MASTER OF CITY PLANNING DEGREE, COLLEGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY
PROGRAM STATEMENT
2012–2013

PROGRAM OVERVIEW:
The mission of the Department of City and Regional Planning is to improve equity, the economy and
the environment in neighborhoods, communities, cities, and metropolitan regions by creating
knowledge and engagement through our teaching, research and service. We aim to design and
create cities, infrastructure, and public services that are sustainable, affordable, enjoyable, and
accessible to all.

Wisely and successfully intervening in the public realm, whether locally, nationally, or globally, is a
challenge. Our urban future is complex and rapidly changing. Resource scarcity and conflict,
technological innovation, retrofitting of existing built environments, and social empowerment will
alter the ways in which planning has conventionally been carried out. We believe the planning
academy has a special responsibility to always address social justice, equity, and ethics; to teach and
research means of public participation, collective decision making, and advocacy; and to focus on
reforming institutions, urban governance, policy and planning practices to make these goals
possible.

DCRP provides its many successful graduates with:
• Lifelong analytical, research, and communication skills;
• The knowledge and skill sets to successfully practice planning in a variety of urban,
  metropolitan, and regional settings;
• An understanding of the history and theory of cities and urban regions;
• Expertise in various fields and sub-fields of city and regional planning;
• Sensitivity to the human impacts of planning decisions.

The Master of City Planning (M.C.P.) degree combines a common core curriculum with the
opportunity to specialize in one of five concentration areas and three optional field areas:

Concentrations:
• Transportation Policy and Planning
• Housing Community and Economic Development
• Urban Design
• Land Use Planning
• Environmental Planning and Policy

Fields:
• International and Comparative Planning
• GIS and Spatial Analysis
• Metropolitan/Regional Planning

Degree Requirements
To earn the M.C.P. degree, a student must complete:
1. 48 units of coursework within two consecutive years of residence (unless in dual-degree
   program);
2. The core curriculum;
3. Coursework in a designated or individual concentration; and
4. A Client Report, Professional Report, or Master’s Thesis, normally completed during the
   next-to-last or last semester of studies.

The normative time for completion of the M.C.P. degree is four consecutive semesters, or two years.
Program Selection and Advising:
Students plan their individual programs with the help of their assigned faculty advisors. Faculty advisors will also guide students as they plan, develop and write their Professional Report, Client Report or Thesis. First-year students should set an initial meeting with their assigned advisors during the first or second week of classes. At the conclusion of the first semester, students will choose and declare a concentration by completing a study plan, signed by the advisor, and filing it with the Graduate Student Affairs Officer (GSAO). If student’s declared concentration is outside of their assigned advisor’s concentration, students should change advisors at this time.

Registration and Enrollment:
The Office of the Registrar considers a student officially registered for the semester once they 1) have enrolled in at least one course 2) have paid either full fees or at least 20 percent of assessed registration fees, and 3) have no blocks on their registration. All DCRP graduate students are required to enroll in a minimum of 12 units per semester in order to meet the 48-unit to degree requirement in two years, and to maintain financial aid eligibility. Students receiving funding dispersed by the department or graduate division fellowships office will not receive payments until they are officially registered. In addition, students with academic appointments at 25 percent time or greater will lose their fee remissions if they are not registered and enrolled by the deadline.

Students register for courses during the first phase of their Telebears appointment. The academic calendar and deadlines are on the Office of the Registrars website (http://registrar.berkeley.edu/Default.aspx?PageID=stucal.html).

Dual degree students need an advisor code to register and must contact the GSAO in both programs for their code.

Coursework and Grading:
All students are required to take core and concentration requirements for a letter grade and may not take more than 1/3 of their total units on an S/U (satisfactory/unsatisfactory) basis. Students are allowed to have a maximum of 6 units of 299 independent study courses, and a combined total of 3 units of 297 and 295 applied towards their degree.

