



Community and Regional Planning Guide to Focal Areas, 2009-10

Planning students select a set of courses in consultation with their advisor to focus their elective work on an area of special interest. This focal area consists of at least 18-23 credits, depending on whether the student does a thesis or terminal project. **At least four of these elective credits must be within PPPM.**

There are no formal concentrations, but the PPPM department is particularly strong in the following:

- Social and Health Policy
- Nonprofit / Philanthropy
- Community Development
- Sustainable Land Use and Built Environment
- Governance and Civic Engagement
- Environmental Planning and Policy

In choosing a set of focal area classes, students should think about their undergraduate/professional background and their career objectives. It is helpful to consult with an academic advisor, a professional working in the desired career area, and fellow students. Students should also consider a balance in their training for their focal area:

- **Knowledge:** Consider classes that provide the substantive training in a particular topic area (e.g., natural resources, transportation, land use). These knowledge classes may also help provide you with more theoretical and analytical skills that you will use throughout your career.
- **Skills:** Consider classes that provide important analysis and technical skills (e.g., GIS, Cost-Benefit Analysis, Urban Economics, Statistics, Qualitative Methods).

Advising

CRP students are assigned a provisional academic advisor prior to their enrollment, but students are free to change academic advisors at any time. They should confirm the change with their new advisors and submit a Change of Advisor form. CRP advising includes:

- **Individual Advising.** Each first year MCRP student is strongly recommended to regularly meet with their advisor to discuss their general progress and the selection of electives.
- **Group advising.** MCRP students are invited to participate in group advising sessions where courses and career strategies are discussed. These sessions are organized topically on the basis of faculty expertise (e.g., environmental planning, community development, regional planning).
- **Mid-Program Review.** Each MCRP student is requested to meet with his or her advisor before registering for second year fall term courses. The purposes of this meeting are to review student progress and help select a set of focal area elective courses.

Possible Focal Areas

Community Development

- Affiliated Faculty: Mike Hibbard, Yizhao Yang, Robert Young, Megan Smith
- Community development is concerned with advancing the ecological, economic, and social health of human settlements – from rural regions and small towns to cities and their neighborhoods to suburbs. This field entails developing and analyzing plans, policies, and programs that advance social equity, generate appropriate jobs and create community wealth, and pay heed to the natural and built environment. Components
 - Social Equity
 - Economic Development
 - Nonprofit roles in development
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 536 Social Planning with GIS
 - PPPM 546 Socioeconomic Development Planning
 - PPPM 555 Topic: Social Welfare Policy
 - PPPM 581 Resource Development for Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 607 Graduate Seminar in Philanthropy
 - PPPM 607 Seminar: Conservation Based Development
 - PPPM 680 Managing Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 684 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management

Sustainable Land Use and Built Environment

- Affiliated Faculty: Rich Margerum, Bob Parker, Marc Schlossberg, Megan Smith, Yizhao Yang, Robert Young
- Sustainable Land Use and the Built Environment focuses on the interaction between land use and the design of human settlements at the local scale. Teaching students how to think about the relationships between sustainability, quality of life, the relevant policy environment, individual behavior and decision-making are fundamental to this focus area. Components include
 - Walkability and Livability
 - Transportation
 - Obesity
 - Urban form
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Bioregional Planning
 - PPPM 507 Seminar: Transportation and Land Use
 - PPPM 507 City Growth/City Design
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Land Development
 - PPPM 507 Sustainable Urban Development
 - PPPM 508 Environmental Impact Assessment
 - PPPM 508 Urban Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
 - PPPM 508 Mobile GIS
 - PPPM 538 Topics in Planning: Bicycle Transportation
 - PPPM 540 Land Use Planning & Growth Management
 - PPPM 543 Natural Resource Policy
 - PPPM 545 Green Cities: The Future of Urban Ecology

