

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.*

Landsuse and Environmental Planning

Concentration
Coordinator
Darrel Ramsey-Musolf
Robert Ryan

This concentration focuses on environmental policy and planning as they relate to preserving, protecting, restoring and enhancing the environmental quality of habitats and landscapes in the context of built form and regional growth. Important knowledge and skills gained in this concentration include landscape assessment, plan formulation and evaluation of landscape units ranging from the site to the watershed and ecosystem scale, and use of Geographic Information Systems as a tool of spatial analysis and assessment.

The focus of this concentration is also understanding the forces affecting urban and regional environments, the interrelationships between land use and social conditions, and ways to support and regulate development to best achieve community goals. Important skills for this concentration include comprehensive planning, zoning and other regulation, development impact mitigation, open space protection, urban and regional design, community participation methods and applications of planning theory.

Core Courses

- Green Infrastructure Planning and Design (RP 591)
- Resource Policy and Planning (RP 553) or Sustainable Cities (RP 591B)
- Tools and Techniques (RP 652)
- Growth Management (RP 645)

Recommended Courses

- Special Issues in Land Use Planning: Climate Change and Cities (RP 692P)
- Landscape Planning Studio (LA 536)
- Landscape Planning Studio II (RP 609/RP 697A) *[only if not taken as a core alternative to Planning Studio II]*
- Sustainable Cities (RP 591B)
- Urban Policies (RP 577)
- Resource Policy and Planning (RP 553)
- Site Design (LA 601; permission of instructor)
- Urban Design (LA 604; permission of instructor)
- People and the Environment (RP 691R)



Community and Equity Planning

Concentration
Coordinator
**Ellen Pader
Flavia Montenegro-
Menezes**

This concentration focuses on equitable, sustainable planning, policy and design for diverse publics. It builds on the assertion that regardless of project, successful planning in the 21st century requires reconciling a multitude of often conflicting frameworks of thought and action. The primary goals of this concentration are 1) To understand how culture, class, race/ethnicity, physical and cognitive health, social philosophy, stakeholder interests, and other human factors influence an individual's/group's potentials, preferences and policy decisions; 2) To apply this knowledge to the exploration of the appropriate questions to ask and learn research and interpretive methods for an engaged, inclusive and responsible planning process. Substantial topics of study include, but are not limited to, the built environment, housing policy, urban development, urban design, spatial relations, public health, discriminatory practices and social change.

Core Courses:

- Planning with Multiple Publics (RP 693S)
- Urban Policies (RP 577) or Housing and Public Health (RP 591G) or People and the Environment (RP 691R)

Recommended Courses:

- Sustainable Cities (RP 591B)
- Anthropological Research Methods (Anth 775)
- Public Anthropology (Anth 697)
- Conflict Resolution (PubP 621)
- Ethics of Public Policy (PubP 622)
- Culture, Community & Health (Pub Health 590C)
- Gender & Health (Pub Health 582)
- Qualitative Research Methods (Pub Health 608)
- Landscape and Memory (Hist 697U)
- Public Welfare Policy (PoliSci 783)
- Race, Ethnicity and the Social Imagination (Soc 723)

Student Designed Concentration

Students who have interests that do not fall into the existing categories may, with the approval of the Graduate Program Director, develop their own concentration proposal. Students should prepare a one-page memo indicating the focus of their studies and the courses they propose to fulfill the concentration. The memo, signed by the student and Graduate Program Director, must be given to the LARP office.

Concentration
Coordinator
Mark Hamin

