

# COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING

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## Overview

[www.design.iastate.edu/community-and-regional-planning](http://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.

The department administers two undergraduate minors: Urban Studies and Geographic Information Science (GIS). The department cooperates in the undergraduate minors in Design Studies, Digital Media, Critical Studies in Design, Environmental Studies, and Sustainability.

## Student Learning Outcomes

We educate students to be *critical thinkers and engaged global citizens who have the ability to contribute to a better world*. Graduates of the Community and Regional Planning program at Iowa State University will be skilled in understanding and articulating community problems and issues and be able to apply planning knowledge in a diverse and democratic setting, to the standards of conduct outlined by the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Graduates of the program will:

- demonstrate essential knowledge of the purpose and history of planning;
- demonstrate knowledge of planning ethics, equity and social justice and be capable of making sound ethical judgments;
- demonstrate knowledge of planning law and local government institutions regarding how plans and policies are developed and implemented;
- be knowledgeable about the planning process; understand how social, cultural and economic forces influence land use changes; be able to develop alternative scenarios for the future; and have experience applying these ideas through active learning and real life experiences;
- have a working knowledge of both qualitative and quantitative methods and demonstrate their ability to apply these methods in order to analyze a planning problem or situation;
- engage communities, identify a range of tools that can be applied to different situations, and demonstrate their ability to expand participation, ensure inclusion, and give voice to diverse stakeholders;
- demonstrate professional written, oral and visual communication skills within a variety of educational and community settings;
- be knowledgeable about the natural environment and understand the factors that create sustainable and resilient communities;
- be knowledgeable about diverse ideas, cultures and societies; and
- have a basic knowledge about global issues that affect planning, urbanization, and societies.

## 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)

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

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

PHIL 201	Introduction to Philosophy	3
or PHIL 206	Introduction to Logic and Scientific Reasoning	
or PHIL 230	Moral Theory and Practice	
Six credits from program curriculum sheet		6
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>9</b>

#### Social Sciences: 18 credits 300 level or above

ECON 101	Principles of Microeconomics	3
or ECON 102	Principles of Macroeconomics	
POL S 111	Introduction to American Government	3
SOC 134	Introduction to Sociology	3
Nine credits from program curriculum sheet.		9
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>18</b>

#### Math/Physics/Biol. Sciences: 13 credits

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

#### Design Core: 3 credits

DSN S 102	Design Studio I	3-4
or DSN S 183	Design in Context	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>3-4</b>

### Community and Regional Planning Core: 25 credits

C R P 201	The North American Metropolis	3
C R P 293	Environmental Planning	3
C R P 301	Urban Analytical Methods	4
C R P 383	Theory of the Planning Process	3
C R P 391	Field Travel	1
C R P 432	Community Planning Studio	6
C R P 492	Planning Law, Administration and Implementation	3
C R P 331	Professional Practice Seminar	2
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>25</b>

### Planning Elective: 24 credits

24 credits from:

C R P 251	Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems	3
C R P 291	World Cities and Globalization	3
C R P 320	Urban Geography	3
C R P 325	Introduction to Housing	3
C R P 351	Intermediate Geographic Information Systems	3
C R P 376	Rural, Urban and Regional Economics	3
C R P 416	Urban Design and Practice	6
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 435	Planning in Small Towns	3
C R P 436	Community Economic Development	3
C R P 437	Public Participation in Planning	3
C R P 442	Site Development	3
C R P 445	Transportation Policy and Planning	3
C R P 449	Geodesign: Planning for Sustainable Futures	3
C R P 452	Geographic Data Management and Planning Analysis	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 455	Smart and Sustainable Cities	3
C R P 479	Public Finance and Planning	3
C R P 484	Sustainable Communities	3
C R P 491	Environmental Law and Planning	3
C R P 494	Senior Seminar in Planning	3
C R P 511	Documenting the Historic Built Environment	3-4
C R P 521	Historic Preservation Planning: Theory and Practice	3

**General Electives: 23 credits**

23 credits of general electives from program curriculum sheet

Community and Regional Planning. B.S.

