

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING - BS, URBAN POLICY TRACK

The Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Planning degree program is based in the Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning (LAUP) within the College of Architecture at Texas A&M University. The Urban and Regional Planning program equips students for entry-level positions in planning allied fields and prepares them for graduate studies in fields such as Urban Planning and Land Development. The core curriculum, designed to equip students with knowledge and skills to deal effectively with the opportunities and challenges inherent in the development, growth and culture of neighborhoods, cities, and regions, is based on theoretical training in the natural, physical, and social sciences. Students acquire skills that enable them to apply these theories to develop communities, cities, and regions which are safe, healthy, and sustainable.

Critical thinking and analytical skills are emphasized for problem-solving at the community and regional scale. Classroom service-learning experiences enable graduates to more reliably and realistically assess complex community problems, design solutions for overcoming those problems, and evaluate the outcomes of programs and policies in meeting community and regional needs.

The Urban Policy Track emphasizes policy solutions for building resilient, efficient, healthy, and sustainable communities. Policy evaluation and formulation address urban issues related to the equitable provision of public services, housing, environmental services, employment, and transportation. Skill-building emphasizes critical thinking, analytical skills, and written and verbal communication.

Program Requirements

First Year

Fall		Semester Credit Hours
LAND 101	Introduction to Landscape Architectural Practice ¹	1
POLS 206	American National Government	3
URPN 201	The Evolving City ¹	3
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Communication (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communications)		3
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics)		3
Semester Credit Hours		16
Spring		
POLS 207	State and Local Government	3
URPN 202	Building Better Cities ¹	3
URPN 220	Digital Communication I ¹	3

Creative Arts (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#creative-arts)	3
Mathematics (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#mathematics)	3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Second Year

Fall

ARCH 212	Social and Behavioral Factors in Design	3
LAND 240	History of Landscape Architecture	3
URPN 210	Urban Analytical Methods I ¹	3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)		3
General elective ²		3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring

URPN 310	Urban Analytical Methods II ¹	3
Select one of the following: ¹		3
SOCI 214	Social Problems	
SOCI 230	Classical Sociological Theory	
SOCI 311	Social Change	
SOCI 312	Population and Society	
SOCI 317/ AFST 317	Racial and Ethnic Relations	
American history (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#american-history)		3
Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)		3
General elective ²		3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Third Year

Fall

RWFM 375	Conservation of Natural Resources ¹	3
URPN 302	Planning Law ¹	3
URPN 440	Urban and Regional Economic Development ¹	3
Communication (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#communication)		3
Directed elective ^{1,3}		3

Semester Credit Hours 15

Spring

CARC 481	Seminar ¹	1
URPN 325	Introduction to GIS in Urban and Regional Planning ¹	3
URPN 330	Land Development I ¹	3
URPN 401	Policy Implementation ¹	3
URPN 483	Studio in Urban and Regional Science ¹	4

Life and physical sciences (http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/university-core-curriculum/#life-physical-sciences)	3
Semester Credit Hours	17
Fourth Year	
Fall	
Semester Away ⁴	
CARC 301 Field Studies in Design Innovation ^{1,5,6} or URPN 494 or Internship	6
Directed elective ^{1,3,7}	6
Semester Credit Hours	12
Spring	
URPN 331 Public and Private Infrastructure Funding ¹	3
URPN 493 Urban and Regional Studies Capstone Course ¹	5
Directed elective ^{1,3}	3
General elective ²	4
Semester Credit Hours	15
Total Semester Credit Hours	120

¹ Must make a grade of C or better.

² Select from any 100-499 course not used elsewhere.

³ See advisor for a list of approved courses.

⁴ Semester Away: May be satisfied by study abroad, at another university, internship, or special arrangement by advisor or instructor. Directed electives may be taken during summer, online, distance education, at another university or college, or at a study abroad university.

⁵ CARC 301 is a study abroad course. If electing to study abroad, must take CARC 311 and CARC 331 as directed electives.

⁶ If a student takes URPN 494 in fall of 4th year, 6 hours of directed electives must be added to different semesters other than this fall.

⁷ This course will be selected in consultation with the student's advisor. If not participating in study abroad, 3 hours must come from approved course in International and Cultural Diversity (<http://catalog.tamu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/degree-information/international-cultural-diversity-requirements/>).