



Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management
School of Architecture and Allied Arts

Master of Community and Regional Planning Policy Handbook For the incoming class of fall 2009

Planning Program Overview

The master's program in community and regional planning (CRP) trains policy-oriented planners for leadership positions in the public, nonprofit and private sectors. The program is ideal for students seeking a challenging education with an emphasis on both the long-term principles and practical skills necessary for a professional career. The program is designed to be highly flexible, allowing students to develop electives around their career interests or pursue joint degrees with several programs across campus.

The planning program has awarded degrees in planning since 1968. It is one of 72 master's programs accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board. The progressive planning and environmental programs of the State of Oregon and the applied, problem-solving orientation of the program attract a number of students from the U.S. and the Pacific Basin. The two-year degree program is designed to serve fifty graduate-level planning students. Each year about one hundred students apply for twenty-five available positions in the first-year class.

Careers in Planning

PPPM students graduate with a broad-based planning education that provides a range of employment opportunities in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. PPPM graduates are working today throughout Oregon, the United States and the world.

Public sector jobs (local, state and federal) held by CRP graduates include:

- Local government land use planner
- Community development director
- Social services staff
- Impact assessment specialist
- Environmental planner
- Emergency services director

Private sector employers include:

- Planning consultant firms
- Private developers
- Utility companies

Nonprofit and Research employers include:

- Sustainable business organizations
- Economic development corporations
- Advocacy groups
- Political associations
- State research bureaus

CRP delivers a broad based curriculum that provides students with theoretical foundations and applied problem-solving skills to plan for a sustainable future. A total of 72 credit hours are required.

1. CORE (36 credits), letter grade unless offered Pass/No Pass only

PPPM 611, Introduction to Planning Practice	4 credits
PPPM 612, Legal Issues in Planning	4 credits
PPPM 613, Planning Analysis *	5 credits
PPPM 607, Planning Analysis II	4 credits
PPPM 616, Planning Theory and Ethics	4 credits
PPPM 617, Human Settlements	4 credits
PPPM 620, Applied Methods in Planning, Policy & Management	4 credits
PPPM 608, Wrk: Computer short course	3 credits
One of the following classes addressing design or land use:	4 credits
• PPPM 507 Seminar City Growth/City Design	
• PPPM 540 Land Use & Growth Management	
• PPPM 542 Sustainable Urban Development	
• PPPM 545 Green Cities	

*Students must complete the equivalent of an advanced undergraduate or graduate-level introductory course in statistics as a pre- or co-requisite to Planning Analysis. No credit toward the M.C.R.P. degree is allowed for the statistics course, and the requirement is waived for students with equivalent courses or work experience. Entering students are urged to satisfy this requirement before enrolling in the program.

2. EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING (10 credits)

PPPM 608, Community Planning Workshop (two terms required)	10 credits
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3. FOCAL AREA (14-19 credits)

Planning students select a set of courses in consultation with their advisor that focuses their elective work on an area of special interest. This focal area consists of at least 14-19 credits, depending on whether the student does a thesis or terminal project. The PPPM department is particularly strong in the following areas:

- 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 objective. It may be helpful to consult with an academic advisor, a

professional working in the desired career area, and fellow students. Students should also consider a balanced training for their focal area:

- **Knowledge:** Consider classes that provide the substantive training in a particular topic area (e.g., natural resources, transportation, or 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)

Focal Area Policies

- Courses may be taken either for a grade or pass/fail.
- There are many courses outside of the department that are relevant to planning. See Appendix A, listing of classes for each focal area. In addition, it is useful to look at the websites or class schedule of specific departments to see what new classes are offered. Course evaluation information is available through DuckWeb.
- UO students may take classes at schools in the Oregon University System through the Joint-Campus Program. Information and forms are available at the Office of the Registrar, 2nd floor Oregon Hall.
- There is no requirement for how many focal area credits must be taken within the department.

4. SYNTHESIS (7-12 credits), pass/no pass only

PPPM 690, Student Research Colloquium (two terms required)	1 & 2 credits
PPPM 609, Terminal Project –OR--	4 credits minimum
PPPM 503, Thesis	9 credits minimum

Students complete a final research project and the goals are to learn about an issue in substantial depth; apply analytic skills, write a concise, professional report, and orally present the findings.

The Student Research Colloquium (PPPM 690) provides students with structure for identifying a viable research question, conducting a literature review, and developing a methodology. Students take 1 credit of colloquium in the spring of their first year and 2 credits in the fall of their second year. Students work very closely throughout the whole research process with a faculty advisor and one or two additional committee members. During the second year, students must enroll in 4 credits of PPPM 609 Terminal Project or 9 credits of PPPM 503 Thesis while completing their research.