Environmental Planning and Policy

- Affiliated Faculty: Rich Margerum, Mike Hibbard, Robert Young, Bob Parker
- Environmental planning and policy focuses on the intersection of the built and natural environments, issues of environmental quality, open space preservation, and the implementation tools and policies aimed at bridging positive environmental and community outcomes. This focus area prepares students for working in environmental organizations, advocacy groups and policy organizations. Components include
 - Environmental policy
 - Natural resources planning
 - Open space and recreation planning
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar: Land Development
 - PPPM 507 Seminar: Global Warming Policy
 - PPPM 507 City Growth/City Design
 - PPPM 508 Environmental Impact Assessment
 - PPPM 540 Land Use & Growth Management
 - PPPM 543 Natural Resources Policy
 - PPPM 545 Green Cities
 - PPPM 607 Seminar: Conservation Based Development
 - PPPM 643 Collaborative Planning and Management
- Other Departments and Courses
 - Biology: Freshwater Ecology, Wetlands Management
 - Economics: Economy of the Pacific Northwest, Resource and Environmental Economics
 - Geography: GIS, Environmental Measurement, Hydrology, Stream Morphology
 - Landscape Architecture, Applied Ecology, Ecological Restoration, Landscape Planning
- For a listing of other UO courses, see the Environmental Planners and Policymakers web site:
<http://www.uoregon.edu/~envpp/EPP.htm>

Collaborative Planning and Civic Engagement

- Affiliated Faculty: Mike Hibbard, Rich Margerum, Megan Smith, Robert Young
- The issues of governance and public involvement are central to the issues of planning and its related disciplines. Students interested in this area should explore coursework that exposes them to the principles that will help them understand approaches and strategies as well as the techniques that can be used in practice. Components include:
 - Processes
 - Engagement of Public
 - Interorganizational relationships
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507: Deliberative Democracy
 - PPPM 518: Introduction to Public Law
 - PPPM 633: Public Management
 - PPPM 636: Public Policy Analysis
 - PPPM 643: Collaborative Planning and Management

Nonprofit / Philanthropy

- Affiliated Faculty: Renee Irvin, Laura Leete, Marc Schlossberg
- Increasing opportunities in nonprofit and philanthropic enterprise have resulted from strong growth in assets and expanded activities in the nonprofit sector. Nonprofit enterprise has broadened, and the complexities of its management require professional skills specific to the sector. Those who concentrate in this field will benefit from one of the most extensive nonprofit curricula in the nation, as well as one of the highest number of Nonprofit Management Certificate graduates annually. Components include:
 - Philanthropy
 - Nonprofit management
 - Fundraising
- Note: students interested in this focal area may also wish to obtain a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar in Program Evaluation
 - PPPM 522 Grant Proposal Writing
 - PPPM 546 Socioeconomic Development Planning
 - PPPM 555 Topic: Social Welfare Policy
 - PPPM 581 Resource Development for Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 607 Graduate Seminar in Philanthropy
 - PPPM 607 Board Governance
 - PPPM 622 Project Management
 - PPPM 643 Collaborative Planning and Management
 - PPPM 680 Managing Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 683 Professional Practice in Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 684 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management

Public Administration and Public Policy

- Affiliated Faculty: Neil Bania, Jessica Greene, Judy Hibbard, Laura Leete, Renee Irvin
- Components
 - Public policy
 - Assessment and evaluation
 - Public management
- Note: Students pursuing this option may also want to consider a dual degree in the Master of Public Administration program
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar in Program Evaluation
 - PPPM 507 Seminar in Health Policy
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Environmental Health
 - PPPM 507 Seminar: Global Warming Policy (Word)
 - PPPM 507 Seminar: Policy Development
 - PPPM 555 Topic: Social Welfare Policy
 - PPPM 628 Public Sector Economy
 - PPPM 629 Public Budget Administration
 - PPPM 633 Public Management
 - PPPM 636 Public Policy Analysis
 - PPPM 656 Quantitative Methods in Planning & Public Policy