

CITY & REGIONAL PLANNING: URBAN DESIGN, MCP

The Master of City Planning core curriculum encompasses the basic skills and knowledge required of all planners regardless of their specialization, and is a hallmark of our cutting-edge and practical approach to educating city planners. Students who complete the core will understand the legal and historical basis of city planning; they will know how to use a wide variety of population and economic data to understand local communities; and they will understand the form and arrangement of cities and metropolitan areas around the world. Most important, they will understand which planning approaches work best in which contexts and circumstances.

The Urban Design concentration focuses on understanding the links between the physical form and structure of cities and regions and the economic, social and political forces that shape them. It provides knowledge about alternative theories and methods for the physical improvement of urban places and includes courses in graphic communication, the history and theory of design, and the context and operation of development incentives and controls. Graduates from the Urban Design concentration typically work in local government or for private design firms developing urban design plans, neighborhood and district plans, public space and street plans, and, increasingly, plans for new communities.

For more information: <https://www.design.upenn.edu/city-regional-planning/graduate/program> (<https://www.design.upenn.edu/city-regional-planning/graduate/program/>)

Curriculum

A total of 18 course units are required for graduation. 15 course units must be in City Planning (CPLN) courses.

Code	Title	Course Units
City & Regional Planning Requirements		
<i>Core Requirements</i>		
CPLN 5000	Introduction to City Planning: History, Theory and Practice	1
CPLN 5010	Quantitative Planning Analysis Methods	1
CPLN 5020	Urban Economics and Public Finance	1
or CPLN 5090	Law of Planning and Urban Development	
CPLN 6000	Studio I	2
CPLN 7XXX	Planning Studio	2
<i>Spatial Analysis Requirement</i>		
Select one of the following:		1
CPLN 5030	Modeling Geographical Objects	
CPLN 6320	Modeling Geographic Space	
ENVS 5706	Modeling Geographical Objects	
<i>General Electives</i>		
Select 5-6 course units		5-6
Urban Design Requirements		
CPLN 6600	Fundamentals of Urban Design	2
CPLN 5040	Site Planning	1
CPLN 7600	Public Realm Studio	2

Other UDE-related course with permission of advisor

Total Course Units 18

¹ Students in the Urban Design concentration may may not take CPLN 5040 to meet their Core Breadth Methods requirement.

Internship Requirement

Because a planning education extends beyond the classroom, all MCP students are required to complete a planning internship, usually between their first and second years. Internships may be paid or unpaid, for at least six weeks. Internships can be completed at any government agency or commission, private consulting firm, or non-profit or advocacy organization involved in planning practice, or research.

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2023 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.