

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING, MASTER OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING (MURP)

The MURP Program is a two-year professional curriculum. The program is one of only four in the Pacific Northwest states that is professionally accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board.

The purposes of the graduate planning program are as follows:

1. to provide communities and agencies with competent professionals in the field of urban and regional planning;
2. to prepare professionals who can develop and administer planning policies for the economic vitality, resource efficiency and environmental quality of communities and regions;
3. to fulfill the need for planning-related research with particular emphasis given to research benefiting the region and state;
4. to provide community services in the form of continuing education for public officials, practicing professionals and citizens; technical assistance for area agencies and communities; information and technology exchange with appropriate local, state and federal authorities.

The major distinction between Eastern's and other planning programs is that our combined teaching and practice focuses on problem solving at regional and community scales.

Admission requirements/Preparation of the MURP program include those required by the graduate school as well as the following:

1. two letters of recommendation submitted to the planning graduate advisor of the Department of Urban Planning, Public and Health Administration. Both letters should be from instructors familiar with the applicant's undergraduate or, where applicable, graduate academic record. In the event the applicant has professional planning experience, letters may come from a supervisor or person familiar with planning work of the applicant;
2. all applicants shall also submit a personal letter of intent explaining why they wish to study planning and outlining their educational and career goals;
3. all applicants for the program must have completed a class in statistics prior to entry into the program or complete a course while in the program. In the latter case, the credits for the class will not be included in the 72 credits required for the degree.

Degree Requirements

Each student will be expected to complete a minimum of 72 credit hours, including at least 36 hours at the 500 level or above. Graduate students are encouraged to use selected upper division undergraduate courses as electives and in support and pursuit of an area of specialization.

Degree Options—choose one of the following specializations for the MA.

- Tribal Planning Option
- Environmental Planning Option
- Small Town Planning Option

Students selecting a specialization must complete the core of a specialization, under advisement from their committee select the majority of their remaining electives from courses that support their area of specialization and do their research paper in the specialty area. The following list indicates the core required classes and additional classes for each specialty area.

Notes:

- students may not count more than 5 credits in PLAN 599 in their program nor exceed 10 credits in PLAN 599 in combination with PLAN 595 Graduate Internship;
- with the exception of those who have applied for leaves of absence, students who enroll in PLAN 601 Research Project must maintain continuous enrollment until their degree requirements are met.

Grade Requirements: the candidate for the degree of Master of Urban and Regional Planning must pass a final examination. At the time of the final examination, a student's cumulative GPA ≥ 3.0 . There must be no unabsolved grades $< C$.

Required Core Curriculum

Theory/Philosophy		
PLAN 501	FOUNDATIONS OF PLANNING	5
PLAN 502	ADVANCED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	5
PLAN 508	REFLECTIVE PLANNING THEORY	3
Administrative/Management		
PLAN 500	PLANNING PRACTICE	2
PLAN 505	PLANNING IMPLEMENTATION AND LAW	5
Methods/Techniques		
PLAN 503	PLANNING METHODS I	5
PLAN 504	PLANNING METHODS II: POPULATION AND ECONOMY	5
PLAN 506	PLANNING METHODS III	5
Applied Synthesis		
PLAN 507	ADVANCED PLANNING STUDIO	5
PLAN 591	RESEARCH PROJECT PREPARATION	1
PLAN 601	RESEARCH PROJECT	5
or PLAN 695	PROFESSIONAL INTERNSHIP	
Degree Options—choose a specialization core and add additional electives to meet the minimum		26

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Generalist—Required Core

PLAN 540 LAND USE PLANNING

Additional courses—choose two of the following courses

PLAN 460 URBAN DESIGN

PLAN 510 COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLANNING

PLAN 551 TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

PLAN 570 ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING

Tribal Planning Specialization—Required Core

PLAN 523 AMERICAN INDIAN PLANNING

PLAN 530 CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN INDIAN PLANNING

PLAN 531	CENSUS DATA FOR AMERICAN INDIAN PLANNING
PLAN 533	AMERICAN INDIAN LAW FOR PLANNERS
PLAN 540	LAND USE PLANNING
Additional courses	
PLAN 524	ADVANCED STRATEGIC PLANNING
PLAN 528	AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH AND COMMUNITY
PLAN 529	AMERICAN INDIAN HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS AND SERVICES
PLAN 532	AMERICAN INDIAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
PLAN 534	AMERICAN INDIAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING
PLAN 560	AMERICAN INDIAN PLANNING STUDIO
Environmental Planning Specialization–Required Core	
PLAN 540	LAND USE PLANNING
PLAN 542	SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES
PLAN 570	ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING
PLAN 571	ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW
Small Town Planning Specialization–Required Core	
PLAN 510	COMMUNITY FACILITIES PLANNING
PLAN 514	LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING
PLAN 540	LAND USE PLANNING
PLAN 572	RURAL AND SMALL TOWN PLANNING
Additional Courses	
PLAN 466	MAIN STREET PLANNING
PLAN 473	PLANNING IN THE WESTERN U.S.
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Total Credits	72

Students who successfully earn a MURP from EWU should be able to do the following:

- demonstrate skills needed to practice planning in a variety of venues in ways consistent with planning ethics;
- understand historical and contemporary planning practice, policy and processes based on knowledge of the relevant concepts and theories;
- understand human settlements as they relate to planning based on knowledge of the relevant concepts and theories;
- understand the different values and ethical standards affecting the practice of planning.