Master of Urban and Regional Planning Program

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Academic Year 2025-2026



University of Colorado **Denver**

Master of Urban and Regional Planning
COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

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WELCOME

Dear MURP students,

We are delighted that you have selected the Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) degree at the University of Colorado Denver to further your career, and we welcome you to our dynamic and motivated community of students and faculty in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. You will find that the MURP program is hands-on, oriented to the real world, and uses Colorado as our classroom, while keeping our eye on national and global planning issues.

The MURP program is a 54-credit, fully-accredited program that has graduated over 1,500 alumni since its founding in 1971. As the only accredited graduate planning program in Colorado and the preeminent program in the Rocky Mountain West, we have a proud history of training exceptionally qualified individuals who achieve success in a variety of positions and careers. Our AICP pass rates and job placement are among the top in the country.

As a department within the College of Architecture and Planning, or "CAP", our curriculum has a strong connection to the built environment and physical design, as well as to policy, the environment, and, most importantly, the diverse needs of people. Our downtown Denver location offers numerous opportunities for your learning. Being a few blocks from the City and County of Denver's municipal offices and civic center, as well as the state capitol, facilitates class projects, internships, and other valuable interactions with local and state agencies. You also will experience and observe a growing and changing downtown as parking lots redevelop into housing, vehicle lanes are replaced with bike and bus-only lanes, and historic buildings are preserved and re-purposed. The University of Colorado Denver is also part of the University of Colorado (CU) system, which expands the resources available to you, including courses, libraries, and dual degree programs from Boulder, Anschutz Medical Campus, and Colorado Springs.

You are one of many students who have come here from throughout the US, and other countries, to enroll in a unique curriculum that emphasizes healthy communities, equity, and sustainability. Our self-directed elective curriculum allows you to understand the breadth of the planning field while building on the technical and foundational material provided in the core curriculum.

Our dedicated and accomplished faculty includes some of the most respected researchers in academia as well as award-winning practitioners who use their experiences to enhance your learning. All faculty members make teaching, and your success, a top priority.

The MURP program is exceptional, and we welcome you into a cohort that shares your enthusiasm for planning and its potential to make the world a better place. Please do not hesitate to contact me as you go through the program. No question is too small or big; I welcome them all!

Sincerely,

Carrie Makarewicz, PhD, Associate Professor
Chair, Department of Urban and Regional Planning



AURARIA

"Acknowledging that we reside in the homelands of Indigenous Peoples is an important step in recognizing the history and the original stewards of these lands. Land acknowledgments must extend far beyond words, the United States has worked hard to erase the narratives of Indigenous
Peoples over time. Land acknowledgment statements can help to remind us of the history, the contributions and the sacrifices Native peoples have made.

We honor and acknowledge that we are on the traditional territories and ancestral homelands of the Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Ute nations. This area, specifically the confluence of the Platte and Cherry Creek Rivers was the epicenter for trade, information sharing, planning for the future, community, family and ally building, as well as conducting healing ceremonies for over 45 Indigenous Nations, including the Lakota, Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Shoshone, Paiute, Zuni, Hopi among others.

We must recognize Indigenous peoples as the original stewards of this land and as these words of acknowledgment are spoken and heard, remember the ties these nations still have to their traditional homelands. Let us acknowledge the painful history of genocide and forced removal from this territory and pay our respect to the diverse Indigenous peoples still connected to this land. Let us also give thanks to all Tribal Nations and the ancestors of this place."

Gracie RedShirt Tyon, Lakota
Director, American Indian Student Services
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Prior to the arrival of White settlers, the area where the Auraria Campus is today was home to the Arapaho and Cheyenne peoples. In November 1858, the Russell brothers, gold prospectors from the mining town of Auraria, Georgia, established the town of Auraria on the west side of Cherry Creek. "Auraria" means "gold mine" in Latin. Three weeks later, General William Larimer founded Denver City across from Auraria on the east side of Cherry Creek. By 1859, both Auraria and Denver City had small neighborhoods of homes and businesses. In 1860, Auraria and Denver City voted to merge into a single municipality and took the name "Denver," with Auraria referred to as West Denver. As time went on, working-class and middle-class families and businesses (such as brewery, mills, and warehouses) occupied West Denver. In the 1920s, West Denver's population shifted from mostly European residents to Hispanic (LatinX) residents from Mexico, New Mexico, and Southern Colorado. In 1965, the South Platte River flooded and put much of Auraria underwater. After the flood, the city decided to redevelop Auraria, Denver's oldest neighborhood, by replacing it with three higher education institutions on one campus. By 1972, the residents of Auraria were relocated and the Auraria Campus was completed in 1976.

For more information about the history of Auraria, please visit:
https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/access-campus-engagement/about-us/land-acknowledgement#ac-before-auraria-0



JEDI STATEMENT

CAP STATEMENT OF JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

The College of Architecture and Planning (CAP) at the University of Colorado Denver recognizes that our professions and disciplines have been involved in actions that were discriminatory and created unjust and inequitable outcomes for people and places.

In acknowledging this past, and while recognizing past attempts to address these injustices, we are committing to truly evolving justice and equity within our college and our allied practices, and creating a culture of belonging and participation amongst faculty, staff, and students.

We believe that design and planning should actively promote justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) for all people and in all places, and that this requires a multitude of experiences and perspectives that reflect our society as well as the communities and places we serve. We are particularly committed to the representation of thus far underrepresented and marginalized communities. We are committed to:

- Enhancing diversity and representation in our student body, our faculty, and our staff.
- Applying JEDI principles to what and how we teach and learn.
- Supporting JEDI principles in allied professions outside of CAP.
- RegularlyevaluatingandcommunicatingourprogressinmeetingJEDIprinciplesandoutcomesandseekingwaystoimprove.

The College of Architecture and Planning mission is to ignite evolution that enriches places for people and the planet. Our three core values are RESPECT, ENGAGE, and EVOLVE.

RESPECT

We respect and value the unique experiences, traditions, and perspectives of each person, profession, community, and place.

Through our curricular and co-curricular activities, we tap into the inherent gifts of each one, and thereby build upon their respective strengths, nesting critical thinking inside appreciative thinking. Respect is the bedrock and foundation for ENGAGE and EVOLVE.

The global is here. One hundred and forty-five languages are spoken in the local school districts and seven percent of CU Denver students arrive directly from other countries. Recognizing this range of cultural diversity, we benefit from a rich global perspective and experience right here, while also fanning out to the region and the world through community-based learning and research, learning abroad, and living across the globe.

We shift the language from “diversity,” which categorizes people into groups and generates divisions among them (as well as stereotypes and tokenism) to “inclusion,” which regards each person as different from others while also part of a shared humanity. Diversity can lead to divisiveness as well as (ironically) homogenization, while inclusion brings us together in a way that honors, celebrates, and benefits from our unique gifts.

ENGAGE

We learn through doing and co-creating with our classmates, colleagues, and the larger community.

CU Denver is an intellectual, creative, social, and economic hub in one of the most rapidly growing urban centers of the United States. By thoroughly embedding our activities—teaching, research, and service—into the larger community, responsively as well as proactively, we strengthen all of these activities while contributing to improve the life quality, environmental sustainability, and economic vitality of the region. Lessons learned can then be applied beyond the region, having a global impact.

To best achieve this, students engage in experiential learning (how we teach: learning by doing), offering hands-on experience and leadership opportunities—on campus, in the community, in other regions of the US, and abroad—and benefit from coordinated/integrated curricula (what we teach).

Tell me and I forget. Show me and I may remember. Involve me and I understand.

Through hands-on and collaborative learning, students develop empathy along with relationship-building skills. Combining these with recognizing and valuing the inherent gifts of each person (RESPECT), including ourselves, cultivates “practical wisdom” (or phronesis).

EVOLVE

We ignite evolution that enriches places for people and the planet.

Through transmitting knowledge and skills while supporting the growth and development of each person and our various disciplines and professions (through RESPECT and ENGAGE), the College of Architecture and Planning fuels innovation that contributes to the evolution of our civilization and the places we reside.

In sum, we prepare students to become professionals who, well-grounded in their respective areas of expertise, can work effectively with others to improve a rapidly changing world. Their innovations become part of the expertise of the future, upon which others will add new innovations. And the upward spiral continues.

ABOUT US

VISION

We strive to be a national leader in educating skilled, engaged planners and fostering vibrant, equitable, and sustainable communities and places.

MISSION

We teach our students the knowledge, skills and values they need to be confident, principled, and visionary planners, using Colorado as our classroom to engage students in real-world, experiential learning.

We advance the theory and practice of planning through insightful, relevant research that directly informs policy and improves our built, natural and social environments both locally and globally.

We serve as a vital resource for communities and professionals and help develop sustainable solutions to the complex planning challenges facing our region, nation, and planet.

VALUES



ADVOCACY

We believe planners must be visionary in their work, civically and politically engaged, and articulate proponents for positive change.



DIVERSITY

We believe planning should reflect, draw from, and be responsive to the diversity of the population it serves.



EVIDENCE

We believe that planning should be rooted in critical thinking, appropriate methods, and rigorous analysis for developing evidence-based solutions.



SOCIAL JUSTICE

We believe planning must strive for just and equitable processes and outcomes for individuals and communities that have been historically marginalized, underrepresentedand disenfranchised.



COLLABORATION

We believe planners must understand and value the principles and perspectives of allied disciplines that participate in the city-building process.



ENGAGEMENT

We believe students should learn planning by interacting directly with professionals and the public to solve real-world planning challenges.



SERVICE

We believe our program should serve as a resource for planners and the public by offering ideas, solutions, research, advocacy, and inspiration.



SUSTAINABILITY

We believe planning must be based on the triple bottom line principles of economic viability, environmental resiliency, and social

PROGRAM HALLMARKS



ENGAGED & EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

We give students numerous opportunities to gain hands-on experience by participating in real-world projects and interacting with professional planners and community stakeholders. We use Denver's diverse urban setting and Colorado's natural landscapes as a classroom for students to engage with the built, natural, and social environments.



PHYSICAL PLANNING ORIENTATION

We emphasize physical planning and design throughout our curriculum and connect them to policy, research, and the social sciences. We work closely with the College's Architecture, Urban Design, Landscape Architecture, and Historic Preservation programs to explore and develop applied solutions to urban social, economic, and environmental issues.



INTERNATIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

We provide students the opportunity to study planning from an international perspective. Through lecture courses that focus on global planning and development, studios that involve on-site coursework and engagement in other countries, and collaborations with organizations abroad, we help students expand their personal and educational worldview.



INTEGRATED PLANNING TECHNOLOGIES

We integrate into our curriculum key technologies in digital mapping, 3D modeling, data analysis and visualization, and spatial analysis. We capitalize on Denver's tech economy to provide students with state-of-the-art resources and opportunities to learn a variety of technologies used as critical tools in the planning process.