Degree Program Policies

- Students may apply no more than 10 internship credits towards their final degree
- Students may apply to waive a core requirement if they can demonstrate graduate level proficiency, but this does not reduce the number of total credit hours
- No more than 4 terminal project credits or 9 thesis credits can be used towards the degree
- All students must complete a thesis or terminal project. If this is completed through a concurrent degree program at least one faculty member must be from PPPM.

Sample Two-Year Program

	Core	Experiential Learning	Synthesis	Focal Area	Credits
Fall 1st Year	611 Intro. to Planning Practice (4)	Computer short courses (3)			16
	613 Planning Analysis (5)				
	617 Human Settlements (4)				
Winter 1st Year	607 Planning Analysis II (4)	608 Community Planning Workshop (5)		Elective (4)	13
Spring 1st Year	620 Applied Methods (4)	608 Community Planning Workshop (5)	690 Student Research Colloquium (1)		10
Fall 2nd Year	616 Planning Theory & Ethics (4)		690 Student Research Colloquium (2)	Elective (2)	12
	Design/Land Use Requirement (4)				
Winter 2nd Year	612 Legal Issues in Planning (4)		503 Thesis (4)	Elective (4)	12
Spring 2nd Year			503 Thesis (5) or 609 Terminal Project (4)	Elective (4)	9
	33	13	7 or 12	14 to 19	72
					Total

Concurrent Degrees

Students interested in completing concurrent degrees must be admitted to both programs and receive program and Graduate School approval on course-work to be completed for each degree. The guidelines for the concurrent degree are:

- Students interested in a concurrent degree program must 1) apply to both programs, and 2) meet with faculty advisors in both programs to develop an academic plan. Usually concurrent degrees decrease the time it takes to complete two separate degrees by at least a year.
- An official concurrent degree program form must be completed, approved by both program directors and the Graduate School. The form is online at the Graduate School website, and Linda Dent can answer questions about the credit requirements.
- The CRP program will accept the core courses of the second graduate degree as concentration credits.
- Students completing concurrent graduate programs may be able to have their thesis/terminal project fulfill both degree requirements. This is determined on a case by case basis.

Student Advising

CRP students are assigned a provisional academic advisor prior to their enrollment, but students are free to change academic advisors. 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.

Academic Standing

- Grades below C- are not accepted for graduate credit but are computed in the GPA. For pass/fail classes, a grade of pass must be equal to or better than a B-.
- Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average (GPA) to be in good standing in the program. A 3.0 GPA is also required for graduation from the program.
- Students have 7 years time to complete their master's degree. Any credits taken more than 7 years earlier than expected graduation date will not be counted towards degree.

Miscellaneous Policies

Academic Calendar

The academic calendar, with add and drop deadlines, can be found on the Registrar's [website](http://registrar.uoregon.edu/common/cals/acadmcal.htm), <http://registrar.uoregon.edu/common/cals/acadmcal.htm>.

Graduate Teaching Fellowships

- In the spring of each academic year the department advertises its GTF positions for the following year. On occasion, additional departmental GTF positions will become available, and notices will be emailed and posted. See the Graduate School website, GTF policies and procedures, under School of Architecture & Allied Arts, for the department's General Duties and Responsibilities Statement for GTFs.
- Students have been very successful obtaining administrative GTF positions throughout the university. Current listings are available throughout the school year on the Graduate School's website, see <http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/?page=fundingResources>.

Transferring Credits

- Students may petition PPPM and the Graduate School to transfer up to 15 graduate credits with a grade of B or higher, or pass, from another program if the credits: 1) are relevant to the program, 2) were taken within seven years of the date of graduation, 3) were not used towards a prior graduate degree, and 4) were taken at an accredited university. The credit transfer form is available at the [Graduate School forms website](http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/?page=forms), <http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/?page=forms>. Please return the form to Linda Dent.

Graduation

- Students must apply for their degree or certificate by the second Friday of the term; see the Graduate School's [website](http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/?page=policiesProcedures). Students must be registered for 3 graduate credits and at least 1 credit needs to be PPPM 609 Terminal Project or PPPM 503 Thesis. For more information about the Graduate School's residency and enrollment requirements, and other policies, see website, <http://gradschool.uoregon.edu/?page=policiesProcedures>.

PPPM Questions

Linda Dent and Susanne Zudegi Giordano are indispensable resources when you have questions about curriculum and departmental matters. Here is the breakdown of their responsibilities, so that you will know what type of questions to ask to whom. Also, see the Frequently Asked Questions section on the PPPM website, <http://pppm.uoregon.edu/index.cfm?mode=current&page=faq>.

