ECOLOGICAL PLANNING, CERTIFICATE

Interest in ecological planning has been increasing in recent years along with the growing awareness of the impacts of climate change on the world's ecosystems, wildlife, and human settlements. The availability of water and the management of storm water and wastewater have become critical issues in planning for the future of human settlements. Of paramount importance is for students to understand the role of natural cycles (hydrologic, carbon, nitrogen, etc.) and the varying carrying capacity of different landscapes to support human settlements. Jobs in sustainability are becoming popular both in the public sector (e.g., Philadelphia's Office of Sustainability) and in the private sector (e.g, environmental compliance officers and consulting firms). The Certificate in Ecological Planning draws on courses within the Weitzman School of Design, the Environmental Studies Program, and other Schools to offer students an interdisciplinary approach to Ecological Planning.

For more information: https://www.design.upenn.edu/all-degrees-certificates/certificate-ecological-planning (https://www.design.upenn.edu/all-degrees-certificates/certificate-ecological-planning/)

Curriculum

A total of 5 course units are required to complete the Certificate program.

Students in the MCP program with a Land Use and Environmental Planning concentration must, in addition to the four courses taken to meet the LUEP Concentration requirements, take a Science Course Elective and two additional courses from the Other Elective Courses list. The Science Course and Other Elective Courses may not double-count for the LUEP concentration and Ecological Planning Certificate.

Code	Title	Course Units
Required Courses [1]		
Foundation Courses		
CPLN 5310	Sustainability and Environmental Planning	1
CPLN 7020	Planning Studio [2]	2
Science Course Elective		
Select one of the following:		1
ENVS 5404	Wetlands	
ENVS 6224	Bioremediation	
Other Elective [3]		
Select one of the following:		1
ARCH 7340	Ecological Architecture - Contemporary Practices	
ARCH 7510	Ecology, Technology, and Design	
BEPP 7610	Climate Risks and Opportunities	
CPLN 6310	Planning for Land Conservation	
CPLN 6350	Water Policy	
CPLN 6750	Land Use and Environmental Modeling	
CPLN 7300	Sustainable Cities	
LARP 7600	Topics in Ecological Design	
LARP 7610	Urban Ecology	
LAW 6340	Environmental Law	
Total Course Units		**5**

1. Substitutions to required courses must be approved in writing by the director of the certificate program and submitted to the Weitzman School of Design Office of Student Services.
2. MLA students could take the CPLN 7020 Ecological Systems studio or propose to have one of the available LARP 7000-level studios substitute for the CPLN studio, with approval of program directors.
3. Alternative elective courses must be approved in writing by the director of the certificate program and submitted to the Weitzman School of Design Office of Student Services.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2026 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.