SELF-DIRECTED ELECTIVE CURRICULUM

We empower students with the opportunity to craft a planning education suited to their career goals and personal interests. Students may choose any combination of elective courses, whether oriented toward one of our three curriculum pillars, a traditional or customized planning specialization, or a generalist survey of the planning field.



PROFESSIONAL & CAREER DEVELOPMENT

We present students with instruction, guidance, and resources for understanding the many career paths within planning and allied fields and how to strategically position themselves to achieve their professional and personal goals. We enable students to be prepared for not only their first job after graduate school, but for a lifelong career.



DIVERSE FACULTY EXPERIENCE

We embody a planning faculty comprised of clinical professors, lecturers, adjuncts, and tenure-track professors who bring into the classroom a comprehensive mix of professional planning experience, expertise, creative activity, community leadership, scholarship, and research. All of our faculty make teaching a top priority.

THE CAP BUILDING

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION & BIKE FACILITIES

The MURP program is housed in the College of Architecture and Planning (CAP) building, located between Larimer and Lawrence Streets, along 14th street. Want to get there using public transportation? You can use the 'Plan a Trip' feature on RTD's My Ride app to plan your trip to campus using mixed modes of travel, including walking, rail, and buses. As a CU Denver student, RTD offers a reduced-priced, per semester, public transportation pass called CollegePass. To acquire and activate your RTD college pass, visit: here.

Want to get to class on your bike, but don't know what route to take? Visit the City and County of Denver's guide to biking in Denver here. Google Maps also has a feature which will show existing bike lanes in Denver, which can help you plan a route to campus. For parking your bike, CU Denver has several options throughout campus, including three covered locations. To learn more about how to get your ID card encoded to access these locations, visit: here. Additionally, the

YOUR LYNX ID CARD

The CAP building and other campus buildings require badge access. For CAP students with activated IDs, the building hours are 6 a.m. to 1 a.m. MT every day. As a student, you will always need your ID card visible. Your Lynx ID card will also allow you to access classrooms above the First Floor Lobby, using either the stairwells and elevator. Your Lynx Card will also get you into the printing labs and other resources in the CAP building. To learn about how to acquire your ID card, visit: here.



COMMON SPACES

There are several common spaces in the CAP building that allow students to gather and to study. The CAP student lounge, on the Second Floor, is stocked with free coffee or tea for students and plenty of tables and chairs. On the Fifth Floor, MURP students can enjoy the Planning Studio & Community Space, which has plenty of outlets and a fridge to put your lunch in.

There are other spaces in the CAP building, such as the 4th floor student lounge and the 3rd floor break room with vending machines and tables.

FACILITIES AND LABS

The CAP building has several computer and printing labs that are available to students to use. Additionally, the Visual Resource Center provides access to a variety of photographic and audiovisual equipment, portfolio photography rooms with professional lighting equipment, and digital image collections. To learn more about the facilities and labs available to students in the CAP building, visit: here.



FACULTY AND STAFF

FULL-TIME FACULTY



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ADJUNCT FACULTY



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FACULTY AND STAFF

LECTURERS



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Planning Technologies



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AFFILIATE FACULTY



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Road safety, active transportation, transit-oriented communities, parking, street networks

FACULTY AND STAFF

COLLEGE STAFF WHO ASSIST MURP STUDENTS



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Operations Coordinator

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Reception desk, room scheduling, secure entry access, mailboxes, directories



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Image library, portfolio photography, media equipment, cameras



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Student admissions, recruitment



DEAN RIFKIND

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College-wide initiatives



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College-wide initiatives and events, continuing and professional education



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CAP communications including social media, website maintenance, content creation for CAP news and promo, and event publicity



CONNOR RUMSEY

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Human resources for teaching and research assistants, student employees, timesheets, reimbursement for student travel



JEANA DELAMARTER

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Study abroad for MURP students



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ADVISING

ACADEMIC ADVISING



ROXY NEW

MURP SENIOR ACADEMIC ADVISOR AND COURSE COORDINATOR

Please contact Roxy at roxy.new@ucdenver.edu or 303-315-0343. You can also schedule an appointment with her at http://ucdenver.inspire.civitaslearning.com/

an appointment with her at http://ucdenver.inspire.civitaslearning.com/.

She is the keeper of MURP student records and the person to ask about academic policies and which forms need to be filled out for course related issues. Roxy can help you with registering for classes and graduation requirements. If your question or issue has to do with anything administrative relating to the MURP program, CAP, or the University of Colorado Denver, start with Roxy.

SUBJECT MATTER AND CAREER ADVISING

At the start of the academic year, you will be assigned a faculty advisor from among the full-time Planning faculty and will be required to have an introductory meeting with that faculty member during the first two weeks of the fall semester. After that, you should meet withyour advisor once a semester as you determine your schedule for the next semester. You and your advisor will complete and update the MURP Advising Sheet as you progress through the program.

You are welcome to change faculty advisors at any point or seek advice from multiple faculty members. Never hesitate to reach out to any of the full-time faculty members. The Planning faculty can help you with information about specific course content, career advice, and any other issues realting to the MURP cirriculum, academic achievement, extracirricular activities, or urban and regional planning in general.

You may also contact our part-time faculty, but please keep in mind they have full time jobs, outside our program. Nevertheless, they are all committed to the program and they value their relationship with the MURP program and its students.

DUAL DEGREE ADVISING

Planning forms are also available to help guide dual-degree students. Dual-degree students should have an advisor in each relevant department or college. Electronic Degree Auditing is available for all MURP students. This online system allows you to check which degree requirements you have personally satisfied and which ones remain. Instructions for accessing the degree audit are available here. Advising documents for the MURP program and dual-degree programs are available at MURPspace.



CURRICULUM

COURSE AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS

The total number of credit hours required to earn the Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree is 54. To reach the 54 credit hour total, you must complete:

- 36 credits (9 courses) of required Core Courses
- 3 credits (1 course) of Advanced Skills/Methods Electives
- 15 credits (5 courses) of Regular Electives

Across those 54 credits, you must also meet final course grade minimums (C–) and cumulative grade point average (3.00) requirements, described in the Grading Policy below, in order to earn the MURP degree. The required 54 credits may be reduced in some cases if you meet the requirements for Advanced Standing (see right) or if you have transfer credits from another graduate program.

GRADING POLICY

To receive the MURP degree, your cumulative grade point average (GPA) for all courses that count toward the required 54 credit hours must be 3.00 or higher. Your cumulative GPA may drop below 3.00 during your time in the MURP program, but ultimately your cumulative GPA must be 3.00 or higher in order to graduate with the MURP degree. Students who fail to meet a 3.00 cumulative GPA will be put on probation. After two semesters on probation a student will be subject to suspension.

GRADING SYSTEM AND LETTER GRADE EXPECTATIONS

The MURP program uses the University's standard 4.00 grading system:

A	4.00 points	B	3.00 points	C	2.00 points	D	1.00 points
A–	3.70 points	B–	2.70 points	C–	1.70 points	D–	0.70 points
B+	3.30 points	C+	2.30 points	D+	1.30 points	F	0.00 points

Expectations for letter grades awarded for MURP program assignments and courses:

- "A" Grade Range
  Exceptional scholarship and superior work products that significantly exceed stated requirements in scope and/or quality
- "B" Grade Range
  Commendable scholarship and accomplished work products that somewhat exceed stated requirements in scope and/or quality
- "C" Grade Range
  Satisfactory scholarship and work products that almost meet stated requirements in scope and/or quality
- "D" Grade Range
  Inadequate scholarship and inferior work products that clearly fail to meet stated requirements in scope and/or quality
- "F" Grade
  Unacceptable scholarship and work product

To receive a grade of "Incomplete" in a course, the instructor and the student must together fill out an Incomplete Grade Report that will be kept in the student's academic file. The report will outline the work the student needs to complete in order to receive a grade, and the timeframe within which the student must complete the work. The report form is available from Roxy New.

GRADING POLICY CONT.

For all courses taken as part of the MURP program, you must receive a final grade of C minus (C–) or higher in order for that course to count toward the MURP 54 credit hour requirement. A student receiving a final grade in a core course below C– must retake the course in order to graduate. Please recognize that while you can get credit for courses where your grade is as low as a C–, each grade below a B (3.00) must be matched with a grade that is correspondingly higher than a B in another class to eventually meet the minimum 3.00

WAIVING OR SUBSTITUTING COURSES

We recognize that you may not need to learn some of the material in our required core courses because you have taken similar graduate course work or have significant relevant work experience in which you developed the same knowledge and skills. Thus, we offer two ways to make adjustments to the number of credits or the specific courses you must complete:1) Core Course Substitution (allows you to take an elective in place of a core course) and 2) Advanced Standing Credit Waiver (reduces the 54-credit requirement) For both options, you will submit an online form and other materials to Roxy New. For questions about the online form, please ask Roxy New roxy.new@ucdenver.edu. For questions about the eligibility of your prior courses and/or work experience, please ask Carrie Makarewicz or your faculty advisor.

CORE COURSE SUBSTITUTION

You may substitute a MURP core course with an elective course of your choosing when at least one of the following conditions has been met: 1) you have significant professional planning work experience equivalent to the core course being substituted, or 2) you have completed an undergraduate or graduate planning course (minimum grade of B–) that substantially covered the equivalent material of the core course being substituted. A Core Course Substitution does not reduce the total number of credits required to receive the MURP degree, and no more than nine (9) credits of core courses may be substituted per student.

To request a Core Course Substitution based on prior course work, please submit the following to Roxy New: 1) the online Course Waiver Request Form, 2) a syllabus from an equivalent planning class, and 3) a copy of your unofficial transcripts showing that you received a grade of B– or better in the course. To request a Core Course Substitution based on significant professional planning work experience, please submit the following to Roxy New: 1) the online Course Waiver Request Form, 2) your resume and a thorough description of the relevent job position(s) and duties.
The core courses that are not eligible for substitution are Planning Project Studio and the Planning Capstone/Thesis requirement.

ADVANCED STANDING CREDIT WAIVER

You may receive advanced standing and waive up to nine (9) credits of MURP core or elective courses if you have previously completed graduate-level planning courses that substantially covered the equivalent MURP course material. An Advanced Standing Credit Waiver does not require a substitute course and reduces the number of credits required to earn the MURP degree.

To request an Advanced Standing Credit Waiver, submit the following to Roxy New: 1) the online Course Waiver Request Form, 2) a syllabus for the previously completed graduate-level planning course, and 3) a copy of your unofficial transcripts showing that you received a grade of B– or better in the course.



Disclaimer: Both options must be approved by the facualty member who teaches the course and the Department Chair Carrie Makarewicz

CURRICULUM

SELECTING YOUR REQUIRED COURSES

Table 1 lists the 54 credit hour requirement for earning the MURP degree. The nine core courses are listed at the top.