**First Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
DSN S 102 or 183	3-4 Math/Science	3
ENGL 150	3 SP CM 212	3
ECON 101 or 102	3 PHIL 201, 206, or 230	3
SOC 134	3 Natural Sciences	3
Elective	3 Elective	3
LIB 160	1	
<b>16-17</b>		<b>15</b>

**Second Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
C R P 201	3 C R P 293	3
STAT 101	4 C R P 301	4
ENGL 250	3 C R P 391	1-2
POL S 111	3 Soc. Science/Humanities Elective	6
Humanities Elective	3 Elective	3
<b>16</b>		<b>17-18</b>

**Third Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
C R P 492	3 Planning Electives	6
C R P 383	3 Elective	3
ENGL 309 or 314	3 Social Science/Humanities Elective	3
Social Science/Humanities Elective	3 Elective	3
Elective	3	
<b>15</b>		<b>15</b>

**Fourth Year**

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits
C R P 432	4-6 Planning Elective or Option Studio	6
C R P 331	2 Planning Elective	3
Planning Elective	3 Planning Elective	3
300-400 Elective	3 Planning Elective	3
300-400 Elective	3 300-400 Elective	3
<b>15-17</b>		<b>18</b>

**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**

ARCH 221	Histories and Theories of Architecture to 1750	3
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
C E 451	Urban Transportation Planning Models	3
CL ST 275	The Ancient City	3
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	Introduction to Housing	3
C R P 351	Intermediate Geographic Information Systems	3
C R P 376 or ECON 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 558	Web Mapping and Spatial Data Visualization	3
C R P 573	Contemporary Issues in Global Housing	3	ENSCI 270	Geospatial Technologies	3
HIST 429	"Monstrous London": London's Histories 1500-1800	3-4	GEOL 452	Intro GIS for Geoscientists	3
HIST 465	The American West	3	GEOL 488	Raster GIS for Geoscientists	3
L A 274	The Social and Behavioral Landscape	3	GEOL 489	Survey of Remote Sensing Technologies	3
L A 371	History of Modern Landscapes, 1750 to Present	3	NREM 345	Natural Resource Photogrammetry and Geographic Information Systems	3
L A 373	Gardens and Landscapes from Antiquity to 1750	3	NREM 446	Integrating GPS and GIS for Natural Resource Management	3
POL S 271	Public Organizations and Leadership	3	URB D 532	Urban Design Media Workshop	3
POL S 310	State and Local Government	3			
POL S 334	Politics and Society	3			
POL S 480	Ethics and Public Policy	3			
SOC 310	Community	3			
SOC 331	Social Class and Inequality	3			
SOC 332	The Latino/Latina Experience in U.S. Society	3			
URB D 521	Foundations of Urban Design	3			
URB D 522	Contemporary Urban Design Practices	3			

## Geographic Information Science

The Geographic Information Science (GIS) 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

C R P 251: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	3
C R P 351: Intermediate Geographic Information Systems	3

### GIS Tools and Techniques: 9 credits

A B E 437	Watershed Modeling and Policy	3
C R P 449	Geodesign: Planning for Sustainable Futures	3
or C R P 549	Geodesign: Planning for Sustainable Futures	
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	
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	

## 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. The program is STEM-designated.

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, 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.

C R P 532	Community Planning Studio	6
C R P 561	Planning Theory	3
C R P 563	Planning the American Metropolis	3
C R P 564	Introduction to Analytical Methods for Planning	3
C R P 566	Policy Analysis and Planning	3
C R P 568	Planning and Development	3
C R P 592	Land Use and Development Regulation Law	3

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](http://www.design.iastate.edu/community-and-regional-planning) (<http://www.design.iastate.edu/CRP/>), or send an email to [crp@iastate.edu](mailto:crp@iastate.edu).

## Master of Science in Community Development

The Master of Community Development (MCD) program is an online degree designed to educate students to become community developers and civic leaders who could bring about positive community change. Graduates of the Community Development program at Iowa State University will be skilled in understanding and articulating community problems, issues, and opportunities. Students will have the knowledge and skills to plan and facilitate community action. The MCD degree is designed for working professionals and nontraditional students through online learning. Degree requirements included completion of a 2-year, 30-credit program including a required core (15 credits) and electives (15 credits). The required core includes a capstone 3-credit practicum (COMDV 530) and COMDV 502, COMDV 503, COMDV 504, and COMDV 505.

COMDV 502	Theories and Constructs of Community Change	3
COMDV 503	Community Development Methods	3
COMDV 504	Creating Community Change	3
COMDV 505	Analysis of the Community Economy	3
COMDV 530	Community Development Practicum	3

Admission to the MCD program is through the Department of Community and Regional Planning and the Graduate College. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education is required. Up to nine credits of course requirements may be waived with relevant coursework.

Students may petition the program's Director of Graduate Education (DOGE) in writing prior to the first day of class in the student's first semester in the program to have credits waived. Further information on the MCD program can be found on the department's web site at: <https://www.design.iastate.edu/community-and-regional-planning/degrees/master-of-community-development/>

## 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](mailto: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/](http://www.design.iastate.edu/programs-minors/certificates/gis-certificate/) (<https://www.design.iastate.edu/programs-minors/certificates/gis-certificate/>)