The department strongly prefers all students to enroll in graduate level courses to meet the unit requirement; however, students may also take upper division undergraduate courses towards elective units (course numbers 100-199). Undergraduate lower division courses (course numbers 0-99) do not count towards the 48 unit degree requirement, nor do they count towards credit for graduate study at UC Berkeley. Students who take lower division undergraduate courses will have to increase their course load to make up the additional units.

Core and Concentration Course Curriculum, Waivers and Substitutions:

Core Courses
Core courses are intended to be foundational building blocks for more advanced courses. Therefore it is strongly recommended that students complete the core course requirements in their first year in the program. Students who have, prior to entering the MCP Program, already completed coursework that covers the same material of a core course may request a waiver by the beginning of the spring semester of their FIRST YEAR. No exceptions will be made to this policy.
To request a waiver, the student must submit a Core Course Waiver Form to the MCP Program Committee, via the GSAO, along with the syllabus of the course or courses already taken. The MCP Program Committee will consult with the core course faculty on equivalency of the courses, and will inform the student on its decision on the waiver.

Students in concurrent degree programs may be allowed to substitute a similar course required by the other degree program for a core course in the MCP program. The student must submit a Core Course Substitution Request to the MCP Program Committee prior to taking the course, and no later than the beginning of their second to the last semester before their intended graduation, along with the syllabus of the proposed substitute course. The MCP Program Committee will consult with the core course faculty, and will inform the student of its decision on the substitution.

If a student’s petition is approved, they will have to make up the units to degree through elective courses to complete the 48 unit minimum (or 36 units towards MCP for concurrent degree students).

**Concentration Courses**
Concentration course substitutions are rare as there are many courses to choose from. In certain cases it may be appropriate for a student to request a substitution of a concentration course. In such cases it is best for the student to consult with their faculty advisor first, and to contact the GSAO on the appropriate steps. The MCP Program Committee makes the final decision.

**INTERNSHIPS:**
All students are expected to complete a three-month internship in a planning-related position usually between their first and second years of study, unless exempted by previous work experience. Frequently, the work completed during a summer internship forms the basis for the professional report. International students who hold an F-1 or J-1 visa must complete an internship during their two years of study.

**ADVANCING TO CANDIDACY:**
In order to receive the M.C.P. degree, all students must be advanced to candidacy during their final semester of study. To advance to candidacy, students are required to complete the MCP Degree Checklist Form no later than the first week of the students last semester of study. An email with the form will be sent to eligible students in November, along with instructions and a submission deadline. Students are required to meet with a Graduate Student Affairs Officer prior to the deadline to submit the form that ensures all final degree requirements will be completed.

The MCP Degree Checklist Form lists all courses and units taken for completion of the degree, for a minimum of 48 units (36 units for dual degree students) required for the M.C.P. degree. No more than a maximum of 6 units of 299 independent study courses, and a combined total of 3 units of 297 and 295 may be applied towards the degree. **Lower division undergraduate courses (numbered 1-99) do not count towards the 48 unit M.C.P. requirement.** Two-thirds of all course work must be letter-graded, and only courses graded C- or better, or Satisfactory, will count towards the degree.
Core Curriculum
M.C.P. students complete the core curriculum as follows:

1. **History and Theory Requirement** - Students complete **at least one** of the following courses:
   - CY PLAN 200: History of City Planning (F, 3 units)
   - CY PLAN 281: Theories of Planning Practice (Sp, w/CP271, 3 units)
   - CY PLAN 282: Planning and Governing (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

2. **Skills and Methods Requirement** - Students complete a **minimum of 8 units** from the following courses:
   - CY PLAN 204A: Methods of Planning Data Analysis (F, 2 or 4 units)
   - CY PLAN 204B: Research Methods for Planners (Sp, 4 units)
   - CY PLAN 204C: Introduction to GIS and City Planning (Sp, 4 units)
   - CY PLAN 204D: Multivariate Analysis in Planning (Sp, 4 units)
   - CY PLAN C241: Research Methods in Environmental Design (F, 4 units)
   - CY PLAN 255: Urban Planning Applications of GIS (Not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

