



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

College of Architecture, Planning
& Landscape Architecture

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN URBAN PLANNING

The two-year Master of Science in Urban Planning prepares you for a meaningful career where you'll shape a more resilient future for cities and communities, locally and across the globe.

The MS Urban Planning from the University of Arizona is fully accredited through the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB).

At CAPLA, we're pushing urban planning education, research and practice in new and exciting directions—and students from diverse backgrounds are at the heart of our award-winning and engaging work.

As an urban planning student, you'll learn:

- Urban and regional planning theory and practice
- Site planning and creative plan-making
- Land use planning analysis and law
- Public participation and dispute resolution
- Professional written and graphic communication
- Data-driven analytical methods, including geographic information systems (GIS)
- Planning for real estate and urban development, urban transportation systems and the environment
- Health and the built environment
- Planning for equity, diversity and social justice

With the MS Urban Planning, you'll graduate ready to thrive in a profession of increasing importance in the face of climate change, growing urban populations and challenges to social equity.

CAPLA.ARIZONA.EDU/MSUP

Well-planned cities and regions are the key to confronting many of the most critical environmental, economic and social challenges facing the world today.

CAREER OUTLOOK

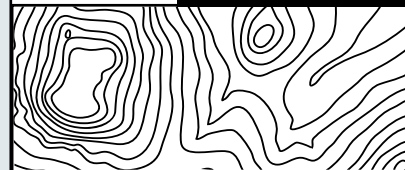
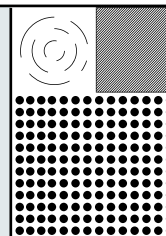
CAPLA Master of Science in Urban Planning graduates get jobs and become leaders in the field, both here in Tucson and around the world. They work as planners and related professionals in government agencies, private-sector firms and nonprofit organizations. Others have gone on to pursue doctoral degrees. Careers in urban planning include:

- Community development, activism and empowerment
- Comprehensive and long-range planning
- Economic development
- Environmental and natural resources planning
- Historic preservation
- Housing
- Land use and code enforcement
- Neighborhood and community planning
- Natural disaster planning and recovery
- Nonprofit management
- Project management
- Public administration and finance
- Real estate and urban development
- Sustainability
- Transportation planning
- Urban design

CONTACT

CAPLA-GRAD@ARIZONA.EDU

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN URBAN PLANNING CURRICULUM



NOTES:

The degree is comprised of 48 units:

27 Core units

15 Concentration units

Students are required to select a primary (3 courses/9 units) and a secondary (2 courses/6 units) concentration from one of four concentration areas or may choose to develop an Independent Concentration with the approval of an faculty advisor.

6 Elective units

Elective courses must be approved by the faculty advisor.

It is recommended that students complete an internship in consultation with their faculty advisor.



UPDATED 04/25/2025
AY 2025-26

CORE CURRICULUM

FALL 1

Planning Theory and Practice
Methods in Planning
Graphic Skills
Primary/Secondary Concentration course

SPRING 1

Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Controls
Land Use Planning Law
Introduction to GIS for Urban Planning
Career Development Seminar
Primary/Secondary Concentration course

FALL 2

Public Participation and Dispute Resolution
Planning Projects Prep
Primary/Secondary Concentration course or Elective
Primary/Secondary Concentration course or Elective
Primary/Secondary Concentration course or Elective

SPRING 2

Projects in Regional Planning
Primary/Secondary Concentration course or Elective
Primary/Secondary Concentration course or Elective

CONCENTRATION AREAS

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Environmental Planning (F)
Sustainable Urban Development and Design (F)
Climate Action Planning (S)

URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Urban Transportation Planning (F)
Transportation and Society (S) *
Applied Active Transportation Planning (S)

HOUSING AND REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

Intro to Real Estate Finance (F) - *required*
Land Development Process (S) - *required*
Due Diligence and Entitlements (F) - *option*
Affordable Housing and Community Development (F) - *option*

HERITAGE CONSERVATION (ONLINE)

Introduction to Heritage Conservation (F)
Documentation and Interpretation of the Historic Built Environment (S)
Preservation Planning (S)

* Offered in even years

COURSE

PLG 501A
PLG 514
PLG 597D

PLG 512
PLG 560
PLG 577
PLG 696B

PLG 597Q
PLG 610

PLG 611

PLG 572
PLG 597S
PLG 508

PLG 568
PLG 573
PLG 574

RED 501
RED 576
RED 509
PLG 597V

LAR 571F
LAR 597J
PLG 564

UNITS

3
4
1
3
11

3
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14

3
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13

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