Applicants should use the statement to convey information about their
We place particular emphasis on each applicant's statement of purpose.
on their country of origin, including the Test of English as a Foreign
requirements (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/countries) based
analytical ability. International applicants must meet additional minimum
students is considerably higher. All applicants must submit Graduate
and any subsequent graduate study, but the average GPA of admitted
of at least 3.0 computed from the last 60 hours of undergraduate work
planning. Prospective students must have a grade point average (GPA)
and other fields also provide excellent foundations for graduate study in
environmental sciences, architecture, engineering, public administration,
most frequent are sociology, economics, political science, geography,
in addition to planning. Planning faculty and doctoral students pursue
geography, history, law, political science, regional science, and zoology,
in the context of articulating why a Master's in Urban Planning or Ph.D. in Regional Planning from the University of Illinois will help them achieve their professional goals. We seek an applicant pool that represents a mix of racial and ethnic populations, a range of social and economic backgrounds, different philosophies and perspectives, and a variety of life experiences. We are especially interested in applicants with professional experience, though that experience need not be in planning or closely related fields.

Applicants to the Ph.D. program are admitted when they meet the
as their mentor and, if necessary, primary source of financial support.
Students interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in Regional Planning should
communicate with the Director of the Ph.D. Program and faculty most
closely aligned with their interests, in addition to completing the formal
application process.

Consult the M.U.P. admissions (http://www.urban.illinois.edu/
prospective-students/admissions/master-of-urban-planning) and Ph.D.
admissions (http://www.urban.illinois.edu/prospective-students/
admissions/phd-in-regional-planning) web pages for more information.

Medical Scholars Program
Applications are not being accepted at this time.
The Medical Scholars Program (http://www.med.illinois.edu/
msp) permits highly qualified students to integrate the study of medicine
with study for a graduate degree in a second discipline, including
Regional Planning. Students may apply to the Medical Scholars Program
prior to beginning graduate school or while in the graduate program.
Applicants to the Medical Scholars Program must meet the admissions
standards for and be accepted into both the doctoral graduate program
and the College of Medicine. Students in the dual degree program must
meet the specific requirements for both the medical and graduate
degrees. On average, students take eight years to complete both
degrees. Further information on this program is available by contacting
the Medical Scholars Program, 125 Medical Sciences Building, (217)
333-8146 www.med.illinois.edu/mdphd/ (http://www.med.illinois.edu/
mdphd).

Graduate Teaching Experience
Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement,
experience in teaching is considered an important part of the doctoral
experience in this program and is strongly encouraged for those
intending to pursue an academic career.

Faculty Research Interests
The mission of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning is
to teach and conduct research to improve understanding of human
settlements and of planning situations. The department's faculty studies
the ecological, economic, social, and institutional aspects of urban
and regional development, and the theory and practice of planning
processes. Planning is viewed as the achievement of outcomes based
on interrelated actions over time and space, and close communication
and collaboration with a wide range of disciplines and professions is inherent
in the department’s approach. The basis of that collaboration is a faculty
whose academic training and degrees are in architecture, economics,
geography, history, law, political science, regional science, and zoology,
in addition to planning. Planning faculty and doctoral students pursue
interdisciplinary research and make scholarly contributions to planning and fields closely allied with planning.

**Facilities and Resources**

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning shares Temple Hoyne Buell Hall (TBH) with the Department of Landscape Architecture and the School of Architecture. The majority of urban planning classes are held in TBH. The department has a 24-hour instructional computing laboratory. Research project and doctoral student workspace is provided in Noble Hall.

The City Planning and Landscape Architecture Reference and Resource Center is located in Funk Library (http://www.library.uiuc.edu/agx). The planning collection is one of the finest in the world, with books and reports gathered since the collection started over eighty years ago.

**Financial Aid**

Students compete for departmental and Graduate College fellowships and departmental teaching and research assistantships. Selection is based on the academic achievement and qualifications of the student.

- Master of Science in Sustainable Urban Management (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/urban-reg-plan/sum)
- Master of Urban Planning in Urban Planning (http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/graduate-majors/urban-reg-plan/mup)

**Doctor of Philosophy in Regional Planning**

Students, together with their faculty adviser and program committee, select theory, methods, and specialization courses to meet the Ph.D. requirements and prepare for a successful career of advanced research and teaching.

A successful dissertation in planning reports original research on a subject appropriate to the field, the results of which produce significant advances in knowledge. Each student takes a Preliminary Examination, which is an oral examination based on the dissertation proposal and is administered by the student’s dissertation committee. Upon approval of the dissertation proposal, the candidate can proceed with the research, written analysis, and findings. When the candidate and the supervisor agree that the research and writing are complete, the candidate is ready for the final examination, which is a defense of the dissertation before the committee.

Please consult the department’s website (http://www.urban.illinois.edu/academic-programs) and the Graduate College Handbook (http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook) for additional details and requirements.

**Other Requirements**

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Research design (min)</td>
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<td>Research methods (min)</td>
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<td>Electives including areas of specialization</td>
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<tr>
<td>UP 599 Thesis Research (min/max applied toward degree)</td>
<td>1-16</td>
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**Total Hours**: 96

**Entering with approved Master’s Degree**

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</tbody>
</table>

**Total Hours**: 64

**Joint Degree Programs**

Joint degree programs provide the opportunity to complete two degrees in a compressed time frame.

**Master of Urban Planning and Juris Doctor in Law**

Candidates admitted to the joint Master of Urban Planning and Juris Doctor must complete a minimum of 32 hours in urban planning.
including core courses and capstone, plus the requirements of the law degree.

**Master of Urban Planning and Master of Architecture**
Candidates admitted to the Master of Urban Planning and Master of Architecture must complete a minimum of 32 hours in urban planning, including core courses and capstone, plus the requirements of the Architecture degree.

**Master of Urban Planning and any other approved Master’s degree**
Candidates may propose joint programs combining the M.U.P. with other UIUC master’s degrees (for example, but not limited to, African Studies, Agriculture and Applied Economics, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Public Health, Economics, Landscape Architecture, Latin American Studies, Library and Information Sciences, Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences, and Recreation, Sports and Tourism). For joint programs, at least 40 hours must be in Urban Planning, including all core courses and capstone requirements. The two programs must total a minimum of (a) 80 hours, or (b) the sum of 40 Urban Planning hours plus the required number of hours for the second degree, whichever is greater. (In the latter case, the other program may at its discretion count up to 8 hours of Urban Planning courses as electives in meeting its degree requirements as long as students are required to take no fewer than 40 additional hours in that program.) The MUP capstone requirement may be waived for a thesis completed in another program provided faculty from both programs participate on the thesis committee. Students must be in residence in Urban Planning for at least two semesters.

Consult the department’s M.U.P. joint degree web page for more information about the admissions process and joint degree requirements. For additional guidance, please contact the Director of the M.U.P. Program.