   **Notes:**
   - **All students must take the first two units of CY PLAN 204A.**
   - **Students may be allowed to substitute a methods course from another department to satisfy up to three units of the Skills and Methods Requirement. Process for core course substitution requests must be followed.**

3. **Institutions Requirement:** Students complete **at least one** of the following courses:
   - CY PLAN 205: Introduction to Planning and Environmental Law (F, 3 units)
   - CY PLAN 206: Planning Institutions and Organizations (Sp, 3 units)
   - CY PLAN C251: Environmental Planning and Regulation (F, 3 units)

4. **Economics Requirement:** Students complete **at least one** of the following two courses:
   - CY PLAN 207: Land and Housing Market Economics (Sp, 3 units)
   - CY PLAN C234: Housing and the Urban Economy (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

   **Note:**
   - **Students who have not previously taken an undergraduate microeconomics course may complete this requirement by taking CY PLAN 113A.**

5. **Professional Report/Client Report/Thesis Workshop**
   - CY PLAN 290A: PR/CR/Thesis Workshop (F or Sp, 1 unit, taken in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} or 3\textsuperscript{rd} semester)
**Concentration Areas:**
The MCP program includes five concentrations and three fields of study. Concentrations provide an opportunity for students to develop deeper knowledge and skills in a particular sub-area of planning. Fields offer further specialization in conjunction with any one of the concentrations. On occasion students may request the approval of a self-defined concentration and must work with their faculty advisor and GSAO to submit such proposals to the MCP Program Committee for approval.

Note: Students may not use the same course to satisfy core, concentration, or field requirements.

**Concentration in Transportation Policy and Planning**

*Faculty Advisors: Robert Cervero, Daniel Chatman, Elizabeth Deakin, Paul Waddell*

The Transportation Concentration focuses on planning for urban transportation systems as well as the interaction between transportation and built, natural, and social environments. The concentration imparts the necessary knowledge and skills for rigorously analyzing contemporary transportation problems as well as a policy framework for probing the broader social, economic, and environmental implications of alternative choices. Contemporary topics covered in the transportation planning curriculum include: impacts of transit and highways on urban form and economic development; impacts of transit-oriented development and new urbanism designs on travel behavior; sustainable transport investments; highway and transit finance; congestion pricing; social and environmental justice; jobs-housing balance and regional mobility; streets and pedestrian-oriented designs; transportation planning in the developing world; and comparative international transportation policies.

As concerns heighten over regional mobility, air quality, global climate change, energy, and equality of access, it is increasingly important that transportation planners apply a multi-disciplinary approach to the field. Accordingly, students in the transportation concentration are encouraged to augment the department’s transportation course offerings by designing a study program, in consultation with their advisor, which involves course work in other fields and departments.

A two and a half year joint degree program in this area is available in Transportation Engineering in through the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, where students receive both M.C.P. and M.S. degrees. See the MCP Concurrent Degrees Handbook for additional information.

**Required Courses**

- CY PLAN C213/CIV ENG 290U: Transportation and Land Use Planning (F, 3 units)
- CY PLAN C217/CIV ENG 250: Transportation Policy and Planning (Sp, 3 units)

**Required Studio:**

- CY PLAN 218: Transportation Planning Studio (Sp, 4 units)

**Recommended Electives (optional)**

- CY PLAN 214: Infrastructure Planning and Policy (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 219: Comparative International Topics in Transportation (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
Concentration in Housing, Community and Economic Development (HCED)
Faculty Advisors: Nezar AlSayyad, Teresa Caldeira, Karen Chapple, Karen Christensen, Malo Hutson, Carolina Reid, Ananya Roy, Michael Smith-Heimer

Housing is probably planning’s oldest sub-field. In one form or another, planners have been involved in framing housing policies, creating housing plans, and developing publicly-funded housing projects for more than one hundred years. Housing planners work at all levels: at the national level drafting and administering housing policies; at the local level developing and implementing housing programs and plans; as community, non-profit, and for-profit developers of affordable housing; and as advocates for new types of housing and different housing ownership forms.

