

Master of Community and Regional Planning

Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management



UNIVERSITY OF OREGON
School of Architecture and Allied Arts

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Admissions deadline: February 1

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Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management

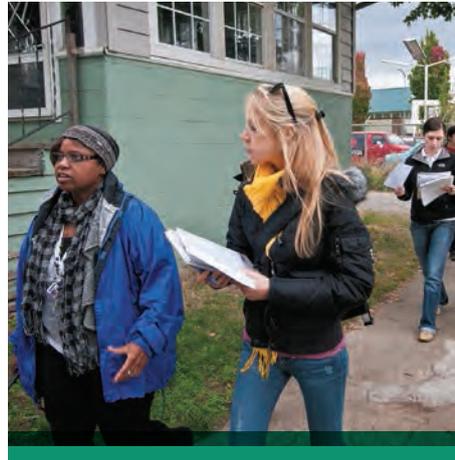
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Cover photos:

Left: The City of Eugene's downtown is designed for multimodal transportation and encourages livability with commercial, entertainment, and housing development. Photo courtesy of the City of Eugene. Middle: About a one-hour drive from Eugene, the scenic landscape of central Oregon includes Sparks Lake in the Deschutes National Forest near Bend, Oregon. Right: Silver Falls State Park near Salem, Oregon; White Stag Block, Portland; youth soccer team; Portland Saturday Market, Hult Center for the Performing Arts, Eugene.

MAAC: MASSIVE ACTION-ORIENTED APPLIED CURRICULUM

Some programs emphasize online courses or MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses). We focus on direct action with communities and clients and our curriculum is infused with many, intensive opportunities to apply what is taught.



"The Sustainable Cities Initiative is perhaps the most comprehensive effort by a US university to infuse sustainability into its curricula and community outreach."

New York Times



"The Community Planning Workshop received the Special Achievement in Planning Award for its forty years of work in linking higher education with local planning."

Awarded by the Oregon Chapter of the
American Planning Association

WHY OREGON?

For more than forty years, the University of Oregon has trained students for careers in planning. Why do students choose the UO?

Sustainability: Oregon and the University of Oregon are world leaders in planning for sustainable communities through courses, research, and applied learning like the Sustainable Cities Initiative.

Experiential: You don't just read about planning—you do it. You work on real projects with real clients in classes and through the Community Planning Workshop.

Community. Our students are community leaders. They have an active role in the department and the community. Whether it's working on social justice, playing kickball, or hiking in the Cascades, our students come in as cohorts and often develop lifelong friendships.

Excellence. We've been ranked in the top ten programs in the US for faculty publications and environmental planning. Faculty members are friendly and accessible, and work closely with master's degree students.

Flexibility. Our flexible program allows you to choose a focus that suits your background and career goals. You can also obtain concurrent degrees from several programs within the UO.

Northwest. The Pacific Northwest is known for both its natural beauty and as a place of innovative thinking and governance. Oregon is recognized internationally for its leadership in land-use planning, compact urban development, watershed management, sustainable urban development, and collaborative governance.

“The Community Service Center offers a wide range of skill sets for helping communities and allows students who desire experience-based learning the opportunity to bring capacity to local governments and their projects. The CSC is a win-win on both sides.”

Jay Wilson, Hazard Mitigation Coordinator,
Department of Emergency Management,
Clackamas County, Oregon

CAREER PROFILES



Ray McPadden, Community Planner, Denver Service Center, National Park Service, Denver, Colorado

"I arrived at the UO after serving in Afghanistan and had great support getting a competitive internship with the National Park Service. I worked closely with my professor on my graduate project on national trails. I'm now employed with the NPS and have become a recognized expert within the agency. I definitely got my money's worth in grad school!"



Aaron Harris, Planner II, City of Medford, Oregon

"The community and regional planning master's degree program was an incredibly challenging, rewarding experience. I landed a planner one position right out of school, and my boss marveled at how well the program prepared me for the job. I loved my job. Within a year I was able to move into a terrific planner II position"



Jessica Bloomfield, Associate, Holland & Knight, Washington, D.C.

"After completing my concurrent degree at the UO in law and community and regional planning, I landed an associate attorney position at a law firm in Washington, D.C. The lawyers here reviewed hundreds of applications for my position and selected me primarily based on my planning experiences. They also love that I went to school out in Oregon, because it is the "case study" for everything we do."