To fulfill the Advanced Skills/Methods Elective requirement, you may either 1) select a course from the list at the bottom of Table 1, 2) select a course from the research methods courses listed in the Planning Thesis Handbook available on MURPspace, or 3) identify a course that is offered outside of the MURP program and request it be approved as your Advanced Skills/Methods Elective.

To receive approval for a course that is offered outside of the MURP program, submit the course name/number and syllabus to

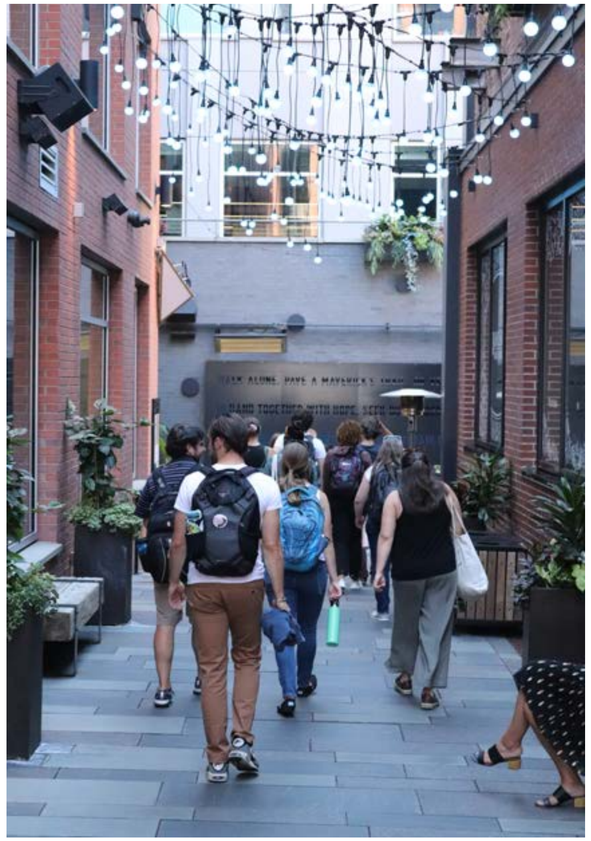




TABLE 1: CORE AND ELECTIVE COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND OPTIONS

Course #	Core Course Name	Credits	Semester	Prerequisite
URPL 5000	Planning History and Theory	3	Fall	None
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	3	Fall	None
URPL 5020	Planning Law and Institutions	3	Fall, Spring	None
URPL 5030	Planning Technologies	3	Fall	None
URPL 5070	Planning Practice & Engagement	3	Fall	None
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	3	Spring	None
URPL 5050	Urban & Regional Development	3	Fall, Spring	None
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	3	Spring	9 MURP credits (at least 6 must be core credits)
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	Fall, Summer	Planning Workshop
STUDENT'S CHOICE OF ONE OF THE FOLLOWING 6-CREDIT COURSES:				
URPL 6900	Planning	6	Fall, Spring	Planning Project Studio
URPL 6920/5	Planning Thesis A/B	6	Fall, Spring	Planning Project Studio
	Core Courses Total	36		
	Advanced Skills/Methods Elective	3		
	Regular Electives	15		
	Required Total Credit Hours	54		

ADVANCED SKILLS/METHODS ELECTIVES OPTIONS IN THE MURP PROGRAM**

Course #	Elective Course Name	Credits	Semester	Prerequisite
URPL 6230	Urban Data Science	3	Fall	Planning Methods or instructor permission
URPL 6250	GIS for Urban Planning	3	Fall, Summer*	None
URPL 6260	Advanced Geospatial Methods	3	Spring	GIS for Urban Planning or instructor permission
URBN 6675	Advanced Visualization for Urban Design	3	Fall	Visualization for Planning or instructor permission
URPL 6455	Real Estate Development & Finance	3	Varies	Urban Development or instructor permission

* Summer introductory GIS courses are available from the CU Denver Geography Department & CU Boulde

** You may seek approval for an advanced methods course in another program

CURRICULUM

TYPICAL PATHS THROUGH THE PROGRAM FOR FULL-TIME STUDENTS ON THE TWO YEAR PLAN

Generally, you should complete the 5000-series core courses first because they provide foundational knowledge, skills, and values that are importantto successfully completing the 6000-series core and elective courses. While most electives are taken in the second year, you have the opportunity totake elective courses during your first year in the program. To see part-time schedule beyond two years, see Table 4, on the following page.

One key decision you must make that influences your path through the program is whether to take Planning Capstone or Planning Thesis. Another keydecision is whether to take Planning Project Studio during the summer or fall semester. Table 2 shows two popular paths for completing the MURP program in two years for the Planning Capstone option. Table 3 shows two popular paths for completing the MURP program in two years for the PlanningThesis option. In each table, Path A on the left assumes Planning Project Studio is taken during the summer semester at the end of Year 1, and Path Bon the right assumes Planning Project Studio is taken during the fall semester at the start of Year 2.You should meet with Roxy New or your faculty advisor to identify your best path for progressing through the MURP program and record your progresson a Program Tracking Sheet available on MURPspace. MURP students pursuing a dual degree may have additional program path considerations.

TABLE 2: TYPICAL TWO-YEAR PATHS WITH PLANNING CAPSTONE OPTION

A: PLANNING CAPSTONE+ SUMMER STUDIO

Course #	Course Name	Credits	Total
	YEAR 1 - FALL		
URPL 5000	Planning History and Theory	3	
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	3	
URPL 5030	Planning Technologies	3	
URPL 5070	Planning Practice &	3	
	Credit Hours	12	12
	YEAR 1 - SPRING		
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	3	
URPL 5050	Urban&RegionalDevelopment	3	
	Elective	3	
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	3	
	Credit Hours	12	24
	YEAR 1 - SUMMER		
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	
	Credit Hours	6	30
	YEAR 2 - FALL		
URPL 5020	Planning Law or Elective	3	
	Elective (x 3)	9	
	Credit Hours	12	42
	YEAR 2 - SPRING		
URPL 6925	Planning Capstone	6	
	Planning Law or Elective(x 2)	6	
	Credit Hours	12	54

B: PLANNING THESIS + FALL STUDIO

Course #	Course Name	Credits	Total
	YEAR 1 - FALL		
URPL 5000	Planning History and Theory	3	
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	3	
URPL 5030	Planning Technologies	3	
URPL 5070	Planning Practice &	3	
	Credit Hours	12	12
	YEAR 1 - SPRING		
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	3	
URPL 5050	Urban&Regional Development	3	
	Elective	3	
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	3	
	Credit Hours	12	24
	YEAR 1 - SUMMER		
	Credit Hours	0	24
	YEAR 2 - FALL		
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	
URPL 5020	Planning Law or Elective	3	
	Elective (x 2)	3	
	Credit Hours	15	39
	YEAR 2 - SPRING		
URPL 6925	Planning Capstone	6	
	Planning Law or Elective (x 2)	6	
	Credit Hours	15	54

TABLE 3: TYPICAL TWO-YEAR PATHS WITH PLANNING THESIS OPTION

A: PLANNING THESIS + SUMMER STUDIO

Course #	Course Name	Credits	Total
	YEAR 1 - FALL		
URPL 5000	Planning History and Theory	3	
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	3	
URPL 5030	Planning Technologies	3	
URPL 5070	Planning Practice &	3	
	Credit Hours	12	12
	YEAR 1 - SPRING		
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	3	
URPL 5050	Urban&RegionalDevelopment	3	
	Elective	3	
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	3	
	Credit Hours	12	24
	YEAR 1 - SUMMER		
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	
	Credit Hours	6	30
	YEAR 2 - FALL		
URPL 5020	Planning Law or Elective	3	
URPL 6920	Planning Thesis A	3	
	Elective (x 2)	6	
	Credit Hours	12	42
	YEAR 2 - SPRING		
URPL 6925	Planning Thesis B	3	
	Planning Law or Elective(x 3)	9	
	Credit Hours	12	54

B: PLANNING THESIS + FALL STUDIO

Course #	Course Name	Credits	Total
	YEAR 1 - FALL		
URPL 5000	Planning History and Theory	3	
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	3	
URPL 5030	Planning Technologies	3	
URPL 5070	PlanningPractice&Engagement	3	
	Credit Hours	12	12
	YEAR 1 - SPRING		
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	3	
URPL 5050	Urban&RegionalDevelopment	3	
	Elective	3	
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	3	
	Credit Hours	12	24
	YEAR 1 - SUMMER		
	Credit Hours	0	24
	YEAR 2 - FALL		
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	
URPL 5020	Planning Law or Elective	3	
URPL 6920	Planning Thesis A	3	
	Elective	3	
	Credit Hours	15	39
	YEAR 2 - SPRING		
URPL 6925	Planning Thesis B	3	
	Planning Law or Elective (x 3)	9	
	Credit Hours	15	54