Community development, as currently practiced in the U.S., grew out of frustrations with urban renewal and anti-poverty efforts of the 1950s and 1960s. In response to the failures of prior top-down policies and programs, the community development field emerged as a way of mobilizing communities to play a larger role in affecting their futures. Today, community developers work in the public sector, the private sector, and the nonprofit sector. They help to develop the skills, capacities, and assets of all segments of society. Of particular concern are disadvantaged communities and the unequal access to opportunities that people of such communities are faced with in their daily lives.

In the past twenty years, the field of economic development has blossomed at the local and community level for several reasons. First, local governments have increasingly experienced fiscal stress, leading to new entrepreneurial approaches to attracting and retaining business and a skilled workforce. Second, the devolution of most social programs from the federal to the state/local level, along with the decreased funding for the safety net, has led cities to focus increasingly on social equity in their economic development programs. Finally, the field of community economic development has come of age, offering an increasing number of best practices in developing assets and improving employability for disadvantaged community residents. Economic development specialists work not only in local government, but also at business and economics consulting firms and community-based organizations.

Students in the HCED concentration must take at least one course from each of the following groupings:

(1) Theory, Policy, and Practice; (2) Skills and Methods; and (3) Studio/Practicum/Workshop:

Theory, Policy, and Practice
- CY PLAN 223: Economic Development Planning (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 230: US Housing Planning and Policy (F, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 231: Housing in Developing Countries (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 234: Housing and the Urban Economy (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 260: Theory, History, and Practice of Community Development (F, 3 units)

Skills and Methods
- CY PLAN 225: Workshop in Regional Analysis (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 235²: Methods of Project Analysis (Sp, 3 units)
- CY PLAN C261: Citizen Involvement in the City Planning Process (F, 3 units)
• Public Health 204D: Community Organization and Building for Health (3-4 units – check with Public Health)

Studio (one of the following):
• CY PLAN 228: Metropolitan and Regional Economic Development Studio (F, 4 units)
• CY PLAN 238: Development - Design Studio (F, 4 units)
• CY PLAN 268: Community Development Studio/Workshop (Sp, 4 units)

1 HCED students who take CY PLAN C234 to meet their core economics requirement may not use it to also meet their HCED Theory, Policy, and Practice requirement.

2 Students should take CY PLAN 235 prior to CY PLAN 238

Concentration in Urban Design
Faculty Advisors: Nezar AlSayyad, Peter Bosselmann, Elizabeth Macdonald

Urban designers are concerned with how communities look, how they feel, and how they work for the people who use them. Urban design is the art of shaping urban environments over time and giving form to neighborhoods and cities, as well as creating environments that are educative and just. It is concerned with creating alternatives for the form, use, and management of the large-scale urban environment and draws upon city planning, architecture, landscape architecture, and the social sciences for its theory and methods. “Design” is a key, operative word: urban designers design urban physical environments. Work ranges in scale from small public spaces or streets to neighborhoods, city-wide systems, or whole regions. Because urban designers work for the public in one way or another, they must have an understanding of the physical-form implications of social, legal, and economic policies.

Students concentrating in urban design frequently have some design background, typically in architecture, landscape architecture, environmental design, or urban planning with a design emphasis, but a design background is not required.

Graduates in urban design work with public agencies, largely at the local government scale but also with government institutions at larger scales whose responsibilities include design issues. They work as well with private architectural, landscape, city planning, and community development firms whose clients are both public and private.

A three or four year joint degree program in this area is available with the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, where students receive both M.C.P. and M.L.A. degrees. See the MCP Concurrent Degrees Handbook for additional information.

