

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP05.09

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



October 29, 2004

Abbas Aminmansour, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Aminmansour:

Enclosed are copies of a proposal from the Department of Urban and Regional Planning to create a minor in urban planning.

This proposal has been approved by the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and the College of Fine and Applied Arts; it now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,

Keith A. Marshall, Ph.D.  
Assistant Provost

Enclosures

c: C. Livingstone  
E. Harwood  
R. Olshansky

EP.05.09  
(Revised)

## STANDARD MINOR APPROVAL FORM

Title of the proposed minor:                    **Urban Planning Minor**

Sponsoring unit(s):                            **Department of Urban and Regional Planning**  
  
  **College of Fine and Applied Arts**

Date: February 9, 2005

### Description

As our students find themselves in an increasingly complex global environment, they are seeking courses that will deepen their understanding of the contemporary issues and factors shaping the development and functioning of cities in the U.S. and worldwide. With its interdisciplinary character and scope that ranges from a local neighborhood to international mega-cities, urban planning introduces the students to the general societal development concepts and categories in an applied and tangible manner.

Urban planning focuses on human actions that can guide and effect change in urban settings. It offers a pragmatic conceptual apparatus and skills that prepare students for a variety of future employment opportunities in public, private, and non-profit sector organizations. Statistical and policy analysis, communication and presentation, computer applications, research methods, problem identification and solving, are among the skills that are needed to support urban planning.

We believe that it is this applied nature and action-oriented study that attracts an increasing number of students. The Department has already been receiving inquiries about the availability of the minor for the past several years. It presently offers a professional undergraduate Bachelor of Arts in Urban Planning (BAUP)

degree, accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board, the national accreditation body of the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP). The current requirements for the BAUP are listed in the University of Illinois Programs of Study.

The proposed Urban Planning Minor will focus on a subset of the BAUP core courses that provide:

- An introduction to cities as physical artifacts and arenas where many social, economic, and environmental problems are manifested, and
- An overview of planning as an action-oriented professional field that guides the development and re-development of cities with an overarching goal of improving the quality of life for all residents through adequate housing, infrastructure, access to urban services and facilities, and healthy and sustainable natural environment.

### Requirements

We propose that students enrolled in the Urban Planning Minor complete 20 credit hours of required coursework, including 4 core courses and 2 electives. Two of the listed core courses also satisfy general education requirements.

### CORE COURSES (required 12 credit hours / 9 credit hours if UP205 is waived):

UP101                      Planning of Cities and Regions (3) (Introduction Course)

UP203                      Cities, Regions and Social Science (3)

(Prerequisites: UP101, ECON102, and UP116 or equivalent)

UP205                      Ecology and its Applications (3)



(Note: this course can be waived if the student has previously taken IB105)

UP260 Social Inequality and Planning (3)

(Prerequisite: UP101)

ELECTIVES (8 credit hours / 11 credit hours if UP205 is waived)

Electives are all 100, 200, 300 and 400 level courses offered by the Department of Urban Planning

Sample list of elective courses:

UP199 Undergraduate Open Seminar (1 to 5 hours)

UP218 Politics of Environmental Protection (3 hours)

UP405 Watershed Ecology and Planning (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: A previous course in environmental science)

UP406 Urban Ecology (3 hours)

(Prerequisite: Senior standing or consent of instructor)

UP409 Planning Negotiation (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: Upper division undergraduate or graduate standing)

UP418 GIS for Planners (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: Upper division undergraduate or graduate standing )

UP420 Planning for Historic Preservation (4 hours)

Prerequisite: At least Junior standing

UP423 Introduction to International Planning (4 hours)

UP426 Urban Design and Planning (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: Undergraduates must have senior standing)

UP429 International Planning Practice (3 hours)

(Prerequisite: UP423 or consent of instructor)

UP430 Urban Transportation Planning (4 hours)

UP442 Environmental Policy and Law (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: UP408 or equivalent)

UP445 Economic Development Planning (4 hours)

UP446 Ecological Numeracy (3 hours)

(Prerequisite: Two terms of science and one term of calculus)

UP473 Housing and Urban Policy Planning (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: UP260 or graduate standing)

UP474 Neighborhood Planning (4 hours)

(Prerequisite: UP260 or graduate standing)

UP494 Special Topics in Planning (1 to 6 hours)

Prerequisites

Any prerequisites associated with the core or elective courses would need to be completed, unless consent is received from the instructor to enroll in the course.

### Expected enrollment

About 5 students per year

Enrollment limit: 20

### Admission

Acceptance into the Minor will be the responsibility of the Coordinator of the BAUP Program.

Admission process:

- The candidate submits to the Department of Urban and Regional Planning an application form and a statement of the student's interest in urban planning and her/his reasons for pursuing the Minor. (The application package is to be developed by the Department.)
- The BAUP Coordinator conducts an interview with the applicant and makes the admission decision.
- The student submits the Statement of Intent to Declare a Minor to the Department of Urban and Regional Planning and their home College. The Minor has to be recorded in the University's Degree Audit Reporting System (DARS/DARwin).
- The student meets with the Departmental advising staff to complete the Urban Planning Minor Planning Form. (The form is to be developed by the Department).

Admission criteria: minimum of 2.75 grade point average (GPA)

### Advising

BAUP Coordinator will be the chief advisor for the students in the Urban Planning Minor. S/he will be responsible for planning the coursework with the student, following up with any subsequent changes. S/he will work with the Departmental Staff and College Office of Student Affairs on processing the information and decisions about students pursuing the Minor.

Certification of successful completion: UIUC DARwin program will track the student's progress in the Minor once s/he has been accepted and has notified the Fine and Applied College Office of Student Affairs of her/his intentions to pursue the Minor in Urban Planning. The completion of the Minor will be noted on the student's transcript.

Statement for the catalog

The Urban Planning Minor applies disciplinary knowledge from a variety of fields (economics, politics, environmental science, information studies, urban design) toward understanding urban phenomena and planning for orderly, efficient, functional, environmentally friendly, and aesthetically pleasing urban development. The Minor introduces students to a) cities as arenas with problems such as housing segregation, disinvestment, environmental pollution, congestion, and urban sprawl; and b) professional planning practice, which tries to devise actions to address such problems and improve the quality of life in urban areas. Urban issues are explored on a range of scales from neighborhoods to megacities. The Urban Planning Minor requires completion of 12 hours of four required courses (UP101, UP203, UP205 and UP260), as well as an additional 8 hours of selected Urban Planning electives (UP199, UP218, UP405, UP406, UP409, UP418, UP420, UP423, UP426, UP429, UP430, UP442, UP445, UP446, UP473, UP474, and UP494). For further information, see the Department of Urban and Regional Planning website ([www.urban.uiuc.edu](http://www.urban.uiuc.edu)), or contact the Department's Undergraduate Program Coordinator.



**CLEARANCES for the approval of a minor:**

Head/chair of the sponsoring unit:

College Courses and Curricula Committee:

Dean of the college of the sponsoring department or unit:

Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee:



**CLEARANCES for the approval of a minor:**

Head, Department of Urban and Regional Planning:

*Robert*

1-14-04  
date

College of Fine and Applied Arts Courses and Curricula Committee:

*Lise Harwood*

1-15-04  
date

Dean, College of Fine and Applied Arts:

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\_\_\_\_\_ date

Chair, Senate Educational Policy Committee:

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\_\_\_\_\_ date