosperous communities, diversity, democratic engagement, transparency).

Audience: Graduate

4. Describe general terminology, practices, and principles of related professions (e.g., public health, architecture, law, engineering, real estate, environmental restoration).

Audience: Graduate

5. Apply and critique tools of plan making and implementation: integrative tools useful for sound plan formulation, adoption, implementation, and enforcement.

Audience: Graduate

6. Apply and critique planning process methods and tools for stakeholder involvement, community engagement, and working with diverse communities.

Audience: Graduate

7. Explain and formulate for oneself professional planning ethics and responsibility.

Audience: Graduate

8. Describe and appraise external and internal organizational management.

Audience: Graduate

9. Compare the roles of officials, stakeholders, and community members in planned change governance and participation.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 742 – PLANNING ORIENTATION SEMINAR

1 credit.

Introduction to the field of planning and orientation to graduate study in urban and regional planning at UW-Madison. Explore planning as a tool for problem solving, planning and social change, the multiple roles in which planners find themselves, useful skills and perspectives, and areas of planning practice. Addresses core values, sustainability, equity and social justice, professional skills, and the role of plans in relation to policies and programs.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the purpose and meaning of planning: why planning is undertaken by communities and what impact it is expected to have.

Audience: Graduate

2. Interpret relationships between past, present, and future in planning.

Audience: Graduate

3. Recognize and articulate the core values of planning (e.g., equity and social justice, public interest, sustainability, healthy and prosperous communities, diversity, democratic engagement, transparency) and their application in planning practice.

Audience: Graduate

4. Understand and analyze interconnected roles of officials, stakeholders, and community members in participation and governance for planned change.

Audience: Graduate

5. Develop capacity and a conceptual foundation for evaluating and critiquing planning process and applications.

Audience: Graduate

6. Apply sustainability frameworks to analyze challenges and opportunities in urban and regional planning.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 751 – INTRODUCTION TO FINANCIAL PLANNING

3 credits.

State and local financial planning with emphasis on the functional importance of expenditure; special problems in financing city and metropolitan governments; intergovernmental fiscal relations and the use of various budgetary techniques as integral parts of the planning process.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe the relationship between federal, state, and local government finance (fiscal federalism) and state constraints on local fiscal policy.

Audience: Graduate

2. Explain the use of financial analysis in local decision making.

Audience: Graduate

3. Explain property tax administration and its public policy context.

Audience: Graduate

4. Summarize fundamental concepts of local infrastructure finance, bonds, and debt.

Audience: Graduate

5. Apply basic financial and mathematical analysis of the time value of money.

Audience: Graduate

6. Apply alternative fiscal planning techniques in developing policy and reviewing development proposals.

Audience: Graduate

7. Evaluate policies to reduce racial and income disparities in the provision of public services.

Audience: Graduate

8. Critique professional ethics in the context of social justice and equity concerns.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 761 – CENTRAL CITY PLANNING: ISSUES AND APPROACHES

3 credits.

Social, economic, environmental, and fiscal trends affecting larger, older American cities, critical policy issues confronting central city decision-makers, and major programmatic responses to these issues; the role of planning in response to these trends and issues.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2020

Learning Outcomes: 1. Use ideas and information to understand specific planning practice impacts with respect to growth and development of places over time and across space.

Audience: Graduate

2. Understand the purpose and meaning of the city, an increased appreciation of the behaviors and activities available to residents, and an appreciation of the organizational contexts associated with their activities.

Audience: Graduate

3. Practice fundamental planning research used for assembling and analyzing ideas and information from prior practice and scholarship, and from secondary sources.

Audience: Graduate

4. Prepare standard written and graphic communication modalities for use in documents and presentations.

Audience: Graduate

5. Carry out an applied project with a stakeholder from initial concept to presentation.

Audience: Graduate

6. Practice values and ethics used in professional planning and more accurately, in a democratic society.

Audience: Graduate

7. Evaluate ethical questions of public decision-making, research, and client representation, governance and participation, sustainability and environmental quality, and growth and development from the different roles of elected officials, stakeholders, and community members.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 781 – PLANNING THOUGHT AND PRACTICE

3 credits.

Intensive analysis of selected planning cases highlighting important issues that planners deal with in practice. Examine case studies in the context of broader framework of planning history, decision making process models and planner role models. Explore subnational planning and regional development issues in developing countries.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe key concepts and moments within the field of urban planning.

Audience: Graduate

2. Explain the theoretical foundations for understanding city-regions and the role of urban planning.

Audience: Graduate

3. Critique the economic, political, and spatial forces behind the (re)production of urban space and various spatial relationships

Audience: Graduate

4. Apply critical spatial thinking to questions regarding the inequitable distribution of resources, services, and access.

Audience: Graduate

5. Apply research and presentation skills through informed written, oral, and graphic communication.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 791 – VISUAL COMMUNICATION FOR PLANNERS

3 credits.