Required Courses
• CY PLAN C240: Theories of Urban Form and Design (F, 3 units)
• CY PLAN C241: Research Methods in Environmental Design (F, 4 units)

Required Studio:
• CY PLAN 248: Advanced Studio: Urban Design/Environmental Planning (Sp, 5 units)
Recommended Electives (optional)

Urban Design Studios:
• CY PLAN 208: Plan Preparation Studio (Sp, 5 units)
• CY PLAN C243: Shaping the Public Realm (not offered in AY 12-13, 5 units)
• ARCH 201: Case Studies in Architectural Design – when urban design focus (5 units- check with Architecture Department)

Design in Process:
• CY PLAN 249: Urban Design in Planning (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

Natural Factors:
• LD ARCH 222: Hydrology for Planners (3 units – check with LAEP Department) or
• LD ARCH 225: Urban Forest Planning and Management – check with LAEP Department

Concentration in Land Use Planning
Faculty Advisors: Robert Cervero, Elizabeth Deakin, Fred Etzel, Paul Waddell

Land use planning is the heart of the profession of city and regional planning. Land use planning is tied to transportation and to housing, to urban design, and to environmental planning. Land use planners work with regional and metropolitan planners, with economic developers, and with developers of private projects. They work in towns, cities, counties, special districts, and states. They work in the private sector as planning consultants and as land planners. Land use planning, in short, is the “glue” that holds the field together.

The practice of land use planning is drawn from three traditions. The first is the tradition of the general plan: the idea of a constitution—put to map form—for local residents and their governments. The second is that of regulating local land uses to prevent negative spillovers. This tradition has grown from Euclidean Zoning and the principle of separating incompatible uses through subdivision controls, to modern times and the California Environmental Quality Act. The third tradition is more normative: it is based on the idea that good cities and good neighborhoods must be carefully thought out, planned, and designed.

Required Courses
• CY PLAN 205: Introduction to Planning and Environmental Law¹ (F, 3 units)
• CY PLAN 252: Land Use Controls (Sp, 3 units)

Required Studio (one of the following):
• CY PLAN 208: Plan Preparation Studio (Sp, 5 units)
• CY PLAN 258: Land Use Planning Studio (Sp, w/CY PLAN 218, 4 units)

Recommended Electives
• CY PLAN C213: Transportation and Land Use Planning (F, 3 units)

¹Urban design students who take CY PLAN C241 to meet their core skills and methods requirement must complete 1 course from the list of recommended electives.
²Students without a design background are also required to take CY PLAN 208 prior to taking CY PLAN 248.
• CY PLAN 214: Infrastructure Planning and Policy (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
• CY PLAN C240: Theories of Urban Form and Design (F, 3 units)
• CY PLAN 254: Sustainable Communities (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

Note:
Students who take CY PLAN 205 to meet their MCP core institutions requirement must complete 1 course from the list of electives.

Concentration in Environmental Planning and Policy
Faculty Advisors: Jason Corburn, Elizabeth Deakin, Elizabeth Macdonald, John Radke, Jennifer Wolch
(on leave as Dean of UC Berkeley’s College of Environmental Design)

The environmental planning and policy concentration is designed to give M.C.P. students a broad knowledge of the relationship between the built environment and the natural environment, as well as specific technical skills that can be applied professionally to solve environmental problems. Environmental issues affect every aspect of planning, so it is necessary to have an understanding of history, theory, institutions, economics, law, quantitative and qualitative methods, urban design, and natural factors. The program is particularly concerned with the relationship between human settlements and the natural environment. Students are encouraged to consider how negative environmental impacts can be mitigated through the development of alternative approaches to urban settlement patterns, urban design, and infrastructure systems. Both physical planning and non-spatial policy affect environmental planning and policy.

A three or four year joint degree program in this area is available with the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, where students receive both M.C.P. and M.L.A. degrees. See the MCP Concurrent Degrees Handbook for additional information.

