Community and Regional Planning

Overview

www.design.iastate.edu/community-and-regional-planning (http://www.design.iastate.edu/communityplanning/)

Community and regional planning is a field of study aimed at understanding the ever-changing socioeconomic and physical environments of our communities and planning for their future. Planners evaluate and seize opportunities to solve problems. Planners work at multiple levels of government, as well as the private sector, and they are concerned with issues that affect every corner of the world: the preservation and enhancement of the quality of life in a community, the protection of the environment, the promotion of equitable economic opportunities; and the management of growth and change of all kinds.

Graduates of the Community and Regional Planning department are able to integrate planning knowledge and skills in a variety of practical applications, and can communicate effectively in written and oral form.

Graduates will be qualified for a variety of entry-level positions in the public, private, and not-for-profit sectors. They will also be well prepared for graduate study in a variety of fields, including urban planning, law, public policy, public health, environmental science, geography, sociology, urban design, historic preservation, data science, and architecture.

Graduates of the Community and Regional Planning department are expected to understand the structure and functions of urban settlements, including the history of planning and urban development and the processes for plan and policy making. Graduates should have skills in problem formulation, quantitative analysis, written/oral and graphic communications, and collaboration, and in synthesizing and applying knowledge to practice. Graduates are expected to be able to assess the impact of plans and alternatives based on principles of equity and social justice, economic welfare and efficiency, environmental sustainability, and cultural heritage in the context of citizen involvement in decision making.

The department is a member of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. The curriculum is accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board of the American Institute of Certified Planners. Our students gain an education that, when combined with experience, supports eligibility for membership in the American Institute of Certified Planners.


Degree Requirements

The Department of Community and Regional Planning administers the 128-credit-hour undergraduate program leading to the Bachelor of Science. Students have the opportunity to work with their faculty advisors to define their own areas of interest, which may include a minor.

The BS in Community and Regional Planning program can be completed in two to four years. Students can declare a major in CRP at any time during their enrollment at Iowa State University. If applying by transfer from another program or institution, admission is based on the student’s cumulative GPA and a departmental review of course work. Transfer applications from students in programs in anthropology, sociology, political science, history, geography, engineering, and other related disciplines are encouraged. Community and Regional Planning emphasizes responsibility and citizenship, writing and analytical ability, and critical thinking.

Total Degree Requirement: 128 credits
Only 65 credits from a two-year institution may apply which may include up to 16 technical credits; 9 P-NP credits of free electives; 2.00 minimum GPA; completion of all requirements listed below.

International Perspective: 3 credits
U.S. Diversity: 3 credits
Communication: 13 credits
(C or better grade in ENGL 150 and ENGL 250)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 150</td>
<td>Critical Thinking and Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 250</td>
<td>Written, Oral, Visual, and Electronic Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 309</td>
<td>Proposal and Report Writing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ENGL 314</td>
<td>Technical Communication</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP CM 212</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Public Speaking</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIB 160</td>
<td>Introduction to College Level Research</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Humanities: 9 credits; 6 credits 300-level or above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHIL 201</td>
<td>Introduction to Philosophy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PHIL 206</td>
<td>Introduction to Logic and Scientific Reasoning</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or PHIL 230</td>
<td>Moral Theory and Practice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Six credits from program curriculum sheet</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Social Sciences: 18 credits 300 level or above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 101</td>
<td>Principles of Microeconomics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or ECON 102</td>
<td>Principles of Macroeconomics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL S 111</td>
<td>Introduction to American Government</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 134</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nine credits from program curriculum sheet.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Math/Physics/Biol. Sciences: 13 credits**

STAT 101 Principles of Statistics, 6 credits in Natural Sciences, 3 credits in Math

**Design Core: 3 credits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSN S 102</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or DSN S 183</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 3-4

**Community and Regional Planning Core: 25 credits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C R P 201</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The North American Metropolis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 293</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 301</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Analytical Methods</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 383</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theory of the Planning Process</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 391</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Travel</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 432</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Planning Studio</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 492</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Law, Administration and Implementation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 331</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Practice Seminar</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 25

**Planning Elective: 24 credits**

24 credits from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C R P 251</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 320</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Geography</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 325</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Housing Policy</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 351</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Geographic Information Systems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 376</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural, Urban and Regional Economics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 416</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Design and Practice</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 417</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Revitalization</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 421</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financing Historic Preservation Projects</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 429</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning in Developing Countries</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 435</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning in Small Towns</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 436</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Economic Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 437</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Participation in Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 442</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 445</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation Policy and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 449</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geodesign: Planning for Sustainable Futures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 452</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic Data Management and Planning Analysis</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 457</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geogames for Civic Engagement</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 460</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Justice and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 471</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 455</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smart and Sustainable Cities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 479</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Finance and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 484</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Communities</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 491</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Law and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 494</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Seminar in Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 511</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Documenting the Historic Built Environment</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 521</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic Preservation Planning: Theory and Practice</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Electives: 23 credits**

23 credits of general electives from program curriculum sheet

Community and Regional Planning, B.S.