CURRICULUM

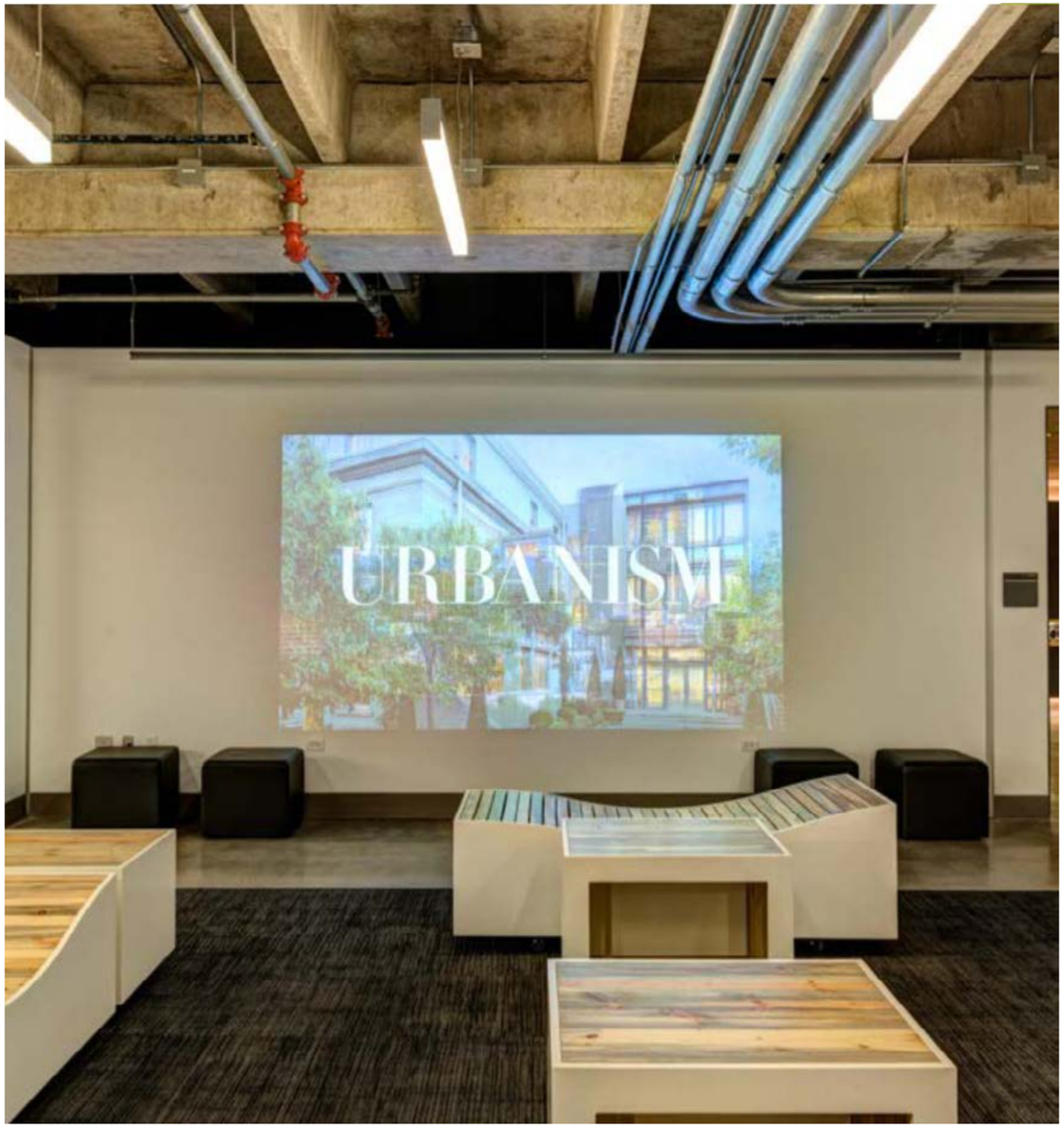
PART-TIME PATHS THROUGH THE PROGRAM

The MURP program does not have to be completed in two years. With only a few prerequisites, it is possible to complete the required elective courses in three to four years. Table 4 below shows a potential path through the program over eight semesters, or four years, but there are many other ways to complete the program. Reach out your faculty advisor and/or academic advisor to discuss which plan best fits your schedule and goals.

TABLE 4: POTENTIAL PART-TIME PATHWAY THROUGH PROGRAM

SEMESTERS ONE THROUGH FIVE			
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Total
	SEMESTER ONE (FALL)		
URPL 5000	Planning History and Theory	3	
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	3	
	Planning Technologies	3	
	Credit Hours	9	9
	SEMESTER TWO (SPRING)		
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	3	
URPL 5050	Urban & Regional Development	3	
	Elective #1	3	
	Credit Hours	9	18
	SEMESTER THREE (SUMMER)		
URPL 6000	Elective #2	3	
	Credit Hours	3	21
	SEMESTER FOUR (FALL)		
URPL 5020	Planning Law and Institutions	3	
URPL 5070	PlanningPracticeandEngagement	3	
	Credit Hours	6	27
	SEMESTER FIVE (SPRING)		
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	3	
	Advanced Methods Elective	3	
	Elective #3	3	
	Credit Hours	9	36

TWO PATHWAYS FOR THE FINAL SEMESTERS			
Course #	Course Name	Credits	Total
	PLANNING CAPSTONE OPTION		
	SEMESTER SIX (SUMMER)		
	Elective #4	3	
	Credit Hours	3	3
	SEMESTER SEVEN (FALL)		
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	
	Elective #5	3	
	Credit Hours	9	48
	SEMESTER EIGHT (SPRING)		
URPL 6900	Planning Capstone	6	
	Credit Hours	6	54
	PLANNING THESIS OPTION		
	SEMESTER SIX (SUMMER)		
URPL 6000	Planning Project Studio	6	
	Credit Hours	6	42
	SEMESTER SEVEN (FALL)		
URPL 6920	Planning Thesis A	3	
	Elective #4	3	
	Credit Hours	6	48
	SEMESTER EIGHT (SPRING)		
URPL 6920	Planning Thesis B	3	
	Elective #5	3	
	Credit Hours	6	54



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CORE COURSES

Table 4 describes the MURP program's core courses, which provide students with a comprehensive survey of the planning field and the foundational knowledge, skills, and values important to the profession. The core courses have been carefully designed to fully comply with the Planning Accreditation

TABLE 5: CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Course #	Course Name	Course Description
URPL 5000	PlanningHistory and Theory	This course comprehensively reviews the major historical and theoretical developments in planning; the human aspects of planning as a social, political, and community-oriented process; public engagement; social justice; planning advocacy; and the
URPL 5010	Planning Methods	This course focuses on the most commonly applied quantitative and qualitative methods used in planning; data organization and management principles; and various ways to collect, analyze, and communicate information as a fundamental component
URPL 5020	Planning Law andInstitutions	This course covers the legal basis for planning; the evolution of planning law through a comprehensive review of landmark court decisions; and the types and hierarchies of governments, their powers and relationships, and how planning operates within various governmental contexts.
URPL 5030	Planning Technologies	This flexibly designed course provides introductory to intermediate instruction on three software packages that are core to the planning profession; Adobe Suite (Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign), ESRI ArcGIS Pro, and Trimble Sketchup. Students can select the appropriate level of instruction for each software based on their prior experience.
URPL 5040	Urban Sustainability	This course covers the fundamentals of environmental planning; urban sustainability; history of cities and natural environments; natural systems/ecology; environmental regulation/policy; environmental justice; natural hazards and climate change; global dimensions of urban sustainability.
URPL 5050	Urban Development	This course explores how the built environment is planned, financed, and developed. Topics include an overview of the community planning process; the players, processes, management, and financing of real estate development; subdivision and zoning regulations; development review and entitlement; and public infrastructure planning and finance.
URPL 5070	Planning Practice and Engagement	This course offers a comprehensive survey of planning practice; types of planning positions and employers; business aspects of planning; planning ethics; planning engagement, and professional/career development in planning. The planning engagement component includes planning advocacy; public meetings; public engagement techniques; diverse publics; controversial planning
URPL 5060	Planning Workshop	This course provides an introduction to the studio environment through teaching applied skills in physical planning processes; existing conditions assessments; concept plan development, master planning and site planning fundamentals; and team
URPL 6000	PlanningProject Studio	The program's advanced studio, this course requires student teams to complete a substantial planning project for a real-world client. Sections are offered that feature a Denver-area project in the fall, and two options during the summer: a Colorado rural or mountain town project, or an international/study broad project location.
Student's choice of one of the following 6-credit courses:		
URPL 6900	Planning Capstone	This course requires students to plan and complete an independent or small group project of their choice for a real-world client. After identifying their project topic, methodology, and work plan, students will receive instruction in project management and methodologies from the Capstone faculty. Planning Capstone concludes with the completion of the independent or small group project and the presentation of all final deliverables. Can be taken as a class in the spring semester or as an independent study in the summer or fall. The summer/fall independent study options requires students to identify a client and project and a faculty advisor.
URPL 6920 URPL 6925	PlanningThesis A and B	This course requires students to plan and complete a research thesis of their choice. Planning Thesis Part A provides instruction for proper thesis research, analysis, and writing, while students develop a detailed work plan and begin their thesis research. Part B, taken the semester following Part A includes the completion of the research and the thesis document, and presentation of the findings before the student's thesis committee.



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PHYSICAL PLANNING COURSES

Planning Workshop (URPL 5060) and Planning Project Studio (URPL 6000) are the two physical planning courses. These courses are a key part of the hands-on, real-world focus of the MURP program. This section provides more details on these unique core courses.

PLANNING WORKSHOP

Planning Workshop is the introductory physical planning course offered each spring that allows you to use your previously acquired planning knowledge and skills in a hands-on collaborative setting to learn the long-range planning process and the fundamentals of physical planning and design.

You will learn the basics of creating a long-range plan through a sequence of exercises mirroring the stages in the planning process, beginning with an assessment of an area's existing conditions and characteristics through site visits and field work and by gathering and analyzing land use, transportation, environmental, economic, and demographic data, maps, plans, and reports. With this information, you will learn how to evaluate an area's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and constraints in order to formulate a vision and primary goals for the area. This leads to the concept planning stage, where you will engage in the iterative process of developing concept plans and physical interventions to implement the vision and goals, and hone your skills in communicating your plans through various media and graphical techniques.

You will also develop critical physical planning and design skills through exercises that focus on place analysis (qualitative and quantitative place elements and placemaking principles), master planning (neighborhood/district urban form elements, characteristics, and layouts), and site planning (development programs, site elements and attributes, and spatial allocations and configurations). You will learn how to produce these physical plans and designs at different geographic scales, using various illustrative techniques and conventions, with both manual and digital tools.

PLANNING PROJECT STUDIO

Planning Project Studio is the MURP program's advanced studio course. This studio requires you and your classmates to work together as a "planning consultant team" to complete a single planning project or study from beginning to end for a real-world client. It is expected that you will have already gained the core planning knowledge, skills, and values from your experience in Planning Workshop and other MURP courses to be successful in this studio. Consequently, the emphasis in Planning Project Studio is on putting everything together to complete a substantial deliverable for the client.

The studio will emulate the typical planning consultant/client experience, including: refining the project scope and schedule with the client; establishing guiding principles and expected outcomes; conducting case studies and existing plans background research; gathering and analyzing existing conditions data and performing a SWOC assessment; formulating alternative plan concepts; identifying and refining the preferred alternative; and preparing and presenting the final plan. Emphasis is also placed on professionalism, project management, team-building and collaboration, public engagement, and other aspects of the real-world planning consultant realm.

At least three sections of Planning Project Studio are offered each academic year: one (sometimes two) Study Abroad sections during the summer that travel to international locations (recent Study Abroad studios have gone to Greece, Turkey, and Spain); one section during the summer that is anchored partly in Denver and partly in a mountain or rural community (recent Colorado studios have gone to Dillon, Leadville, and Chaffee County), and at least one section during the fall that focuses on an urban issue in the Denver area (recent local studios have studied the 5280 Trail and the Auraria Campus's proposed Innovation District). These options provide you with the opportunity to enroll in a Planning Project Studio section that is aligned with your interests and schedule. However, as each studio section is limited in size, there is no guarantee you will be able to enroll in your preferred section. A balloting process will be used when necessary.



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PLANNING CAPSTONE

Planning Capstone is a six-credit, project-oriented, one-semester course that results in a substantial deliverable upon completion. The Capstone option is best suited for students who wish to pursue a career as a professional planner after graduation. Within the Planning Capstone option are two alternatives: Single-Student Project and Small-Group Project. If you choose the Planning Capstone > Single-Student Project path, you will work individually to complete a significant planning project or study for a real-world client. If you choose the Planning Capstone > Small-Group Project path, you will team up with one or two other students—forming a project team of no more than three students—to complete a significant planning project or study for a real-world client. However, each student must be individually responsible for a clearly defined component of the group project as each student will be graded independently for their work.