Visual communication in planning addresses the communication of plans - specifically in the form of site plans, master plans, comprehensive plans, illustrative design codes, cartography, analyses maps, among other.

Provides a planning and design graphics foundation to help realize the procedures in communication and information management within today's interdisciplinary planning process. Develop skills in graphic communication from techniques currently used in the planning, architecture, engineering, landscape architecture and urban design fields and review several digital graphic representation programs as a means of developing a planning graphics toolkit.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Create visual communication strategies that lead to more focused planning conversations with stakeholders

Audience: Graduate

2. Organize digital planning tools within multi-team member workflows to efficiently produce exhibits, presentations, and report documents

Audience: Graduate

3. Transform 2D planning data into 3D models to better convey written policies and their impacts on the physical environment

Audience: Graduate

4. Integrate emerging technology, such as virtual reality, into public engagement, analysis and planning studies

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/ENVIR ST/PUB AFFR 809 – INTRODUCTION TO ENERGY ANALYSIS AND POLICY

3 credits.

Strategy and policy problems in energy policy, both national and international.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Fall 2025

URB R PL/ENVIR ST/PUB AFFR 810 – ENERGY ANALYSIS AND POLICY CAPSTONE

3 credits.

Interdisciplinary application of energy knowledge to an analysis project for a real-world client. Integrate and apply technical, economic, political, and social factors in energy decision-making.

Requisites: Declared in Energy Analysis and Policy Graduate/Professional Certificate or Doctoral Minor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Conduct an original analysis by collecting and interpreting data on an energy-related issue for areal-world client.

Audience: Graduate

2. Integrate and apply multiple disciplinary perspectives such as technical, economic, socio-political, and environmental factors in the context of complex energy problems.

Audience: Graduate

3. Prepare for energy-related careers by: planning and managing a project over multiple months; interacting professionally with client; working effectively in multidisciplinary teams; and producing professional-quality deliverables such as presentations and reports in accordance with scope of work.

Audience: Graduate

4. Analyze the causes and solutions for the sustainability challenge of affordable and clean energy.

Audience: Graduate

5. Analyze sustainability issues and/or practices using a systems-based approach.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/LAW 830 – LAND USE CONTROLS

3 credits.

Limitations imposed upon the use of privately owned land by the court-made law of nuisance, by private covenant, and by public action; master plan, official map, subdivision regulation, zoning, and urban redevelopment.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the legal and institutional contexts within which planning occurs.

Audience: Graduate

2. Describe the operation and functioning of the legal system and its impact on planning.

Audience: Graduate

3. Use legal research skills to perform specific tasks required in the practice of planning.

Audience: Graduate

4. Find and analyze information from primary and secondary legal resources.

Audience: Graduate

5. Write legal documents related to plan creation, implementation, and enforcement.

Audience: Graduate

6. Recognize ethics of public decision-making including the AICP Code of Ethics and state rules related to the unauthorized practice of law.

Audience: Graduate

7. Examine the role of officials, stakeholders, and community members in planning in a democratic society.

Audience: Graduate

8. Recognize sustainability, environmental quality, social justice, economic, and cultural factors in planning

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 833 – PLANNING AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM

3 credits.

An examination of how the legal system influences community planning. Overview of the institutional framework for planning and the legal authority for tools used to create healthy and sustainable communities.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the legal and institutional contexts within which planning occurs.

Audience: Graduate

2. Describe the operation and functioning of the legal system and its impact on planning.

Audience: Graduate

3. Use basic legal research skills to perform specific tasks required in the practice of planning.

Audience: Graduate

4. Find and analyze information from primary and secondary legal resources.

Audience: Graduate

5. Write legal documents related to plan creation, implementation, and enforcement.

Audience: Graduate

6. Recognize key issues of the ethics of public decision-making including the AICP Code of Ethics and state rules related to the unauthorized practice of law.

Audience: Graduate

7. Examine the role of officials, stakeholders, and community members in planning in a democratic society.

Audience: Graduate

8. Recognize sustainability, environmental quality, social justice, economic, and cultural factors in planning

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 841 – URBAN FUNCTIONS, SPATIAL ORGANIZATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORM

2-3 credits.

Influence of social, economic, and political systems, technological innovations, and architectural concepts on the spatial organization and environmental form of cities and urban areas; the adaptability of urban physical structure to developmental change; planned, conceptual organization and form versus unplanned and ecological organization and form.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify environmental issues arising from urbanization; describe urban ecological processes; and identify policies and practices of environmental planning in local, regional, and federal levels.

Audience: Graduate

2. Identify ways we can design with nature and assess land development patterns for environmental performance.

Audience: Graduate

3. Obtain and analyze geospatial environmental data using a range of spatial analysis tools for a number of environmental planning practices.

