

Technological Innovation and Regional Economy

Core Faculty: Camille Barchers (coordinator), Henry Renski, Peter Dunn

This specialization focuses on understanding and anticipating the challenges facing communities because of the changing economy, workforce, and societal needs. We train our students how to plan with communities to proactively address these challenges using community economic and demographic forecasting, participatory scenario planning and evaluation, impact assessment, development policy and finance, and spatial analysis. Faculty teaching in this specialization have interests in understanding the impact of emerging technologies on communities and the use of new communication tools for expanding and improving planning and local governance.

Recommended Courses

- Economic Development Issues in Planning (RP 643)
- Scenario Planning (RP 597S)
- Spatial Analysis and Regional Development (RP 693G)
- Introduction to Land-Use (RP 645)
- Sustainable Cities (RP 580)
- Tools and Techniques in Planning (RP 652)

Barchers, Camille AICP Assistant Professor of Regional Planning, has practiced as a regional planner throughout Florida, the Southeast and mid- Atlantic. Prior to joining LARP, Camille taught in the Leadership Education and Development program at the Georgia Institute of Technology where she also received her PhD in City & Regional Planning. Camille's work examines how planners use technology and how it changes the way we engage with the public. Her research interests include big data applications for long-range planning, internet communication tools, and land use planning.

Renski, Henry Professor of Regional Planning and Director of the Masters of Regional Planning Program. PhD, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 2006. MRP, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, 1998. B.A., University of Southern Maine, 1995. Former Special Assistant to the Governor of the State of Maine in Economic Development. Teaches GIS and economic development. Research focuses on understanding the forces driving regional economic competitiveness and transformation and building upon this knowledge to improve the effectiveness of economic development policy.

Dunn, Peter Lecturer of Regional Planning and Director of Sustainable Community Development undergraduate major. PhD, University of Washington, 2022 (expected), 2010. MS, City Design & Social Science, London School of Economics, BA, University of Virginia. Research focuses on how digital technologies shape urban life and teaches courses on introduction to planning and theory, public space, and communication.