**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DSN S 102 or 183</td>
<td>3-4 Math/Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 150</td>
<td>3 SP CM 212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 101 or 102</td>
<td>3 PHIL 201, 206, or 230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 134</td>
<td>3 Natural Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIB 160</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 16-17

**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C R P 201</td>
<td>3 C R P 293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT 101</td>
<td>4 C R P 301</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 250</td>
<td>3 C R P 391</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POL S 111</td>
<td>3 Soc. Science/Humanities Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 16

**Third Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C R P 492</td>
<td>3 Planning Electives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 383</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 309 or 314</td>
<td>3 Social Science/Humanities Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science/Humanities Elective</td>
<td>3 Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 15

**Fourth Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Credits</th>
<th>Spring Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C R P 432</td>
<td>4-6 Planning Elective or Option Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C R P 331</td>
<td>2 Planning Elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planning Elective</td>
<td>3 Planning Elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Credits** 15
Undergraduate Minors

The Department of Community and Regional Planning offers 15-credit minors in Urban Studies and Geographic Information Science (GISC).

Urban Studies

The Urban Studies minor is earned by completing both C R P 201 (The North American Metropolis) and C R P 291 (World Cities and Globalization), plus 9 additional credit hours from the approved list of courses. At least 6 credit hours must be in courses numbered 300 or above at Iowa State. The College of Design requires students to earn a C or higher in at least 6 of the required 300-level credits. The minor must include at least nine credits that are not used to meet any other department, college or university requirement except the credit requirement for graduation. The Urban Studies minor is open to students from any college and any major.

Introduction to Urban Studies: 6 credits

C R P 201 The North American Metropolis 3
C R P 291 World Cities and Globalization 3

Advanced Urban Studies: 9 credits

C R P 251 Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems 3
C R P 293 Environmental Planning 3
C R P 301 Urban Analytical Methods 4
C R P 320 Urban Geography 3
C R P 325 US Housing Policy 3
C R P 351 Intermediate Geographic Information Systems 3
C R P 376 Rural, Urban and Regional Economics 3
or C R P 376 Rural, Urban and Regional Economics 3
C R P 383 Theory of the Planning Process 3
C R P 417 Urban Revitalization 3
C R P 421 Financing Historic Preservation Projects 3
C R P 429 Planning in Developing Countries 3
C R P 455 Smart and Sustainable Cities 3
C R P 457 Geogames for Civic Engagement 3
C R P 460 Social Justice and Planning 3
C R P 471 Real Estate Development 3
C R P 479 Public Finance and Planning 3
C R P 484 Sustainable Communities 3
C R P 492 Planning Law, Administration and Implementation 3
C R P 573 Contemporary Issues in Global Housing 3
ARCH 221 Histories and Theories of Architecture to 1750 3

Geographic Information Science

The Geographic Information Science (GISC) minor is earned by taking CRP 251 and CRP 351, plus 9 additional credits from the approved list of courses. At least 6 credit hours must be in courses numbered 300 or above at Iowa State. The College of Design requires students to earn a C or higher in at least 6 of the required 300-level credits. The minor must include at least 9 credits that are not used in any other department, college or university requirement except the credit requirement for graduation. The GIS minor is open to students in any college and any major.

Foundations of GIS: 6 credits

ARCH 321 History of the American City 3
ARCH 420 Topics in American Architecture 3
ARCH 429 Topics in Italian Architecture 3
ARCH 575 Contemporary Urban Design Theory 3
ANTHR 418 Global Culture, Consumption and Modernity 3
C R P 451 Urban Transportation Planning Models 3
CL ST 275 The Ancient City 3
HIST 429 "Monstrous London": London’s Histories 1500-1800 3-4
HIST 465 The American West 3
SOC 310 Community 3
SOC 331 Social Class and Inequality 3
SOC 332 The Latino/Latina Experience in U.S. Society 3
L A 274 The Social and Behavioral Landscape 3
L A 371 History of Modern Landscapes, 1750 to Present 3
L A 373 Gardens and Landscapes from Antiquity to 1750 3
POL S 310 State and Local Government 3
POL S 334 Politics and Society 3
POL S 480 Ethics and Public Policy 3
POL S 271 Public Organizations and Leadership 3
URB D 521 Foundations of Urban Design 3
URB D 522 Contemporary Urban Design Practices 3

