

# CONCENTRATIONS

Students must take two required courses and choose one from the list of recommended courses unless their advisor agrees to waive core or allow alternative course(s). Class number may change without notice, please check SPIRE for the most recent class information.

## Economic and Regional Development Planning

Concentration  
Coordinator  
**Henry Renski**

Economic development is the process by which communities secure the resources necessary to provide for and sustain economic opportunities for their residents. New technologies and global trade have altered the competitive landscape of business—creating new opportunities for some cities and towns while posing great challenges for others. Economic developers continue to deal with the on-going challenges of aging infrastructure, persistent disparities between metropolitan suburbs relative to inner-cities and rural places, dislocated and underemployed workers, and growing income inequality.

The economic and regional development concentration at LARP provides students with the strong foundation needed to become leaders in the growing field of economic development planning. The curriculum integrates theory, methods and practice. Topics of study include: state and local economic development policy; science, technology and entrepreneurship-based economic development; challenges of rural economic development, workforce development, industrial planning, public and private developmental finance; and applied economic and spatial analysis.



## Core Courses

- Economic Development Issues in Planning (RP 643)  
*Spring (1st year)*
- Spatial Analysis and Regional Development (RP 693G)  
*Fall (2nd Year)*

## Possible Electives Include

- Independent study and research in Economic Development (RP 696)\*
- Sustainable Cities (RP 580)
- Growth Management (RP 645)
- Planning Tools and Techniques (RP 652)
- Microeconomics for Public Policy and Administration (PubP 605)
- Public Economics (PubP 606)
- Topics in Urban and Housing Policy (PubP 697B)
- Business and Its Environment (SOM 783)
- Tourism Planning and Development (Ht-Mgt 633)
- Economic Development: Structural Problems (Econ 765)
- Economic Development: Policy Issues (Econ 766)
- Spatial Data Analysis (Geo-Sci 591D)

*Other elective courses will be considered, subject to permission of the Economic Development Concentration Coordinator and Regional Planning Program Director.*

*\* Independent studies require prior approval of the Concentration Coordinator and the faculty supervisor. See section on Independent Study for more information.*