During the semester before enrolling in Planning Capstone, you will be required to: 1) determine if you are going to work on your own or as part of a small group, 2) identify your Capstone client and project, and 3) begin thinking about your project prospectus that will be due at the start of your Capstone semester. If you are taking Capstone in the spring, during the preceding fall semester there will be a mandatory Capstone Orientation where you'll receive guidance on project planning and management. All Capstone students must have a completed and approved project prospectus (a detailed work plan, schedule, preliminary methodology, and list of deliverables) by the first week of the Capstone semester.

For students taking Planning Capstone in the spring when it meets as a class, you have the choice of either identifying your own Capstone client and project, or selecting from a list of projects that the MURP faculty have pre-approved from dozens of client-submitted options. A balloting process will be used to match you with your Capstone client and project if you decide to choose from the pre-approved options. For students taking Planning Capstone in the summer or fall when it functions like an independent study, you will have to identify your own Capstone client, project, and faculty advisor. However, don't hesitate to reach out to the Planning faculty in advance for project ideas and/or referrals to potential Capstone clients.

For all Capstone students, you will complete your project work during your Capstone semester while maintaining regular contact with your client to ensure sufficient progress and coordination, and with your Capstone instructor to receive ongoing guidance on your project deliverables, schedule, and work quality. During the spring semester, Capstone students will attend several workshops that provide guidance on research and writing techniques and participate in Capstone Conversations, a special event where MURP alumni meet with Capstone students to provide professional perspectives on planning issues and offer tips and ideas for successfully navigating the Capstone process. The Planning Capstone semester concludes with the submission of all deliverables and a formal presentation to the client.

Note: The culminating component of the MURP curriculum is the Planning Capstone/Planning Thesis requirement, which challenges you to utilize to the fullest extent the planning knowledge, skills, and values you've gained during your MURP program experience. You must choose which option to select—Planning Capstone or Planning Thesis—based on your career goals, personal interests and aptitudes, and advice of your faculty advisor.



PLANNING THESIS

Planning Thesis comprises a pair of three-credit courses (A and B) taken over two semesters that together constitute a six-credit effort. The thesis option is most appropriate for outstanding MURP students (minimum GPA 3.50) who are considering pursuing a Ph.D. or a research-oriented career after graduation. While the thesis should address an aspect of urban and regional planning, it may be qualitative or quantitative in design, and directed toward the discovery of new facts, the development of theory or frameworks, or an investigation of an existing body of knowledge. The thesis document usually includes an abstract, a literature review that delineates the problem of interest or a gap in existing knowledge, a statement of research objectives, an explanation of the research design and methods, a report of the results of the research, and a discussion of the findings and their implications for planning.

The thesis is undertaken with the guidance and approval of a three-person thesis committee, including a Thesis Advisor who must be a full-time member of the MURP faculty.

If you are interested in pursuing the thesis option, you must write a Preliminary MURP Master's Thesis Proposal following the outline found in the MURP Thesis Handbook. The proposal must be submitted to and approved by the Thesis Advisor prior to the course drop deadline in the Planning Thesis A semester. If your proposal is not approved, or your prior academic performance is not deemed adequate for participation in the thesis option, you will enroll in Planning Capstone instead. Once the Thesis Advisor approves your proposal, you must enroll in the Planning Thesis course using a Special Processing Form that is signed by your Thesis Advisor and submitted to Roxy New.

During the Planning Thesis A (URPL 6920) semester, you will identify your research question and study design, work on your literature review, and begin your research. By the sixth week of the Thesis A semester, you must have developed your preliminary thesis proposal into a prospectus that is approved by all three members of the thesis committee.

During the Planning Thesis B (URPL 6925) semester, you will complete your research and write the bulk of your thesis. Throughout, you will meet regularly with your committee members to ensure sufficient progress and work quality. To graduate, the completed thesis must be successfully defended in an Oral Examination before the Thesis Committee, formatted according to the MURP Thesis Format Guide, and uploaded to the ProQuest database.

CURRICULUM

ELECTIVE COURSES OVERVIEW

The elective courses offer a more intensive investigation into a diverse array of planning topics. The MURP program's elective courses are presented in the following sections:

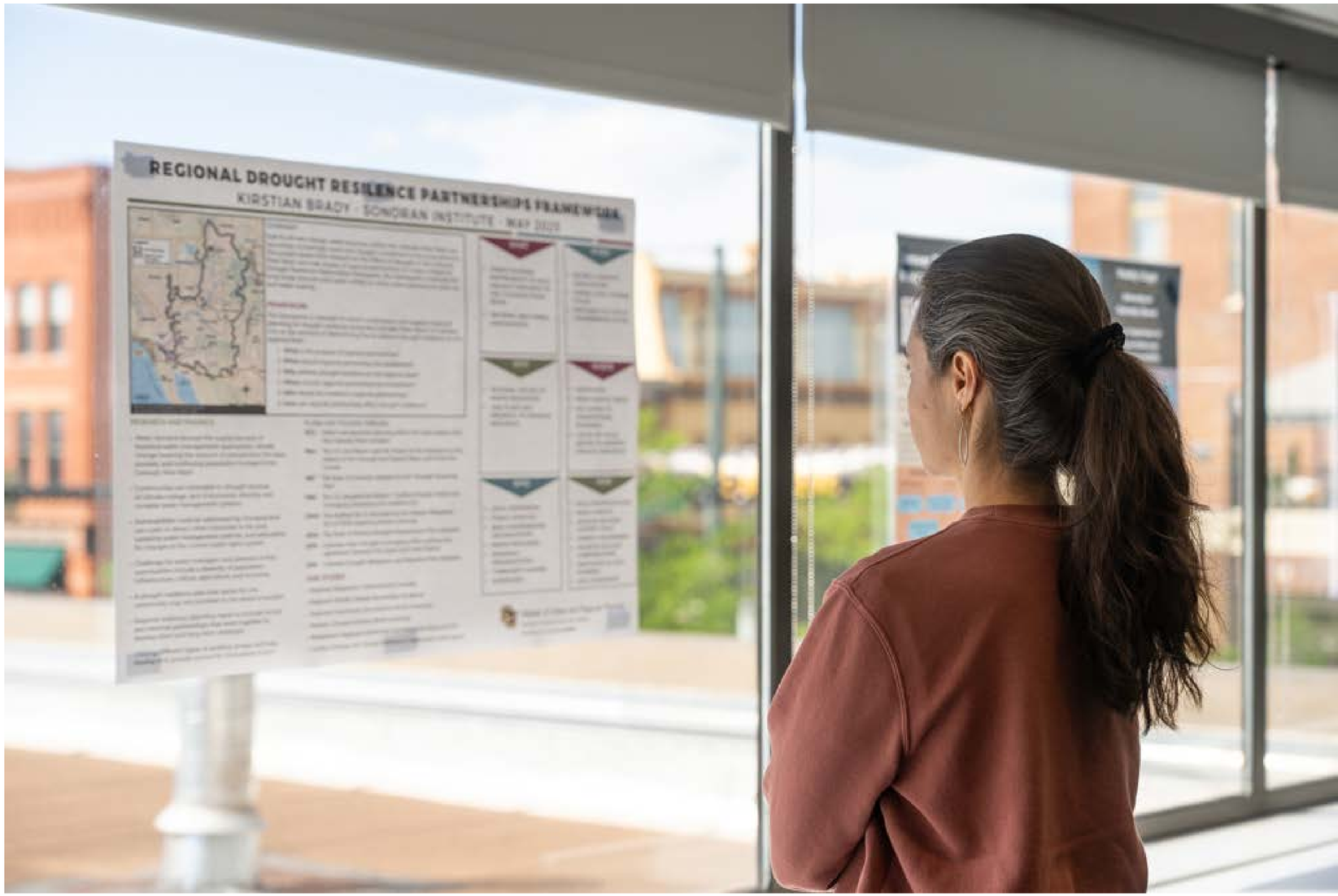
- Regularly Offered Electives
- Intermittently Offered Electives
- URPL 6800 Special Topics Electives
- Out-of-Program Electives
- Cross-Listed Electives
- Independent Study
- Self-Directed Elective Curriculum

NOTES ABOUT LEARNING GIS, ADOBE, AND SKETCHUP

- You will receive introductory instruction in Esri ArcGIS Online in Planning Technologies. Students with little to no experience with Esri's powerful desktop application, ArcGIS Pro, are encouraged to consider GIS for Urban Planning as an elective.
- You will receive introductory instruction in Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, and InDesign and Trimble SketchUp in Planning Technologies. If you seek greater competency in Adobe and SketchUp, you are strongly encouraged to take Advanced Visualization in Urban Design.
- GIS for Urban Planning (URPL 6250) and Advanced Visualization in Urban Design (URBN 6575) are offered in the Fall. CU Denver Geography, and CU Boulder offer introductory GIS classes in the summer. For further guidance about learning planning technologies in the MURP program, please reach out to your faculty advisor.
- The MURP Technology Guide, found here, offers guidance on the technology resources available to you at CU Denver, hardware &

REGULARLY OFFERED ELECTIVES

The MURP program provides students with a diverse set of elective courses that are offered on an annual basis. These electives are taught by a mix of full-time faculty, adjunct and clinical faculty, and by a diverse team of lecturers who work in planning and allied professions as practitioners. On the following pages, Tables 5–7 list the elective courses offered annually by the MURP program in the fall, spring, and summer semesters.



