College of Architecture, Construction and Planning

The College of Architecture, Construction and Planning offers the following graduate degrees and certificates:

- Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning (p. 1)
- Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning (p. 2)

Department of Architecture (http://catalog.utsa.edu/graduate/architecture/architecture)

- Master of Architecture - The Professional Program (http://catalog.utsa.edu/graduate/architecture/architecture/#degreeestext)
- Master of Science in Architecture - The Research Program (http://catalog.utsa.edu/graduate/architecture/architecture/#degreeestext)
- Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation (http://catalog.utsa.edu/graduate/architecture/architecture/#certificatetext)

Department of Construction Science (http://catalog.utsa.edu/graduate/architecture/constructionscience)

Master of Science Degree in Urban and Regional Planning

The Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning is designed to prepare students for leadership roles and careers in the public and private sectors for the purpose of planning and designing communities and regions. The degree is in collaboration with the Department of Public Administration in the College of Public Policy. The program has a strong focus on land use planning; design; policy; and economic, environmental, and cultural issues that shape urban and regional land development patterns in terms of infrastructure, housing, and open space systems. Emphasis is placed on developing research capabilities and graphic skills needed in planning and design. The program’s primary focus is to prepare students to become practitioners in the planning profession.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must satisfy University-wide graduate admission requirements.

A complete application package consists of the following:

- Completed Application form
- Official transcripts from all universities attended
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores
- Two Letters of Recommendation addressing the applicant’s academic and/or professional skills
- Letter of Intent, outlining the applicant’s reasons for pursuing the Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning and career plans
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores for international applicants whose first language is not English.

Applicants may be admitted as unconditional or conditional, degree-seeking graduate students, or as non-degree-seeking students.

Admission as a special graduate student or as non-degree-seeking does not guarantee subsequent admission as a degree-seeking student; such students must reapply for degree-seeking status.

An application fee and all application materials must be sent directly to the UTSA Graduate School at One UTSA Circle, San Antonio, TX 78249. Please consult the College of Architecture, Construction and Planning Web site (http://cacp.utsa.edu/academic-programs/urban-and-regional-planning) for applicable dates when the review of applications will begin and for more information about the College and its programs.

Degree Requirements

The minimum number of semester credit hours required for the Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning, exclusive of coursework or other study required to remove deficiencies is 48. Students may pursue a thesis or non-thesis option.

Degree candidates must complete 48 semester credit hours of coursework consisting of the following requirements:

A. 27 semester credit hours of the following required courses:

1. 21 semester credit hours of the following required courses: 21
   - URP 5323 Community and Regional Planning
   - URP 5333 Introduction to Urban and Regional Planning
   - URP 5343 History and Theory of Urban and Regional Planning
   - URP 5363 Urban Planning Methods I
   - URP 5393 Urban Planning Methods II
   - URP 5413 Planning Practice and Ethics
   - URP 5453 Urban and Regional Sustainability

2. 6 semester credit hours of public administration courses in the College of Public Policy:
   - PAD 5103 Planning and Land Use Law
   - PAD 5513 Urban and Regional Economic Development

B. 15 semester credit hours of electives, chosen in consultation with and approved by the Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Advisor of Record to meet degree candidates' individual needs. Students can select an area of specialization or take courses from a variety of areas that pertain to urban and regional planning. Electives may also be taken in other graduate programs with approval of the Graduate Advisor. The specialization areas include: historic preservation; housing and sustainable community development; environmental, transportation, and infrastructure planning; and urban policy and management.

To satisfy the major area coursework for the historic preservation specialization, a student must complete 9 semester credit hours of specialized electives:

- ARC 5203 History and Theory of Preservation
- ARC 5423 Legal and Economic Aspects of Preservation
- ARC 6423 Architectural Conservation Theory

To satisfy the major area coursework for the housing and sustainable community development specialization, a student must complete 9 semester credit hours from the following specialized electives:

- URP 5213 Social Justice in the City
- URP 5223 Community Development Finance
- URP 5313 Urban Housing Policy and Analysis
- URP 5373 Planning and Design of Suburbs
URP 5383 Planning and Housing for Rural Communities
URP 5443 Community Development
To satisfy the major area coursework for the environmental, transportation, and infrastructure planning specialization, a student must complete 9 semester credit hours from the following specialized electives:
URP 5233 GIS for Urban Studies
URP 5353 Structure and Function of Cities and Regions
URP 5433 Transportation Planning
URP 5463 Environmental Planning and Assessment
URP 5473 Introduction to Health Planning
To satisfy the major area coursework for the urban policy and management specialization, a student must complete 12 semester credit hours from the following public administration courses from the Department of Public Administration in the College of Public Policy:
PAD 5003 Introduction to Public Service Leadership and Management
PAD 5223 Urban Management
PAD 5313 Public Policy Analysis
PAD 5323 Public Policy Process
PAD 5473 Land Use Policy
C. 6 semester credit hours of the following “capstone” coursework consisting of either the Thesis or Nonthesis Option described below.

Thesis Option Requirements: All candidates for the Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning with a thesis option must complete 6 semester credit hours of URP 6983 Master’s Thesis (includes thesis defense/seminar presentation).

Nonthesis Option Requirements: All candidates for the Master of Science degree in Urban and Regional Planning with a nonthesis option must complete 6 semester credit hours consisting of URP 6943 Professional Internship and URP 6933 Planning Professional Report.

D. Degree candidates in the thesis option and nonthesis option are required to pass a written comprehensive examination, and enroll in URP 6961 Comprehensive Examination if no other courses are being taken that term.

Total Credit Hours

Admission Requirements
New and existing graduate students in “good standing” shall declare the intent to seek the Certificate by requesting permission to enter and complete the program. Students not currently enrolled in a graduate program may apply according to UTSA admission requirements for certificate programs (see Chapter 3, Certificate Programs, in this catalog). The Certificate Program Coordinator may determine that a student requires prerequisite background courses to adequately prepare for the courses of the Graduate Certificate Program.

Certificate Program Requirements
The Urban and Regional Planning Certificate curriculum consists of 9 semester credit hours of required planning courses and 6 elective hours. Courses taken for the Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning can be applied toward the Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning, Master of Architecture, and Master of Science in Architecture degrees. Students will be advised by the Urban and Regional Planning Certificate Program Coordinator/Advisor.

A. 9 semester credit hours of the following required courses: 9
URP 5323 Community and Regional Planning
URP 5333 Introduction to Urban and Regional Planning
URP 5343 History and Theory of Urban and Regional Planning

B. 6 semester credit hours of graduate elective courses approved by the Urban and Regional Planning Graduate Advisor 6

Total Credit Hours 15

Graduate Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning
The purpose of the professional certificate in Urban and Regional Planning is to provide students with an introductory understanding of the historical, social, international, and physical context of comprehensive land use planning and sustainable urbanism.

The Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning is a 15-semester-credit-hour program. Degree-seeking, special graduate or non-degree-seeking students from any discipline at UTSA are allowed to complete the Certificate in Urban and Regional Planning (URP) program. Students will be advised by the URP Certificate Program Coordinator/Advisor. Interested individuals should contact the Urban and Regional Planning Certificate Program Coordinator within the College of Architecture, Construction and Planning.