SCHOOL OF
ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING & PRESERVATION
URBAN STUDIES AND PLANNING PROGRAM

MASTER OF COMMUNITY PLANNING CURRICULUM

The Urban Studies and Planning (URSP) program offers the Master of Community Planning (MCP) degree, which builds students' capacity to work in a range of organizational settings across the diverse field of planning. Across our coursework, we integrate perspectives from history, social science, design, and other allied fields of study and practice. We train students to be proficient in the use and application of knowledge and skills in a variety of professional settings. We challenge students to understand, internalize, and enact principles of justice and equity for underrepresented and vulnerable groups and communities through ethical practice.

The MCP is a 48-credit professional degree program comprised of eight required core courses (24 credits); a capstone consisting of a required 6-credit community planning studio class and an internship (taken for 3 credits or no credits); and six elective courses (18 credits). If the internship is taken for no credit, the student must take an additional elective course to reach the 48 hours of required credits. Nine (9) elective credits must be in an area of specialization. A specialization is comprised of a set of related courses, defined in consultation with the faculty mentor, which cover a domain of specialized planning knowledge. With the approval of their faculty mentor, students may take courses outside of URSP to meet the requirements of a specialization. Students may choose from one of the following specializations or define a custom specialization in consultation with the faculty mentor.

- Housing and Community Development
- Economic Development
- Environmental Planning
- Transportation Planning

REQUIRED COURSEWORK   Credits

Core	URSP	600	Research Design	3
	URSP	601	Research Methods	3
	URSP	604	Planning Process	3
	URSP	605	Planning History and Theory	3
	URSP	606	Planning Economics	3
	URSP	603	Land Use Planning	3
	URSP	688L	Planning Technology	3
	URSP	6xx *	Social Planning Requirement	3

Capstone	URSP	708 **	Community Planning Studio	6
	URSP	709 ***	Internship	0

Electives	URSP	6xx	Specialization Elective 1	3
	URSP	6xx	Specialization Elective 2	3
	URSP	6xx	Specialization Elective 3	3
	URSP	6xx	Free Elective 1	3
	URSP	6xx	Free Elective 2	3
	URSP	6xx	Free Elective 3	3

Total Credit Hours in the Master of Community Planning Degree   *48*

* URSP 673 (Community Development) OR URSP 688Z (Planning and Design in the Multicultural Metropolis)

** Prerequisites: URSP 600, URSP 601, URSP 603, URSP 604, URSP 605.

*** Prerequisites: URSP 600, URSP 601, URSP 603, URSP 604, URSP 605. URSP 709 may be taken for 0 or 3 credits.

SCHOOL OF
ARCHITECTURE,
PLANNING & PRESERVATION
URBAN STUDIES AND PLANNING PROGRAM

COURSE SCHEDULING

Classes offered in any given semester are determined by student demand and available resources. Students should speak to their mentor to ensure that planned programs of study are feasible given projected class offerings. A student can complete the course of study within two years with careful planning. University guidelines mandate that all students (full time and part time) complete the degree within five years. University guidelines also mandate that the student must be registered for at least one credit in the semester the degree is to be awarded: Graduate School Registration Policies Link.

Sample Schedule One (Full Time Without Winter/Summer Classes)		Sample Schedule Two (Full Time With Winter/Summer Classes)	
Year 1		**Year 1**	
Fall I (12 credits) • URSP 601 (3) • URSP 603 (3) • URSP 605 (3) • URSP 688L (3)	**Spring I (12 credits)** • URSP 600 (3) • URSP 604 (3) • URSP 606 (3) • URSP 673 (3)	**Fall I (12 credits)** • URSP 601 (3) • URSP 603 (3) • URSP 605 (3) • URSP 688L (3)	**Spring I (12 credits)** • URSP 600 (3) • URSP 604 (3) • URSP 606 (3) • URSP 673 (3)
Winter I (0 credits)	**Summer I (0 credits)**	**Winter I (3 credits)** • Elective 1 (3)	**Summer I (6 credits)** • URSP 708 (6)
Year 2		**Year 2**	
Fall II (12 credits) • URSP 708 (6) • Specialization 1 (3) • Elective 1 (3)	**Spring II (12 credits)** • Elective 2 (3) • URSP 709 /Elective 3 (3) • Specialization 2 (3) • Specialization 3 (3)	**Fall II (6 credits)** • Specialization 1 (3) • Elective 2 (3)	**Spring II (9 credits)** • URSP 709 /Elective 3 (3) • Specialization 2 (3) • Specialization 3 (3)
Winter II (0 credits)	TOTAL: 48 Credits	**Winter II (0 credits)**	TOTAL: 48 Credits

Sample Schedule Three
(Part-Time With Winter/Summer Classes)

Year 1		Year 3	
Fall I (6 credits) • URSP 601 (3) • URSP 603 (3)	**Spring I (6 credits)** • URSP 600 (3) • URSP 604 (3)	**Fall III (6 credits)** • Elective 2 (3) • Specialization 2 (3)	**Spring III (6 credits)** • URSP 709 /Elective 3 (3) • Specialization 3 (3)
Winter I (0 credits)	**Summer I (3 credits)** • URSP 688L (3)	**Winter III (0 credits)**	**Summer III (0 credits)**
Year 2			
Fall II (6 credits) • URSP 605 (3) • Specialization 1 (3)	**Spring II (6 credits)** • URSP 673 (3) • URSP 606 (3)		
Winter II (3 credits) • Elective 1 (3)	**Summer II (6 credits)** • URSP 708 (6)		
			TOTAL: 48 Credits

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

A complete listing of courses offered by the URSP program can be found at:
https://www.arch.umd.edu/ursp/courses

COURSES OUTSIDE THE PROGRAM

With the approval of their faculty mentor, students can take courses outside of the URSP program to meet specialization and elective requirements. The graduate catalog provides a list of all graduate courses offered at UMD (http://apps.gradschool.umd.edu/catalog/registration_policies.htm).

UMD is a partner with the local higher education consortium. The Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area includes American University, Catholic University, Gallaudet University, George Mason, George Washington, Georgetown, Howard University, Marymount University, Mt. Vernon College Trinity College, the University of the District of Columbia, and the University of Maryland, College Park. Up to nine (9) credits from courses taken at other institutions may be applied towards the MCP degree. Before registering for any non-UMD courses, students should confirm that the courses (a) will be accepted by Registrar's Office at the University of Maryland, and (b) will be accepted by the URSP and will apply toward the degree requirements.