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REGULARLY OFFERED ELECTIVES BY SEMESTER

TABLE 6: ELECTIVES OFFERED ANNUALLY - FALL SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Course Description
URPL 6200	Land Development Regulations	This course provides a comprehensive exploration of municipal/county land development regulations, including preliminary plats; general/final development plans; zoning; PUDs; variances; site plan/development review; land use regulators; regulatory processes.
URPL 6250	GIS for Urban Planning	This course is a detailed introduction to GIS that focuses on spatial analytics for Urban Planning using vector and raster data. Aimed at professionals and researchers, this course includes advanced ArcGIS applications and tools, and innovations in geo-spatial data analysis.
URPL 6350	City Design Fundamentals	This course investigates the historical roots, spatial patterns, and physical forms of cities and their evolution over time; the environmental, cultural, and economic forces influencing city design; and urban design as the nexus of the planning and design professions in contemporary city-building.
URPL 6405	Urban Housing	This course examines the realm of urban housing, including housing trends and patterns; housing markets (supply/demand, finance, demographics); housing problems (substandard quality, inequitable distribution, special needs, segregation/discrimination); and the role of the planner
URPL 6455	RealEstateDevelopment and Finance	The course offers a detailed analysis of the real estate development process, its relationship to the planning/design profession, and financial aspects of real estate development including measures of value, capitalization rates, capital budgeting, debt and equity markets and taxation.
URPL 6500	EnvironmentalPlanning and Management	This course provides a comprehensive investigation of environmental management topics, including natural hazards/disasters and mitigation planning; ecosystems; air/water quality; natural area conservation and management; habitat protection; and environmental planning organizations
URPL 6560	Transit, Pedestrian and Bicycle Planning	This course provides a comprehensive exploration of how to plan and design infrastructure for transit, walking, and bicycling. Topics include user characteristics, data needs, technical design aspects, coalition formation, and marketing. The course also introduces first-/last-mile issues, micro-
URPL 6600	Regional Growth and Equity	This course provides an overview of public processes and institutions for planning housing, transportation, infrastructure and jobs at a regional scale, as well as analytic techniques to study worker and commodity flows, industrial clusters, commuting patterns, and other data regarding

TABLE 7: ELECTIVES OFFERED ANNUALLY - SPRING SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Course Description
URPL 6205	Plan Making	This course offers a broad overview of the various types of urban and regional plans and the specific processes involved in their creation, including comprehensive plans; rural and small town plans; corridor plans; small area plans; campus and institutional plans; special plans.
URPL 6260	Advanced Geospatial Methods	This course covers advanced techniques in GIS, including interpolation/geostatistics, 3D rendering, terrain/viewshed analysis, spatial autocorrelation detection, site selection/prioritization, model building/automation, geodatabase design, network analysis, hydrology/watershed analysis, and
URPL 6355	UrbanRedevelopment Strategies	This course focuses on the strategies used to help revitalize urban areas. Topics include urban infill development; TODs; adaptive reuse; historic preservation; design review; parking; public spaces; brownfields/grayfields redevelopment; culture/tourism; special districts; incentives/funding; and
URPL 6365	ParksandPublicSpaces	This course offers a focused look at the role of parks and public spaces in the development and activation of cities; their designs, qualities, and components; management /operations; funding; policies; equal access; role as community and economic development tool.
URPL 6400	Community Development	This course looks at community development and the issues planners face when working with local communities. Rooted in equity and social justice, the course explores the roles of social, physical, human and economic capital in community development. Students undertake a project
URPL 6555	Transportation,LandUse and the Environment	This course teaches how current transportation modes shape regions and how future transportation technologies might impact us. Topics include policy making and governance; land use interactions with transportation investments; climate change and resilience; energy use; environmental justice;
URPL 6615	Small Town, Rural, and Tourism Planning	This course investigates issues and challenges associated with rural, small town, and tourism planning including farmland conservation, growth management, sustainable food systems, economic development, and revitalization. It reviews global trends, national policies, and local
URPL 6650	International DevelopmentPlanning	This course covers the histories, debates, actors and approaches that shape planning in the developing world. Topics include development history/theory; decentralization/privatization; urban informality; planning models; uneven provision of basic services/infrastructure; land tenure;

Note: All elective courses listed are subject to change given student interest, faculty availability, and other considerations. Students should consult with their academic advisor for information and guidance about the MURP program's elective

CURRICULUM

REGULARLY OFFERED ELECTIVES BY SEMESTER

TABLE 8: ELECTIVES OFFERED ANNUALLY - SUMMER SEMESTER

Course #	Course Name	Course Description
GEOG5080	Introduction to GIS	Introduces Geographic Information Systems (GIS), including justification, hardware/software, database design, and data conversion. GIS is a computer-based mapping system providing a graphical interface to locational and relational attribute data. Includes hands-on use of a GIS workstation.
URBN 6576	AdvancedVisualization in Urban Design	This course provides advanced instruction in effective communication and visualization through the use of digital tools commonly used in urban design (e.g. Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, SketchUp, Lumion). Topics include graphic design theory, use of storyboards, renderings, diagrams, maps, sketches, photographs, and infographics.

Other programs on the Denver and Boulder campuses offer summer courses that may be of interest. We are also working on offering some of our fall and spring electives in the summer.

INTERMITTENTLY OFFERED ELECTIVES

Some courses assigned a permanent URPL course number that appear in the university course catalog are offered rarely or on an intermittent basis, such as every two or three years. When offered, they may be held in either the Fall or Spring semester, depending on faculty availability and student interest. If you have questions about the availability of courses that are not listed in Tables 6–8,

URPL 6800 SPECIAL TOPICS ELECTIVES

The MURP program periodically offers electives that are not included in the catalog of planning classes that have been assigned a permanent URPL course number. These unique, one-time classes may cover any variety of planning topics or skills and may take the form of seminars, lecture courses, or studios, and may be offered in any semester.

Within the UCDAccess system, these special courses will appear under the heading of "URPL 6800 – Special Topics: Urban and Regional Planning" followed by a unique section number that provides details such as the course name, description, schedule, and instructor. Any Special Topics course listed under "URPL 6800 – Special Topics: Urban and Regional Planning" will count as an approved elective toward the MURP degree. Questions about Special Topics courses should be directed to your academic advisor or the course instructor.

OUT-OF-PROGRAM ELECTIVES: UP TO TWO

You may take up to two (2) of your six elective courses—for a maximum of 6 elective credits—toward your MURP degree from courses outside of the MURP program. These non-MURP courses can be from programs at any of the four University of Colorado campuses (Boulder, Colorado Springs, Denver, Anschutz), but must be relevant to urban planning, at the graduate level, and approved by the Chair or Associate Chair. Courses offered by other programs that are cross-listed with a URPL course prefix are considered as MURP electives and therefore do not count against the 6-credit maximum. Students may request approval for an out-of-program course by submitting the course name/number and syllabus to the Department Chair or Associate Chair at least two weeks prior to the start of the semester.

CROSS-LISTED ELECTIVES

Cross-listed electives are courses that are regularly offered by other programs throughout the university that have been approved as MURP courses and assigned a permanent URPL course number. These courses focus on planning-related topics within disciplines such as urban design, landscape architecture, public administration, business, and civil engineering. Table 8 shows the current cross-listed courses available to MURP students. Because these courses are managed by other programs, the Planning faculty do not control the scheduling or content of these courses. Occasionally, cross-listed courses are discontinued by the program administering the course and/or new courses are identified by the Planning faculty for cross-listing. Questions about a cross-listed course should be directed to your academic advisor or to the course instructor.

To learn more about what courses are cross-listed, visit: https://architectureandplanning.ucdenver.edu/academics/urban-and-regional-planning/murp



Note: All elective courses listed are subject to change given student interest, faculty availability, and other considerations. Students should consult with their academic advisor for information and guidance about the MURP program's summer elective courses.

CURRICULUM

INDEPENDENT STUDY

Independent Study is a student self-directed learning experience with faculty oversight, guidance, and evaluation. As an elective course, Independent Study offers students an important opportunity to engage in research or creative activity in an area of inquiry not offered through regular courses, or in greater depth than offered in regular courses. An Independent Study course should not duplicate courses that are traditionally offered at the university; rather, it is intended to be a truly independent exploration of a topic or a project of a special nature.

Student Requirements: Students who undertake Independent Study are expected to be self-motivated and largely self-directed, and must have a grade point average of 3.00 or greater in the MURP program. You can apply a maximum of one three-credit Independent Study course towards your MURP degree. (However, under special circumstances, and with departmental approval, you may be able to take two Independent Study courses.)

Faculty Instructor: You must secure a faculty instructor for your Independent Study course. The faculty member's expertise and availability should be appropriate for the topic of study and your learning objectives. Faculty members reserve the right to decline to decline to advise your Independent Study. Only full-time Department of Urban and Regional Planning faculty members may officially serve as a MURP Independent Study instructors. Adjunct and Clinical faculty members and faculty in other departments may serve as co-advisors, but the instructor of record (i.e., grader) must be a full-time MURP faculty member. You are encouraged to consult with other faculty and/or professionals as part of your Independent Study, but the faculty Independent Study instructor is responsible for evaluating the project and providing the majority of advising.



Project Guidelines: An Independent Study project should have a focus within the field of Urban and Regional Planning, although it may be of an interdisciplinary nature. The Independent Study deliverables should be sufficient to evaluate your level of learning and mastery of the chosen topic. Independent Study will be graded with a letter grade and is subject to MURP, CAP, and CU Denver grading and academic policies. You must provide the project specifics in the Independent Study Proposal and the proposal must be approved by your Independent Study faculty instructor.

You should expect to devote a minimum of nine hours per week during the fall or spring semester, and 18 hours per week during the summer semester, for a three-credit Independent Study course. You are expected to meet periodically with your Independent Study faculty instructor throughout the semester, and you and the faculty member should agree on project milestones and a meeting schedule.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS:

To begin an Independent Study, you are responsible for developing a study proposal, approaching and gaining approval from a faculty member with whom you would like to work, completing the enrollment form and getting it signed and submitted, and registering for the Independent Study course. Specifically, the process includes the following steps:

1. Prior to the semester in which the Independent Study is to be completed, draft an Independent Study Proposal following the outline provided in the Curriculum and Advising channel on MURPspace.

2. Prior to the start of the semester, approach and gain approval from a full-time MURP faculty member to be your Independent Study course advisor (note guidelines above).

3. Work with their faculty advisor to refine the Independent Study Proposal. The proposal must be completed and approved by the faculty advisor no later than the end of the first week of the semester.

4. Complete and sign the Special Processing Form, have it signed by your Independent Study faculty advisor, and turn it in to Roxy New no later than the end of the second week of the semester (the add/drop deadline).

5. Register for the Independent Study course (URPL 6810) no later than the add/drop deadline.

CURRICULUM

SELF-DIRECTED ELECTIVE CURRICULUM

Through our self-directed elective curriculum, you have the ability to craft a MURP degree suited to your career goals and personal interests. You may choose any combination of elective courses, whether oriented towards a traditional planning field such as "transportation planning," a customized emphasis on a unique planning niche, or a general survey of diverse planning topics (i.e. no specialization at all). You are not required to identify or pursue any type of planning specialization unless you want to (specializations do not appear on transcripts). Ultimately, you may choose whichever combination of elective courses you desire.

However, for those students who may want to focus their electives on a specific aspect of planning, Table 9 identifies six common planning "Focus Areas" and a selection of MURP elective courses that would provide excellent coverage of each focus area. Again, these are not prescribed or required, just suggested combinations of electives related to each focus area for students who may be interested.