Required Courses:
• CY PLAN C251: Environmental Planning and Regulation (F, 3 units)
• 6 units from list of electives below

Studio (one of the following):
• LD ARCH 205: Environmental Planning Studio (Sp, 5 units – check with LAEP Department)
• CY PLAN 291: Special Projects Studio in Planning (F, Sp, 4-6 units; with EP topic)
• CY PLAN 268: Community Development Studio/Workshop (Sp, 4 units)

Recommended Electives:
• CY PLAN 204C: Introduction to GIS and City Planning (Sp, 4 units)
• CY PLAN 256: Healthy Cities (F, 3 units)
• CY PLAN C257: The Process of Environmental Planning (Sp, 3 units)
• CY PLAN 254: Sustainable Communities (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
• LD ARCH 221: Sustainable Communities (not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)
• ENVECON Environmental Economics and Policy C101 (4 units)
• ESPM 256: Science, Technology, and the Politics of Nature (3 units)
• ENE,RES 275: Water and Development (3 units)
• SOCIOL 205U: Society and Environment (3 units)
• ESPM 214: Race, Science, and Resource Policy (3 units)
• PB HLTH 267D Health Impact Assessment (3 units)
• PB HLTH 271E: Science and Policy for Environment and Health (3 units)
• PB HLTH 220C: Health Risk Assessment, Regulation, and Policy (4 units)

**Self-Defined Concentration**

**Faculty Advisors: DCRP Student’s Faculty Advisor**

Students are strongly encouraged to complete one of the defined MCP concentrations. It is not the intent of the faculty to permit students to create concentrations that are not substantively focused on city and regional planning topics and fields of study.

The preferred method for a student to build specialized expertise is to take one of the defined concentrations and use electives to develop cross-cutting expertise. However, if a student wishes to build specialized expertise based on DCRP courses but crossing concentration lines, perhaps using occasional or unique course offerings in the department, the student may develop a well-articulated proposal for a self-defined concentration, which will be considered by the MCP Program Committee. Requirements and procedures for obtaining approval of a Self-Defined Concentration are as follows.

**Requirements:**

• The self-defined concentration is to be composed of three courses, including a studio, which ordinarily should be drawn from DCRP course offerings, including one-time offerings or occasionally offered DCRP courses. However, one course may be drawn from another department if its inclusion in the concentration is justified. If a non-DCRP course is proposed as part of the concentration, a syllabus of the course should be provided, along with an explanation of why the concentration cannot be fulfilled by DCRP courses (i.e. what is the compelling need that DCRP courses cannot fulfill and/or why the non-DCRP course cannot be taken as an elective).

• In the case that an MCP concentration that a student wanted to pursue is discontinued after the student is admitted, then special consideration will be given and the self-defined concentration may include more than one course drawn from outside the department. As well, special consideration will be given regarding the date by which the proposal for a self-designed concentration must be submitted to the MCP Program Committee.

**Procedures:**

• The student must prepare a brief proposal (not to exceed two pages) for a self-defined concentration. The proposal must contain a statement justifying the need for a self-defined concentration, and explaining how it has been conceptualized and its content. It must be attached to a filled out Self-Defined Concentration Declaration form. (If a non-DCRP course is proposed, the syllabus must also be attached.)

• The student’s advisor must review the proposal and indicate approval by signing the form before the proposal is submitted to the MCP Program Committee via the GSAO.

• The proposal and signed form must be submitted to the GSAO for review by MCP Program Committee before the deadline to declare a concentration, before the first week of classes in the 2nd semester of study.

The MCP Program Committee will review the proposal and inform the student of its decision. The committee may require additional information regarding the proposal, which must be submitted within a week of the request.
Field Areas:

Field in GIS and Spatial Analysis  
*Faculty Advisors: John Radke and Paul Waddell*

GIS is more than pretty maps. It also includes remarkably powerful tools for spatial analysis and modeling, and for remote sensing. Geographical Information Systems (GIS) are today widely applied in planning, used for land use and growth management, environmental assessment, and fiscal analysis. Regional and international planners use GIS to plan infrastructure and coordinate urban development policies. Transportation planners use GIS for logistics planning, travel demand modeling and projections, and simulation. Environmental planners use GIS for long-term ecosystem planning as well as to identify critical environmental resources. Urban designers increasingly are using GIS and related technologies to look at site plans in 3-D view.

