

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING SPECIALIZATION, MUP Program

The specialization in environmental planning addresses the interactions between urban systems and natural processes. It emphasizes the design and management of urban development patterns that minimize environmental impacts, reduce risks from natural hazards, and improve the quality of life of human populations. The specialization provides the theoretical, methodological, and legal background necessary for planners to play an effective role in integrating scientific knowledge of environmental systems into environmental decision-making and planning. The specialization prepares professional planners to:

- Integrate different disciplinary approaches to analyze urban and regional environmental problems
- Use a broad set of analytical and evaluation techniques to assess the impacts of urban development on natural resources.
- Apply a multi-disciplinary perspective to design environmental policies and plans.
- Apply advanced spatial data infrastructures and technologies to urban environmental analysis and decision making.
- Apply methods for resolving conflicts in environmental and resource management.
- Address institutional and intergovernmental constraints to the implementation of environmental policies and plans.

Required foundation courses*

URBDP 598	Making Policy with Science	Autumn	Whittington
<i>URBDP 598 Making Policy with Science is the prerequisite for URBDP 598 Environmental Planning.</i>			
URBDP 598	Environmental Planning	Spring	Alberti
URBDP 522	Geospatial Analysis	Winter	variable

Electives

A minimum of two additional courses in urban ecology, natural hazards mitigation, or other environmental planning subjects covered in courses within or outside the department, to be determined in consultation with the faculty advisor.

Studio, and thesis or professional project

If available, a studio dealing with environmental planning issues.

A thesis or professional project related to this area of specialization.

* Except where prerequisites are noted, required courses can be taken in the 1st or 2nd year.