Monique Lopez, Policy Advocate II, Environmental Health Coalition, San Diego, California

“The program gave me many opportunities to participate in service-learning projects with the Community Planning Workshop, Sustainable Cities Initiative, and as a research assistant working with a professor. As a result, I was able to refine my skills, build my professional planning portfolio and résumé, and be really well prepared for the planning and policy field.”

WANT TO JOIN US?

- The master of community and regional planning program seeks high-caliber, motivated, mature students interested in a challenging curriculum.
- We value prior life and work experiences, whether it is military service, a first career, Peace Corps, or planning-related work.
- We encourage students from all backgrounds to apply. We believe a program with participants from diverse environments better serves communities.
- We are committed to providing equal opportunities for all faculty and staff members, and students regardless of ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexual orientation, ability, socioeconomic standing, cultural beliefs, and traditions.

FACULTY MEMBERS



Colleen Chrisinger, PhD

Research interests: economic mobility, poverty, job creation, low-wage labor markets, regional economic development, social policy, and workforce development

Teaching subjects: research methods, program evaluation, public management, master of public administration capstone

Recent Publication: "Earnings Progression and the Workforce Investment Act: Evidence from Washington State." *Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy and Society*. 2013. 52(4): 853–877.



Renee Irvin, PhD

Research interests: philanthropy, regulation of nonprofit organizations, nonprofit efficiency, wealth distribution, and asset-building policies

Teaching subjects: public sector theory, resource development, philanthropy, grant making

Recent Publication: "Collaboration versus Competition in the Third Sector." In Young, Dennis R. and Seaman, Bruce, eds., *Handbook of Research on Nonprofit Economics and Management*. 2010, Edward Elgar Publishers, 83–95.



Grant Jacobsen, PhD

Research interests: environmental economics and policy, energy efficiency, renewable energy, voluntary environmental protection, climate-change awareness, carbon offsets, and building codes

Teaching subjects: environmental policy, quantitative methods, climate change policy

Recent Publication: "Are Building Codes Effective at Saving Energy? Evidence from Residential Billing Data in Florida," *Review of Economics and Statistics*. 2013. 34–49, with M. J. Kotchen.



Laura Leete, PhD

Research interests: workforce development policy, labor market institutions, poverty and social policy, nonprofit economics, nonprofit labor markets, occupational mobility, housing, and labor market access, access to food, gender and race discrimination, and welfare reform

Teaching subjects: public policy analysis, social policy cost-benefit analysis

Recent Publication: "Monthly Household Income Volatility in the U.S., 1991–92 vs. 2002–03." *Economics Bulletin*. 2009. 29(3): 2096–2108, with N. Bania



Rebecca Lewis, PhD

Research interests: growth management policies, development patterns, climate-change policy

Teaching subjects: growth management, land development, green cities, human settlements, public budget administration

Recent Publication: "Managing Growth with Priority Funding Areas: A Good Idea Whose Time Has Yet to Come." *Journal of the American Planning Association*. 2009 75(4): 457–478, with G. J. Knaap, J. Sohn.



Rich Margerum, PhD

Research interests: environmental planning, land-use issues, collaborative planning and management, decision-making and evaluation of implementation, and natural resources management

Teaching subjects: collaborative planning and management, introduction to planning practice

Recent Publication: *Beyond Consensus: Improving Collaborative Planning and Management*. 2011. Boston, Massachusetts: MIT Press.

FACULTY MEMBERS



Dyana Mason, PhD

Research interests: nonprofit management and governance, interest and advocacy organizations, the political economy of the nonprofit sector, charitable giving, collective action and fundraising

Teaching subjects: public sector theory, managing nonprofit organizations, nonprofit management consultancy, nonprofit management

Recent Publication: "Politics, Management, and the Allocation of Arts Funding: Evidence from Public Support for the Arts in The United Kingdom." *International Journal of Cultural Policy*. 2013. With A. Bertelli, J. Connolly, and L. Conover.