Course Requirements (three from the following list)  
- LD ARCH C188X: Introduction to GIS (F, 3 units)  
- CY PLAN 204C: Introduction to GIS and City Planning (Sp, 4 units)  
- CY PLAN 255: Urban Planning Applications of GIS (Not offered in AY 11-12, 3 units)  
- LD ARCH 221: Quantitative Methods in Env. Planning (F, 3 units – *check with LAEP Department*)

Field in International and Comparative Planning  
*Faculty Advisors: Nezar AlSayyad, Teresa Caldeira, Robert Cervero, Michael Dear, Ananya Roy*

The International and Comparative Planning field provides grounded knowledge of international development planning and key international actors. It establishes a rigorous theoretical framework for studying the political economy of global change at multiple scales ranging from the urban neighborhood to supra-national institutions. To this end, it teaches transnational and comparative methodologies of analysis that are relevant to all sectors of planning.

Course Requirements (3 from the following list):  
- CY PLAN 219: Comparative International Topics in Transportation (Not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)  
- CY PLAN 231: Housing in Developing Countries (Not offered in AY 11-12, 3 units)  
- CY PLAN 271: Development Theories and Practices (Sp, w/CP 281, 3 units)  
- CY PLAN 275: Comparative Analysis of Urban Policies (Not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

Field in Metropolitan/Regional Planning  
*Faculty Advisors: Nezar AlSayyad, Peter Bosselmann, Karen Chapple, Jason Corburn, Elizabeth Deakin, Michael Dear, Ananya Roy, Paul Waddell, AnnaLee Saxenian (on leave as dean of UC Berkeley’s School of Information)*

The Metropolitan/Regional Planning field examines institutions, governance, economic development and metropolitan form at metropolitan and regional scales. It provides a theoretical framework that focuses on the connections across substantive fields — such as transportation and economic development or housing and natural resource protection — and thus prepares students to work across sectors, scales and boundaries. Because new governance processes require planners to work with a variety of methodologies, this field offers different toolkits to understand metropolitan...
dynamics. Students are required to take one of the two core courses and then can choose two electives. The field thus offers a choice between professional and academic tracks.

Course Requirements (3 from the following list):
- CY PLAN 228: Research Workshop on Metropolitan Regional Planning (F, 4 units)
- CY PLAN 254: Sustainable Communities (Not offered in AY 11-12, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 271: Development Theories and Practices (Sp, w/ CP 281, 3 units)
- CY PLAN 275: Comparative Analysis of Urban Policies (Not offered in AY 12-13, 3 units)

Final Degree Requirement:
DCRP students may enroll for a maximum of three credits of CY PLAN 299 during the semester in which they are writing a client or professional report, and four credit units while writing a Master’s Thesis. Regardless of the option selected, students are required to enroll in the PR/CR/Thesis Workshop Course during the second or third semester of the M.C.P. degree program.

Comprehensive Exam (Plan II): Client Report (CR)
The Client Report (CR) is undertaken for an outside client or agency and aims to satisfy the needs of the focus institution. It provides an opportunity for students to study a real-world planning issue in diagnosing a problem situation, selecting appropriate analytic methods, evaluating alternative approaches, and recommending an approach or solution. The CR is carried out in a manner demonstrating high professional judgment and competence, and at a length of 40 to 50 pages, it reflects the scope and depth of a comprehensive research project worthy of postgraduate distinction.