Audience: Graduate

4. Conduct a land suitability analysis, examine the impacts of imperviousness on water resources, and investigate the impacts of development on land resources.

Audience: Graduate

5. Present solutions to environmental planning problems.

Audience: Graduate

6. Evaluate natural resource and pollution control factors in planning.

Audience: Graduate

7. Describe how to create sustainable futures.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/ENVIR ST 843 – LAND USE POLICY AND PLANNING

3 credits.

Critical evaluation and analysis of land use policies and programs in relation to comprehensive planning and growth management issues in the U.S. The role of legislative and judicial processes and emerging public land use social values and philosophies in the development, regulation, and effectuation of innovative land use policies. Alternative land policy and growth guidance systems of select European countries.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Summer 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Analyze the historical, political, social, and economic dimensions of land use policy in the U.S. context.

Audience: Graduate

2. Analyze relationships between land use regulation and urban form

Audience: Graduate

3. Identify the various actors that participate in contemporary land use planning and policy in the U.S. context and the interests that motivate their involvement.

Audience: Graduate

4. Analyze the conflicts around land use and how planners participate in them.

Audience: Graduate

5. Evaluate the role of planning in the land development process.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 844 – HOUSING AND PUBLIC POLICY

3 credits.

Issues and methodological problems encountered in the production, financial, and consumption sectors of housing program design; comparisons with European and Third World country housing and public policy programs.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain the relationship between federal, state, and local government programs.

Audience: Graduate

2. Describe housing finance and mortgages, policies and programs to provide affordable housing for lower-income households in the context of the history and structure of housing in the US.

Audience: Graduate

3. Evaluate the role of race and segregation in US housing history.

Audience: Graduate

4. Explain the role of local governments in producing and regulating housing and community development.

Audience: Graduate

5. Analyze housing plans and housing needs.

Audience: Graduate

6. Apply basic financial analysis of housing proposals using Census and other government data. Understand various policy tools to produce and provide housing services.

Audience: Graduate

7. Discuss professional ethics, social justice and equity concerns, and the role of race and poverty in housing policy.

Audience: Graduate

8. Explain the role of planning and public policy in addressing inequality and exclusion.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/ECON 845 – ADVANCED TOPICS IN PUBLIC FINANCE

1-4 credits.

Advanced public finance problems and literature, research; subject changes each semester; may be repeated. Modules.

Requisites: ECON 713 and 714

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2020

URB R PL/ENVIR ST 865 – WATER RESOURCES INSTITUTIONS AND POLICIES

3 credits.

Governmental processes and policies for water resources management: major substantive problems and issues; political processes of decision making; problems of governmental organization and intergovernmental arrangements.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2024

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe the historical and institutional dimensions of water resources planning, management, and policy.
Audience: Graduate

2. Summarize the overall U.S. water resources “institutional landscape” – the array of institutional arrangements that comprise our system for addressing water resource issues and problems—and relative strengths and weaknesses of various approaches and system components.
Audience: Graduate

3. Articulate the limitations of the existing water resources management framework, along with opportunities and strategies for reform, for addressing various substantive ecological water issues (e.g., watershed protection, restoration, and management; water allocation; groundwater; water quality and quantity; etc.).
Audience: Graduate

4. Identify and evaluate selected institutional and societal issues pertinent to water resources policy and management, including through an equity lens (e.g., integrated environmental collaborative watershed approaches, intergovernmental roles, program implementation, etc.).
Audience: Graduate

5. Evaluate institutional effectiveness in addressing and resolving water resource issues and problems management, collaborative watershed approaches, intergovernmental roles, program implementation, etc.).
Audience: Graduate

6. Apply sustainability principles and/or frameworks to addressing the challenges of water resource protection and restoration.
Audience: Graduate

7. Analyze sustainability issues and/or practices using a systems-based approach
Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/POLI SCI/PUB AFFR 874 – POLICY-MAKING PROCESS

3 credits.

Examines the political, social, and economic contexts that shape and are shaped by policy making processes. Though the focus is on the US, international comparisons will be made, and students are encouraged to think about the American context through comparative and international perspectives. Familiarizes students with dominant theories and models of policymaking process and policy change, starting with the model of the policy cycle. Focuses in on key topics and issues in policy making, specifically, agenda setting, implementation, and the relationships between policymaking and democracy. Reflects on contemporary and emerging issues and dilemmas of the politics of policy making.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Identify important contextual aspects of policy making processes, of dominant theories, models and conceptual frameworks of policy processes, and of key issues and topics in policy making.
Audience: Graduate

2. Critically analyze theories and evidence presented in readings and describe debates, past and present, surrounding public policy making processes.
Audience: Graduate

3. Read and comprehend academic research, data, and writing as well as journalistic writings on relevant issues of public policy processes and politics.
Audience: Graduate

4. Communicate summaries and analyses of topics, issues and key readings in class discussions, presentations, and writing assignments. Use clear written language and draw on theories, concepts, and evidence to support their arguments and ideas.
Audience: Graduate

5. Maintain fidelity to objective social science-based research methods.
Audience: Graduate

6. Prepare a high-quality presentation and communicate effectively as a speaker.
Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/POLI SCI/PUB AFFR 878 – PUBLIC MANAGEMENT

3 credits.