Nicole Ngo, PhD

Research interests: environmental health, pollution, fetal health, health impacts of extreme heat and natural disasters

Teaching subjects: healthy communities, research methods, international sustainability, health policy

Recent Publication: Three essays on the environment and health in cities. PhD dissertation, Columbia University. 2013. ProQuest Dissertations and Theses, 156.



Robert Parker, MUP

Research interests: economic and community development, planning, transportation

Teaching subjects: planning analysis, community planning

Recent Publication: "The Impact of Subdivision Regulations on Housing Cost." U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2007. With G. Knapp, T. Moore, and S. Meck.



Gerardo Sandoval, PhD

Research interests: economic and community development, redevelopment and public participation of marginal low-income neighborhoods

Teaching subjects: public participation and diverse communities, urban revitalization, planning theory and ethics

Recent Publication: "Shadow Transnationalism: Cross-Border Networks and Planning Challenges of Transnational Unauthorized Immigrant Communities." *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 2013. 33(2): 176–193.



Marc Schlossberg, PhD

Research interests: sustainable transportation, use of geographic information systems (GIS) for public planning participation, walkability of the built environment, safe routes to school for children

Teaching subjects: sustainable transportation, introduction to city planning

Recent Publication: *Rethinking Streets: An Evidence-Based Guide to Twenty-five Street Transformations*. 2014. Available at rethinkingstreets.com. With J. Rowell, D. Amos, and K. Sanford