The CR is written under the supervision of a three-person committee nominated by the student. This committee typically includes two members of the DCRP faculty and a third member from outside the University—usually the client to which the report is directed. Only ladder-rank faculty (Professor, Associate Professor or Assistant Professor) or Adjunct Professors can serve on CR committees, but the chairperson of the CR committee need not be the student’s regular advisor. Final CRs are submitted to the GSAO and will be cataloged in the College of Environmental Design Library.

Comprehensive Exam (Plan II): The Professional Research Report (PR)
The Professional Research Report (PR) is also undertaken for an outside client. Each summer, the department solicits a list of researchable questions from a wide variety of planning, policy and research agencies, firms, and non-profit organizations. Alternately, interested students may solicit outside clients themselves.

PR clients, unlike CR clients, will not provide day-to-day input or management, nor specify the report format. The specific research methodology and report format is developed with the assistance of a two-person DCRP faculty committee nominated by the student, consisting of a primary and secondary advisor. Only ladder-rank faculty (Professor, Associate Professor or Assistant Professor) or Adjunct Professors can serve on PR committees. Completion of the Professional Report requires the signatures of the primary and secondary advisors. Note that the chairperson of the CR committee need not be the student’s regular advisor and must be a ladder-rank faculty member.

In comparison to the CR, the Professional Report generally focuses more on study design and interpreting findings versus real-world implementation and satisfying the needs and wants of a
client. Final PRs are submitted to the Graduate Student Affairs Officer and will be cataloged in the College of Environmental Design Library.

**Additional Information regarding Client Reports and Professional Reports:**

**Group Projects:**
The Graduate Council has stated that joint or group work is not acceptable as the basis for awarding graduate degrees. Students may collaborate on research projects under the traditional supervision of a faculty guidance committee. However, each student must write a thesis or Master’s Project report that represents a cohesive presentation of the research conducted and is capable of standing independently from the project. Each student’s work must be evaluated individually.

**Human Research Protection:**
The Committee for Protection of Human Subjects (CPHS) serves as the institutional review board (IRB) at UC Berkeley. The IRB must review and approve the use of human subjects in research. The process is designed to ensure that the rights and welfare of human subjects are protected throughout their participation in research projects. UC Berkeley operates within the regulations and guidelines set forth by federal authorities, primarily the Office for Human Research Protections and the Food and Drug Administration, as well as other bodies. The [Office for the Protection of Human Subjects (OPHS)](http://cphs.berkeley.edu/) provides operational and staffing support to the CPHS and administers all human subjects research performed on behalf of UC Berkeley.

To determine if your project requires CPHS/OPHS review, we suggest that you start with the links below. In addition, please consult with the chair of your committee who is required to be a ladder rank DCRP faculty member.

- What Needs CPHS/OPHS Review: [http://cphs.berkeley.edu/review.html](http://cphs.berkeley.edu/review.html)
- Where to Start: Decision Tree: [http://cphs.berkeley.edu/DecisionTree.pdf](http://cphs.berkeley.edu/DecisionTree.pdf)

**Master’s Thesis (Plan I)**
The Thesis is an alternative to the Professional or Client Reports. It is most appropriate for students actively involved in academic research projects, and must conform to proper scholarly conventions. It must pose an original research question or issue, and develop and carry out an appropriate research design. A thesis frequently will be longer than a Professional Report and less constrained by the particular context of the planning problem.

Thesis committees are composed of three ladder-rank faculty members, two of whom must be from DCRP (including the thesis committee chair); the third committee member must be a faculty member in another department. Theses are filed with the [Graduate Degrees Office](http://cphs.berkeley.edu/) by the deadlines posted on their website. The Thesis must also satisfy style guidelines set by the [Graduate Division](http://cphs.berkeley.edu/). Students can receive up to 4 credits of independent study (CY PLAN 299) for the Thesis during their third or fourth semester.

Students who are using human subjects in their research must complete the “Course in the Protection of Human Subjects” (referred to as the CITI course) available online (http://www.citiprogram.org) and print out the certificate of completion, prior to the start of their research. This certificate must be submitted with the advancement form.