GIS Tools and Techniques: 9 credits

C R P 449 Geodesign: Planning for Sustainable Futures 3
or C R P 549 Geodesign: Planning for Sustainable Futures 3
C R P 452 Geographic Data Management and Planning Analysis 3
C R P 454 Fundamentals of Remote Sensing and Spatial Analysis 3
C R P 455 Smart and Sustainable Cities 3
or C R P 555  Smart and Sustainable Cities 3
C R P 456  GIS Programming and Automation 3
C R P 457  Geogames for Civic Engagement 3
or C R P 557  Geogames for Civic Engagement 3
C R P 558  Web Mapping and Spatial Data Visualization 3
A B E 437  Watershed Modeling and Policy 3
ENSCI 270  Geospatial Technologies 3
NREM 345  Natural Resource Photogrammetry and Geographic Information Systems 3
NREM 446  Integrating GPS and GIS for Natural Resource Management 3
GEOL 452  GIS for Geoscientists 3
GEOL 488  GIS for Geoscientists II 3
URB D 532  Urban Design Media Workshop 3

Graduate Programs

The Department of Community and Regional Planning (CRP) offers three different graduate degree options for individuals interested in engaging with communities and helping to shape their future: a Master of Community and Regional Planning (MCRP), an interdisciplinary Master of Science with an emphasis in Community Development (CDEV), and a Master of Real Estate Development (MRED).

Master of Community and Regional Planning

The primary focus of the MCRP degree is to prepare students with the education and practical skills to be leaders in the practice of planning. The program of graduate study is accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Degree requirements include completion of a 2-year, 48-credit program, including a required core (24 credits), electives (18-21 credits), and a capstone component consisting of either a comprehensive exam (C R P 598X Comprehensive Exam Preparation, 3 credits) or thesis (C R P 699 Research, 6 credits). The required core consists of C R P 532, 561, 563, 564, 565, 566, 568 and 592. Students select electives in consultation with their Program of Study Committee (POSC). Students are encouraged to complete an internship in a planning office during their course of study.

Admission to the MCRP program is by application to the department and to the Graduate College. Students with a bachelor's degree in planning or students who have taken highly relevant coursework may be able to waive up to 9 credits of course requirements. Students must petition the department’s Director of Graduate Education (DOGE) in writing prior to the first day class of the student’s first semester in the program to have credits waived. No foreign language is required for the degree Master of Community and Regional Planning.

Double Degree Programs

Double degree programs are offered with architecture (MCRP/MArch), business administration (MCRP/MBA), landscape architecture (MCRP/MLA) and sustainable agriculture (MCRP/MS). Information about our programs and how to apply can be obtained from the department's web page at: www.design.iastate.edu/community-and-regional-planning, or send an email to crp@iastate.edu.

Master of Science in Community Development

CRP offers an interdisciplinary Master of Science degree with an emphasis in Community Development (CDEV) through the department’s affiliation with the Great Plains Interactive Distance Education Alliance (GPIDEA). The CDEV program consists of 30-credit hours offered in an on-line format. Information about the CDEV program may be obtained from the department office and from the department’s web page at: https://www.design.iastate.edu/community-and-regional-planning/degrees/master-of-community-and-regional-planning/community-development-masters-program/.

Master of Real Estate Development

In partnership with the Department of Finance in the College of Business, CRP offers a two-year, 33-credit Master of Real Estate Development (MRED) degree. The program is designed for working professionals, with coursework delivered in a blended online/on-campus format. During the academic year, students complete coursework remotely and come to campus for three, one-week intensive workshops throughout the two-year degree. More information on the MRED program is available on the program website: https://www.ivybusiness.iastate.edu/masters/mred/.

Graduate Certificates

The Certificate in Preservation and Cultural Heritage (P+CH) is a multidisciplinary graduate program that provides the practical skills and background needed to succeed in the fields of historic preservation and cultural resource management. The certificate program is open to Iowa State University graduate students in any College of Design major as well as those majoring in history, anthropology, and related disciplines. Interested students should visit https://www.design.iastate.edu/programs-minors/certificates/preservation-and-cultural-heritage/ or contact historicplaces@iastate.edu for guidance.
The department also offers a 13-credit graduate certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in spatial analysis, GIS applications, and program management. The program is open to graduate students in all disciplines of the university. Information about the graduate certificate may be obtained from the department office and from the department’s web page at: www.design.iastate.edu/programs-minors/certificates/gis-certificate/ (https://www.design.iastate.edu/programs-minors/certificates/gis-certificate/)