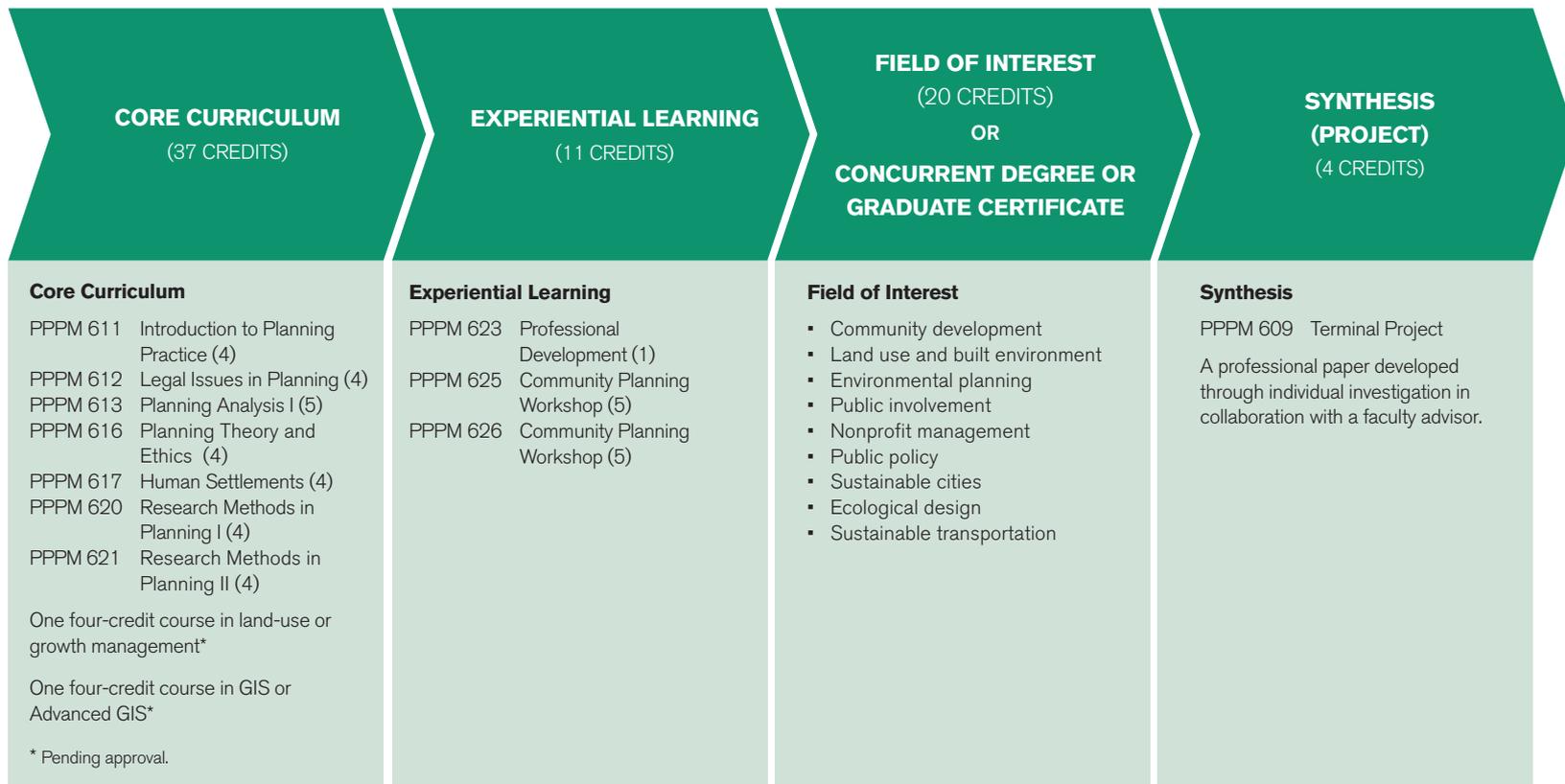
Yizhao Yang, PhD

Research interests: environmental planning, sustainable design, land-use planning, growth management, housing and residential quality, feminist study of the built environment, urban development, urbanization, housing satisfaction in China

Teaching subjects: urban GIS, planning analysis

Recent Publication: "Do Smart-Growth Environments Benefit Single Mothers? Evidence from Thirty MSAs Using the American Housing Survey Data," *Journal of Planning Education and Research*. 2013. 33(4): 411–426. With Jean Stockard.

MASTER OF COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING CURRICULUM TOTAL: 72 CREDITS



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: COMMUNITY PLANNING WORKSHOP

For forty years, the Community Planning Workshop has been working with real clients to serve the needs of Oregon agencies, governments, and communities. Students work in teams to conduct research, analyze and evaluate alternatives, and make recommendations for possible solutions to planning problems in Oregon communities. The projects are coordinated by graduate students and supervised by four professional planners with more than sixty years of combined experience. The Community Planning Workshop is a program of the University of Oregon Community Service Center. The Community Service Center received a Special Achievement in Planning Award from the Oregon chapter of the American Planning Association for its work in linking “the skills, expertise, and innovation of higher education with local planning, economic development, and environmental issues to improve the quality of life for Oregon communities and residents.”

csc.uoregon.edu



Graduate students work for real clients and communities through the Community Planning Workshop.

“There’s nothing more valuable than applying your learning experience to a real situation.”

Alex Page, Graduate Student, Community and Regional Planning, Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management

SUSTAINABLE CITIES INITIATIVE

The Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP) utilizes the immense capacity of the University of Oregon to catalyze local change and address the growing challenges and difficulties faced by communities transitioning to a more sustainable, livable future.

Students and faculty members at the UO place a significant emphasis on furthering innovation and a commitment to researching and expanding use of sustainable practices.

In a typical year, more than 500 students will focus 40,000 hours of work on a community, across fifteen to twenty projects. SCYP course work spans a dozen departments and has included courses in architecture, landscape architecture, product design, interior architecture, planning and public policy, journalism, law, arts administration, civil engineering, business, historic preservation, and economics.

The SCYP has worked with these Oregon cities to improve how cities are built and function—Gresham, Salem, Springfield, and Medford.



Sustainable Cities Program Year students working in Medford, Oregon with local residents and city officials to prepare a redevelopment plan for a site near downtown.

“One of higher education’s most successful and comprehensive service learning programs.”

The Chronicle of Higher Education

CONCURRENT DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE OPTIONS

Each year, approximately two to eight community and regional planning students complete a concurrent degree along with their MCRP degree, made possible through a streamlined process. With a well-planned schedule, dual master's degrees may be completed in little more than two years. Please talk with the program director to discuss your interests and program options.

Common concurrent degrees and certificates include

- architecture
- conflict and dispute resolution
- ecological design graduate certificate
- environmental studies
- historic preservation
- law
- landscape architecture
- nonprofit management
- nonprofit management graduate certificate
- Oregon leadership in sustainability graduate certificate
- public administration

ADMISSIONS

Application materials include

- Academic transcripts
- Three letters of reference
- Résumé
- Statement explaining professional goals and the student's interest in the University of Oregon
- University of Oregon online graduate application
- Scores on the general test of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE); GMAT score also accepted (recommended)
- A spoken English test score for nonnative speakers

Applications due February 1

The application process for the MCRP program is online. See our website for additional information and the application checklist.

pppm.uoregon.edu/prospective/crpchecklist

WANT CAREER EXPERIENCE BEFORE APPLYING?