Role of administration in American government; problems of organization, bureaucracy and control; public policy as the output of the administrative process.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

URB R PL 912 – PLANNING WORKSHOP

4 credits.

Selected problems in planning to emphasize the interdisciplinary character of planning practice and to give opportunity to apply socioeconomic analysis, physical planning, and implementation techniques.

Requisites: URB R PL 791

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Understand and generally appreciate the purpose and meaning of planning, including ideas about planning and the role of planners, and the institutional contexts within which planning occurs
Audience: Graduate

2. Develop skills in communication, plan creation, planning process methods, and leadership, including methods for stakeholder involvement, project management, facilitation, and public participation techniques
Audience: Graduate

3. Understand and apply ethical principles to planning in a democratic society and understand key issues of ethical planning practice, including issues of governance and participation
Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/ENVIR ST 917 – PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FOR PLANNING AND POLICY MAKING

3 credits.

Examines public participation for planning and policymaking in both urban and natural environments; considers different types of participation from agency consultation to negotiation; designing, conducting, and evaluating citizen participation are major features.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2025

Learning Outcomes: 1. Explain what public participation is and its application to planning, policy-making, and related decision-making processes, including benefits and challenges, the interplay between professional and community-based or local knowledge, values and ethics, and responsibilities of those leading participatory processes.
Audience: Graduate

2. Involve people meaningfully in planning and decision-making processes and create public participation plans, including goals and objectives tailored to specific project needs, techniques suitable to the goals, objectives and circumstances, and assessing effectiveness through ongoing evaluation.
Audience: Graduate

3. Use public participation applications and skills recognizing effective communication principles, sources of outrage and deep emotion, empathy, listening skills, constructive practices, and aligned participatory and facilitation techniques.
Audience: Graduate

4. Recognize conflicts and anticipate conflict resolution options in participatory processes by demonstrating knowledge of conflict resolution concepts and approach, analyzing conflict situations, and understanding proven techniques for resolving conflicts.
Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/SOC 924 – SEMINAR-POLITICAL SOCIOLOGY

3 credits.

Selected topics in political sociology, e.g., social movements, citizenship, civic engagement, weakening of postwar "social democratic consensus" under financialized globalization pressures.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2025

URB R PL 932 – SEMINAR-RESEARCH REVIEW AND CRITICISM

1-3 credits.

Group consideration of thesis or equivalent projects during their preparation; individual reports on successive stages of work.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

Learning Outcomes: 1. Engage in/lead discussions about scholarship and gain insights about new ideas within the fields of landscape design, planning, conservation, and restoration.

Audience: Graduate

2. Present individual research/design projects and engage in discussions appropriate to its stage of development.

Audience: Graduate

3. Review the presentations of others and offer constructive comments to the presenter.

Audience: Graduate

4. Locate, summarize, critique, and contextualize scholarly journal articles, and present their findings to an audience of peers.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL 945 – SEMINAR IN LAND USE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

3 credits.

The social, economic, and political setting of urban blight and the current measures, including urban renewal and model cities programs, to cope with the condition. Attention to social change, concept of neighborhood, and cross-cultural perspectives to renewal and community development.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Fall 2023

Learning Outcomes: 1. Describe the spatial/temporal characteristics, markets, society, institutions, and decision-making within which amenities are commodified.

Audience: Graduate

2. Distinguish between and critically evaluate the provision of amenity resources and the human motivations for leisure (demand).

Audience: Graduate

3. Explain the foundational theories of policy analysis and research in tourism.

Audience: Graduate

URB R PL/DS 955 – PRACTICAL RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODS OF EMPIRICAL INQUIRY

3 credits.

Provides a practical introduction to basic concepts of research question formulation, research designs and alternative methods of inquiry, implications for internal validity of the research and generalizability of the findings, operational definitions and measurement validity, reliability, utility and precision.

Requisites: Graduate/professional standing

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2022

URB R PL 990 – RESEARCH AND THESIS

1-5 credits.

Individual mentored research and study for completing theses, as arranged with a faculty member

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: No

Last Taught: Spring 2026

URB R PL 999 – INDEPENDENT WORK

1-3 credits.

Independent study as arranged with a faculty member.

Requisites: Consent of instructor

Course Designation: Grad 50% - Counts toward 50% graduate coursework requirement

Repeatable for Credit: Yes, unlimited number of completions

Last Taught: Spring 2026