Susanne Zudegi Giordano

Faculty/GTF Office Hours
Keys and Computer Lab Access
General Questions/Directions
Event/Room/Equipment Reservations
Workstudy Hiring, Ordering Supplies
Website & Listserves Manager
State car/van Reservations/Drivers Clearance
Events & Field Trip Cost Estimates

Linda Dent

Student Records
Faculty & GTF Payroll
Petitions/Waivers
Preauthorization to Add Classes
Classroom Scheduling
Clarity on Program Requirements
Admissions
Graduation Clearance

Appendix A

Possible Focal Areas

Community Development

- Affiliated Faculty: Mike Hibbard, Yizhao Yang, Megan Smith
- Components
 - Social Equity
 - Economic Development
 - Nonprofit roles in development
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar in Philanthropy
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Conservation-Based Development
 - PPPM 536 Social Planning with GIS
 - PPPM 546 Socioeconomic Development Planning
 - PPPM 555 Social Planning and Policy: [Topic]
 - PPPM 581 Resource Development for Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 680 Managing Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 684 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management

Land Use and Built Environment

- Affiliated Faculty: Marc Schlossberg, Yizhao Yang, Rich Margerum, Megan Smith, Jessica Greene
- Components
 - Walkability and Livability
 - Transportation
 - Obesity
 - Urban form
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Transportation and Land Use
 - PPPM 507 Seminar City Growth/City Design
 - PPPM 508 Wrk Environmental Impact Assessment
 - PPPM 508 Wrk Mobile GIS
 - PPPM 534 Urban Geographic Information Systems
 - PPPM 538 Transportation Issues in Planning: [Topic]
 - PPPM 540 Land Use and Growth Management
 - PPPM 542 Sustainable Urban Development
 - PPPM 543 Natural Resource Policy
 - PPPM 545 Green Cities

Environmental Planning and Policy

- Affiliated Faculty: Rich Margerum, Mike Hibbard, Robert Young
- Components
 - Environmental policy
 - Natural resources planning
 - Open space and recreation planning
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Land Development
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Conservation Planning

- PPPM 507 Seminar Global Warming Policy
- PPPM 507 Seminar City Growth/City Design
- PPPM 440/540 Land Use and Growth Management
- PPPM 443/543 Natural Resource Policy
- PPPM 445/545 Green Cities
- 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: Advanced GIS, Environmental Measurement and Mapping, Hydrology and Water Resources, Stream Morphology
 - Landscape Architecture, Applied Ecology, Ecological Restoration, Landscape Planning Analysis, National Parks
- For a great up-to-date listing of UO courses, check the Environmental Planners and Policymakers web site: <http://www.uoregon.edu/~envpp/EPP.htm>

Governance and Civic Engagement

- Affiliated Faculty: Ed Weeks, Rich Margerum, Mike Hibbard, Megan Smith, Robert Young
- Components
 - Processes
 - Engagement of Public
 - Inter-organizational 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 Management and Philanthropy

- Affiliated Faculty: Laura Leete, Renee Irvin
- Note: students interested in this focal area may also wish to obtain a Graduate Certificate in Nonprofit Management
- Components
 - Philanthropy
 - Nonprofit management
 - Fundraising
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar in Philanthropy
 - PPPM 536 Social Planning with GIS
 - PPPM 546 Socioeconomic Development Planning
 - PPPM 555 Topic: Social Welfare Policy
 - PPPM 522 Grant Proposal Writing
 - PPPM 581 Resource Development for Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 680 Managing Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 565 Program Evaluation
 - PPPM 607 Seminar Board Governance
 - PPPM 634 Strategic Planning
 - PPPM 643 Collaborative Planning and Management
 - PPPM 680 Managing Nonprofit Organizations
 - PPPM 684 Public and Nonprofit Financial Management

Public Administration and Public Policy

- Affiliated Faculty: Neil Bania, Jessica Greene, Laura Leete, Renee Irvin, Ed Weeks
- 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 Policy Development
 - PPPM 555 Social Planning and Policy: [Topic]
 - PPPM 560 Health Policy
 - PPPM 565 Seminar: Program Evaluation
 - 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

Social and Health Policy

- Affiliated Faculty: Neil Bania, Laura Leete, Mike Hibbard, Renee Irvin, Jessica Greene, Judy Hibbard, Megan Smith
- Components
 - Policy Making
 - Policy Evaluation
 - Quality of life
 - Vulnerable Populations
- Possible PPPM Courses:
 - PPPM 507 Seminar Policy Development
 - PPPM 555 Social Planning & Policy: [Topic]
 - PPPM 560 Health Policy
 - PPPM 565 Program Evaluation