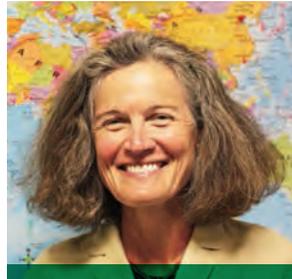
Resource Assistance for Rural Environments (RARE) provides twenty to thirty participants a one-year work experience in small or rural Oregon communities. The experience encompasses a wide range of responsibilities, and typically involves significant assignments. Participants receive a \$1,500 monthly salary, health insurance, a \$5,500 educational award, and become eligible to apply for Oregon in-state tuition. RARE participants can apply 9 credits toward their master of community and regional planning degree at the University of Oregon. Applications to RARE are due in April.

csc.uoregon.edu/rare

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The department is dedicated to supporting our students achieve their career goals. The professional development class begins during orientation week with networking and résumé and cover letter writing. Internship director Rhonda Smith continues to work with students throughout their academic program recommending internships, volunteer opportunities, and informational interviews. She brings her background in career development and human resources to prepare students for successful job searches and offers the following services:

- Individualized career advising
- Referrals to alumni
- Online internship and job resources
- Résumé and cover letter reviews
- Interviewing and job offer negotiation workshops
- Mock interviews
- Interviewing workshops
- Job offer negotiation workshops



Rhonda Smith, internship director, Department of Planning, Public Policy and Management

“Without Rhonda’s tireless efforts, I would have been unable to navigate the complexities of the job market. Her great advice, expertise, and know-how were indispensable in finding a job after graduation.”

Paul Leitman, MCRP '13, Senior Planning Technician,
Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska

“Rhonda Smith is one of the department’s most valuable resources. She pushed me to connect my academic work at the UO with real, rigorous, and relevant experience that I attribute to my position today.”

Jessie Stewart, MCRP '13, Research Specialist and Y-Plan National Coordinator,
Center for Cities and Schools, University of California at Berkeley

“Rhonda Smith took an immediate interest in my career goals and work history and helped me find a position that uses both my science and planning education and experience. She is truly the bridge that connects the academia of PPPM to real world experience and employment.”

Angela San Filippo, MCRP '13, Environmental Planner 3, Shoreline Planner
Department of Ecology, State of Washington

WHERE ARE OUR RECENT ALUMNI WORKING?

Our students successfully compete for a range of planning positions and fellowships as evidenced by these examples of recent jobs. Many secure employment before they graduate from the University of Oregon. Students who complete internships, volunteer, and serve on boards and commissions gain valuable experience that enhance their competitiveness. The most successful students begin working toward their employment goal on day one of their studies in close consultation with our internship director.

State and Federal Agencies

- Associate planner: Douglas County (Wenatchee), Washington
- Air quality planner: State of Montana, Helena, Montana
- Research analyst: State of Washington Department of Ecology, Lacey, Washington
- Wilderness Fellow: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service—National Wildlife Refuge System
- National resource specialist: USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C.

Local and Regional Government

- Planner: City of Rifle, Colorado
- Planner: Chattanooga-Hamilton Regional Planning Agency, Chattanooga, Tennessee
- Assistant planner: Puget Sound Regional Council, Seattle, Washington
- Community outreach analyst: Clackamas County, Oregon
- Project manager: Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, The Dalles, Oregon

Consulting Firms

- Planner: consulting firms in South Lake Tahoe and Sacramento, California; Honolulu, Hawaii; and Portland, Oregon
- Environmental planner: CH2M Hill, Portland, Oregon
- Transportation planner: Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates, Portland, Oregon

Nonprofit Organizations

- Program associate: Sonoran Institute, Phoenix, Arizona
- Executive director and coordinator: Maryland Children's Alliance, Bel Air, Maryland
- Project manager: Stanford University Medical Center, Stanford, California
- Legislative associate: Transportation for America, Washington, D.C.



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