The most helpful resource for assisting you in choosing your self-directed path through the MURP program is the Planning faculty. You should not hesitate to reach out to any faculty member for advice

NOTES ABOUT THE COLUMNS IN TABLE 9

- Focus Areas: These focus areas were identified by the Planning faculty as six of the more common areas of specialization within planning. However, there are many other areas of specialization that exist within the planning field. You should feel free to define your own area of specialization if desired.
- Introductory Electives: Several electives have been suggested for each focus area that provide a good introduction to the focus topic.
- Advanced Skills/Methods Electives: Two advanced skills/methods electives have been suggested for each focus area that are supportive of the focus topic. Only one advanced skills/methods elective is necessary to meet the requirement stated on page 9 but you may take more than one if you desire.
- Specialized Electives: Several electives have been suggested for each focus area that provide a deeper investigation into each focus topic. In addition to these four suggestions per focus area, URPL 6260 - Advanced Geospatial Methods would be an effective specialized elective under any focus area. Also, there may be Special Topics electives, Cross-Listed electives, or Out-of-Program electives that could be effective specialized electives under a focus area.

TABLE 9: SUGGESTED ELECTIVES FOR COMMON PLANNING FOCUS

Focus Area	Introductory Electives	Advanced Skills/Methods Electives	Specialized Electives
Transportation Planning	URPL6555-Transportation,LandUse,andEnvironment URPL 6560 - Transit, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Planning URPL 6600 - Regional Growth and Equity	URPL 6250 - GIS for Urban Planning URPL 6575 - Advanced Visualization URPL 6230 - Urban Data Science	URPL 6260 - Advanced Geospatial Methods CVEN 5633: Sustainable Transportation Systems
Housing and Community Development	URPL 6400 - Community Development URPL 6650 - International Development Planning URPL 6600 - Regional Growth and Equity	URPL 6575 - Advanced Visualization	URPL 6355 - Urban Redevelopment Strategies URPL 6405 - Urban Housing URPL 6615 - Small Town, Rural, and Tourism Planning
Land Development Planning	URPL 6200 - Land Development Regulations URPL 6355 - Urban Redevelopment Strategies URPL 6235 - Environemntal Justice	URPL 6230 - Urban Data Science URPL 6575 - Advanced Visualization URPL6455-RealEstateDevelopment&Finance	URPL 6350 - City Design Fundamentals URPL 6400 - Community Development URPL 6405 - Urban Housing
Environmental Planning	URPL6500-EnvironmentalPlanningandManagement URPL6555-Transportation,LandUse,andEnvironment URPL 6600 - Regional Growth and Equity URPL 6235 - Environmental Justice	URPL 6250 - GIS for Urban Planning URPL 6575 - Advanced Visualization URPL 6260 - Advanced Geospatial Methods URPL 6230 - Urban Data Science	URPL 6205 - Plan Making URPL 6365 - Parks and Public Spaces URPL 6615 - Small Town, Rural, and Tourism Planning URPL 6645 - Disaster and Climate Change Planning CVEN 5633: Sustainable Transportation Systems
Physical Planning and Urban Design	URPL 6350 - City Design Fundamentals URPL 6200 - Land Development Regulations URPL 6560 - Transit, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Planning	URPL 6250 - GIS for Urban Planning URPL 6575 - Advanced Visualization URPL 6260 - Advanced Geospatial Methods	URPL 6365 - Parks and Public Spaces URPL 6395 - Urban Design Economics and Equity URPL 6397 - Design Policy, Process, and Regulation URPL6555-Transportation,LandUse,andEnvironment
Healthy Communitties Planning	URPL 6365 - Parks and Public Spaces URPL 6400 - Community Development URPL 6235 - Environemntal Justice	URPL 6250 - GIS for Urban Planning URPL 6230 - Urban Data Science	URPL 6560 - Transit, Pedestrian, and Bicycle Planning URPL 6645 - Disaster and Climate Change Planning CVEN 5662 - Transportation System Safety

CURRICULUM

DUAL DEGREES

We believe that successful planning and city-building requires expertise, breadth, interdisciplinary understanding, and creativity. Our program emphasizes thinking outside traditional professional silos and we encourage students to explore the planning profession by following a self-directed path and developing expertise in the areas that matter most to them. In keeping with this spirit, the MURP program offers ten dual degree options and one certificate option, described below.

In order to pursue a dual degree, you must be accepted into both programs separately. You may choose to apply to another program to pursue a dual degree after you have entered the MURP program. Once admitted to a dual degree, you must complete the work for both degrees before you can graduate from either. Pursuing a dual degree allows a reduction in the number of credits required than you would need if you earned each degree separately, saving both time and money. The advising forms referenced in the sections below are available in the MURP Curriculum and Advising channel on MURPspace. Below each of the degree types are links directleyh to each oof the individual degree website pages.

Note: If you have questions about pursuing a dual degree please feel free to reach out to Roxy New or your facualty advisor for more information.



APPLIED GEOGRAPHY/GEOSPATIAL SCIENCES (MA-AGGS) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Arts in Applied Geography and Geospatial Sciences (MA-AGGS), offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the MURP program focus on human-environment interactions and seek to train interdisciplinary researchers and practitioners. Balancing conservation and demands on the natural and built environments has led to a growing demand for trained professionals who can understand complex issues, collect and analyze relevant data, and develop and implement innovative policy and design solutions. The MA-AGGS program emphasizes geospatial science to address social and environmental issues while the MURP program focuses on the design and planning of the built environment and its impact on social and physical systems. This interdisciplinary approach enables students to integrate the views and tools from each field and prepare for careers such as transportation planning, environmental consulting, natural resource management, hazards/emergency management, urban/regional planning, health/human services, and tourism/recreation management.

MA-AGGS Program Website



ARCHITECTURE (M ARCH) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Architecture (MArch) is the College of Architecture and Planning's accredited professional degree for students intending to seek licensure as architects. The MArch program examines the interplay between architectural form and the complex cultural and technological context in which architects operate. CU Denver's architecture and urban planning programs share a focus on cross-disciplinary interdependence, research orientation, experiential learning, and real-world relevance. Planners and architects each proceed by asking critical questions that encompass environmental, economic, social, cultural, aesthetic and ethical concerns, then answer them using an appropriate method. By conceiving of architecture and urban planning as an interdisciplinary partnership at the heart of the city-building process, MArch/MURP dual degree students develop the skills to create holistic, healthy, sustainable environments. For information, view the MARCH + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MArch Program Website



BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Masters of Business Administration (MBA) is offered by the CU Denver Business School. Obtaining these two degrees helps planners understand not only the process of planning within the public sector, but also private enterprise, and how to harness private initiatives as they plan land use, promote the economy, and maintain valued landscapes. At the same time, the dual degree will help business leaders understand how to place business decisions within the broad array of community interests and aspirations. Both programs emphasize active learning through the analysis of case studies and direct involvement in addressing both business and planning challenges within Denver. In an era in which development strategy must enlist the combined energies of the public and private sectors, the student who has these two degrees will have a distinct advantage. Above all, the dual degree program educates students in the practice of strategic planning in service to the community at large. For more information, view the MBA + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MBA Program Website

CURRICULUM

DUAL DEGREES



HISTORIC PRESERVATION (MSHP) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Science in Historic Preservation (MSHP) is offered by the College of Architecture and Planning via the Dana Crawford Preservation Program. Historic preservation has become an integral part of many urban planning-related practices such as neighborhood planning, urban design, environmental permitting, real estate development, community development, public spaces and placemaking, and economic development. An increasing percentage of urban planning and design work is focused on infill projects, often in historic areas. And, it is widely recognized that reusing existing buildings is a more sustainable practice than tearing them down. The field of historic preservation encompasses architecture and planning, as well as cultural landscapes, project management, building technology, documentation, and representation. Students who can combine these skills with the breadth of urban and regional planning have a wide range of professional pathways from which to choose. For more information, view the MSHP + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MSHP Program Website



LAW (JD) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The law degree Juris Doctor (JD) is administered by the Law School at CU Boulder. The JD/MURP dual degree pairs two professions with complementary attentions. The focus of planning is public action centered on the natural and built environments, while the focus of law is the constitutional, statutory, and regulatory bases of the social order. Merged, these two fields enable dual degree holders to address issues at the interface of policy and law emphasizing the use of land and the management of the public lands and natural resources. Dual degree graduates will find abundant career opportunities in public-sector planning and administration at all levels of governance, and in the private practice of law and planning consulting. A student enrolled in the dual degree program may commence studies in either program, but is required by the Law School to take the first year of the JD curriculum as a unit exclusively in the Law School. For more information, view the JD + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form and the JD + MURP Dual Degree Memorandum of Understanding.

JD Program Website



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE (MLA) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) is the accredited professional degree for students intending to seek licensure as landscape architects. Landscape architects design physical spaces supporting healthy, ethical relationships between people, place, and resources while enhancing the inherent qualities of that place. Today, landscape architects are called upon to find design solutions that respond to the pressures of globalization, growth, heritage loss, and environmental degradation. These same concerns occupy urban and regional planners, who search for solutions through engaging communities, researching, analyzing qualitative and quantitative information, and creative planning and visioning. Students who pursue this dual degree will have the physical design and urban planning tools to connect people to place in ways that enhance well-being and environmental balance, foster community and equity, conserve and regenerate resources, and create places that hold value for current and future generations. For more information, view the MLA + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MLA Program Website



ENGINEERING – TRANSPORTATION (MENG) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

This dual degree program combines the Master of Engineering–Transportation Systems (MEng), offered by the College of Engineering, Design and Computing, with the MURP degree. Transportation is a key area of research and practice in both engineering and planning. As communities become increasingly aware of the connection between the built environment and health, sustainability, and access to opportunity, the transportation-land use nexus has become more important—and more complex. Solving transportation and quality of life challenges requires multi-disciplinary, innovative solutions. The interdisciplinary perspective of a dual degree enables graduates to bring the perspectives and tools from one profession into the other. The MEng + MURP dual degree prepares students for careers influencing the design, public policy and investment in transportation systems such as roadways, public transit, pedestrian and bicycle facilities, parking and intermodal linkages. For more information, view the MENG + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MENG Program Website

CURRICULUM

DUAL DEGREES



PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Public Health (MPH) is the primary professional degree in the field of public health. It prepares students for a variety of public health careers: epidemiological and health services research, community needs assessment, environmental and occupational health, health policy, health promotion, and administration of public health programs. The CU Denver MURP/MPH dual degree arises from the commonalities of perspective and purpose shared by its two constituents. Each focuses on populations rather than individuals, and each works to proactively improve the well-being of those populations. A subset of public health addresses the health impacts caused by physical environments—which is the domain of urban and regional planning. Planners recognize that policies, infrastructures, and social and economic conditions contribute to environmental conditions and, thus, play a critical role in human health. For more information, view the MPH + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MPA Program Website



URBAN DESIGN (MUD) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Urban Design (MUD) is an advanced post-professional degree program for individuals who seek a career in urban design practice or for planners who want to enhance and expand their planning foundation with urban design knowledge and expertise. Using real-world experiential learning, the MUD program trains students to become exceptional urban design thinkers, practitioners, and leaders. MURP students may apply to the MUD program after they have completed at least 12 MURP credits. Students can then take MUD lecture courses and apply them to both their MURP and MUD degrees. After completing the MURP degree requirements, students conclude the MUD program by taking the two MUD studios, any remaining MUD lecture courses, and the final MUD studio/capstone. Upon completing the MUD degree requirements, students are eligible to graduate and receive both their MURP and MUD.

MUD Program Website



PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (MPA) + MURP DUAL DEGREE

The Master of Public Administration (MPA) is offered by the School of Public Affairs at CU Denver. Planners who obtain this dual degree will gain a broad appreciation for planning's place within the wider array of governmental functions at the local, regional, state and federal levels. Grounding planning in public administration will encourage a firmer appreciation for institutional arrangements and processes, and for the strategic management of the regulatory and fiscal means for the implementation of plans and policies. At the same time, grounding public administration in the material presence of places emphasizes and encourages the role of the natural and built environment in shaping development capacities, opportunities and outcomes. This dual degree allows public administrators to better document and direct the course of physical, economic, fiscal and policy change within communities. Graduates may pursue employment options in either field or a blend of the two. For more information, view the MPA + MURP Dual Degree Advising Form.

MHP Program Website

CURRICULUM

CERTIFICATES



CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CERTIFICATE

The College of Architecture and Planning's Climate and Environmental Justice (CEJ) Certificate program is designed for students and professionals committed to addressing the social, economic, and environmental dimensions of climate change and environmental inequities. It is open to current University of Colorado Denver students seeking to enhance their graduate studies with a specialized credential, as well as to working professionals who wish to strengthen their expertise without enrolling in a full degree program. Students in the CEJ Certificate gain a deep understanding of environmental and climate justice theory, explore critical issues at the intersection of policy, planning, and community resilience, and develop practical skills to address inequities in environmental decision-making. Graduates exit the program prepared to apply justice-oriented approaches in diverse professional contexts, from urban planning and policy analysis to nonprofit, governmental, and community-based work.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING CERTIFICATE

The College of Architecture and Planning and the School of Public Affairs' Affordable Housing Graduate Certificate is designed for students and professionals seeking to address the growing housing affordability crisis through planning, policy, design, and development. It is open to current University of Colorado Denver students who want to add a specialized credential to their graduate studies, as well as to working professionals in housing development, design, finance, nonprofit leadership, government, and program management. Students in the program gain a comprehensive understanding of affordable housing history, policies, and funding mechanisms; learn the fundamentals of real estate development; explore community planning strategies to support housing access; and study principles of housing design that meet diverse population needs. Graduates emerge with the knowledge and skills to collaborate across public, private, and nonprofit sectors to create and manage housing solutions that are financially viable, socially equitable, and sustainable.



GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) CERTIFICATE

The College of Architecture and Planning's GIS certificate program is intended for motivated people with a strong interest in the application of GIS to the design and planning professions. It is targeted both at students currently enrolled in a University of Colorado degree program who wish to add a credential to their degree, and working professionals who do not wish to enroll as degree students, but who wish to pursue a certificate to improve their job skills and spatial understanding. Students who earn this Certificate exit the program with an understanding of GIS theory and concepts, technical mastery of GIS methods and familiarity with remote sensing, knowledge of data interoperability, and specialized skills in geospatial methods related to the design and planning professions, including rendering and visualizations, infrastructure and transportation network analysis, cadastral mapping, site selection and analysis, geodesign, and many others.

GIS Certificate Website

STUDENT NETWORKING

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

WTS (WOMEN'S TRANSPORTATION SEMINAR) - CU DENVER

WTS (Women's Transportation Seminar) is a multidisciplinary organization that is dedicated to the advancement of women in the transportation industry. CU Denver's WTS Student Chapter is about bringing people together—all genders and disciplines—to elevate women in leadership and advance transportation equity and innovation. The goal of WTS is to provide the following opportunities to students throughout the year:

- Network with transportation professionals
- Encourageinvolvementincurrenttransportationaffairsin Denver,theregion,andColorado
- Provideopportunitiesoutsidetheclassroomtoincreaseknowledgethroughprogramingevents
- Participate in mentoring and job shadowing opportunities
- Engage with fellow students in social and service activities

We welcome all students of all genders to join WTS for educational and social events, community service projects, and other activities related to transportation careers. For more information, visit: https://www.facebook.com/wtsCOstudents or the WTS channel at MURPspace. You can also join WTS International as a student member and participate in the Colorado Chapter events.

PLANNERS NETWORK - CU DENVER CHAPTER

Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in physical, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote fundamental change in our political and economic systems.

Planners Network believes that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and developing the environment to eliminate the great inequalities of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. We are committed to opposing racial, economic, and environmental injustice and discrimination by gender and sexual orientation. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, housing, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthy environment. Planners Network advocates public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

Planners Network seeks to be an effective political and social force, working with other progressive organizations to inform public opinion and public policy and to provide assistance to those seeking to understand, control, and change the forces which affect their lives. Visit the Planners Network Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/PlannersNetworkDenver







AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION - STUDENT CHAPTER (APAS)

APAS is the CU Denver student chapter of the American Planning Association, which promotes the involvement of student planners in local, regional, and national planning activities and provides a mechanism through which students can interact with planning professionals and faculty, address common concerns, and receive support in their endeavors in the field of planning. APAS's goals are:

- Connect students in the MURP program with the Colorado APA chapter and the national APA organization
- Promote the involvement of student planners in the affairs and activities of the American Planning Association
- Provide the mechanism whereby student planners can influence the development of the planning profession
- Serve as a social network for planning students and APA members
- Voice the needs of MURP students to Planning faculty and foster strong communication among faculty and students
- Raise funds to sponsor as many students as possible to be able to attend the state and national APA conferences
- Facilitate a mentorship program
- Hold monthly meetings with students to maintain communication and to encourage proactive suggestions and involvement

APAS hosts networking events such as "MURP Connects" to allow students an opportunity to engage professional planners in an informal setting, and sponsors fund-raising activities like MURP T-shirt sales to generate revenue in order to put on additional events or provide learning opportunities for students and professional alike.

Each spring and fall, APAS hosts picnics for students to connect with one another outside of the classroom setting. All MURP students are welcome to participate in APAS; there's no official "joining" necessary and there are no dues or specific commitments required. All MURP students are automatically a member of APAS.

For more information, visit APAS's Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

CAP LECTURE SERIES/LUNCH FORUMS

The College puts on an exciting lecture series each year, bringing ground-breaking practitioners and academics to the campus to talk about their work and the future of our disciplines with a focus on a particular theme. Many of these speakers are from the planning and design fields. Check the CAP website and the bulletin boards around the building for lecture series event information.

Planning faculty and students regularly organize lunchtime forums to foster conversation, debate, and learning about current issues that we face in the region and in the planning profession. The aim of the lunchtime forums is to contribute to building a community of practice that includes students, faculty, professionals, local organizations, and community residents. Keep an eye out for email messages and social media posts for these lunchtime events!

APA COLORADO EVENTS

In addition to its big annual conference (which many MURP students attend), the Colorado chapter of the American Planning Association also holds a variety of events and meetings open to CU Denver MURP students throughout the year. The APA-Colorado Events Calendar is a good place to find out what planning-related activities are occurring throughout the state. Additionally, the Emerging Planning Professionals (EPP) committee of APA-Colorado (for planners who have been in the field eight years or less) holds professional and social activities throughout the year.

CU DENVER EVENTS

The University maintains a Student Events page where a variety of activities open to all CU Denver students are publicized. During the fall and spring semesters, CU Denver students automatically receive the university's weekly e-newsletter with information on student events and activities.



SUGGESTED READING RESOURCES

ThePlanningfacultyhavecompiledthefollowingshortlistofbooksandonlinearticlesthatcurrentorprospectiveMURPstudentsshouldconsiderreading.Formorereadingsuggestions,don't hesitate to reach out to one of the Planning faculty.

ONLINE READING RESOURCES

- ACSP Student Resources
- APA Knowledge Center and 100 Essential Books of Planning
- CityLab
- Cyburbia
- Planetizen
- Next City

PLANNING RELATED BOOKS

- American Apartheid, Douglas Massey and Nancy Denton
- Building Suburbia, Dolores Hayden
- Cadillac Desert, Mark Reisner
- City of Quartz, Mike Davis
- Color of Law, Richard Rothstein
- The Death and Life of Great American Cities, Jane Jacobs
- Fixer Upper: How to Repair America's Broken Housing System, Jennifer Schuetz
- Getting What You Came For, Robert Peters
- Human Transit, Jarrett Walker
- The Image of the City, Kevin Lynch
- Nature's Metropolis, Bill Cronon
- The Origins of the Urban Crisis, Thomas Sugrue
- The Power of Place: Urban Landscapes as Public History, Dolores Hayden
- The Production of Space, Henri Lefebvre
- Silent Spring, Rachel Carson
- Urban Fortunes, John Logan and Harvey Molotch
- The Urban Villagers, Herbert Gans
- The Walkable City, Jeff Speck
- Wrestling with Moses, Anthony Flint



GET INVOLVED

MURP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

The CU Denver MURP Alumni Association (MURPAA), whose mission is to "further the enduring educational interests, social diversity, professional development, and charitable support of CU Denver MURP students, alumni, and the communities they serve," provides opportunities for planning students to engage with MURP alumni through a variety of meetings and events.

You are encouraged to attend the various MURPAA activities, which range throughout the year from networking receptions and happy hours to educational events to the annual Distinguished Lecture and Award program. MURPAA also partners with APAS, WTS, and other groups to plan interactive events that foster engagement between students and alumni. View their website at https://architectureandplanning.ucdenver.edu/murpaa and make sure you're receiving updates from the MURPAA channel on MURPspace.







EMPLOYMENT

TEACHING ASSISTANTS

Teaching assistants help professors prepare and manage course materials, grade student work, and lead class discussions. Teaching assistants typically work 6-10 hours per week. To be qualified as a TA, you need to have taken the course, mastered the material, and have skill and enthusiasm for training fellow students. Students who are interested in a teaching assistant position should express their interest to the course instructor, discuss opportunities with the Department Chair, or watch MURPspace for announcements about open TA positions.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

Research assistants help professors with research, and the specific activities can include data collection and entry, reviewing literature, conducting analysis and field work, statistical programming, writing and editing manuscripts, and presenting research findings. The appointments carry a workload from about 5-25 hours per week, depending on funding and your availability. Qualifications for an RA position include academic merit, interest and enthusiasm for doing research, and specific skills required for the project. If you are interested in a RA position, discuss opportunities with the five research faculty (DeSouza, Makarewicz, Németh, Shirgaokar, and Troy) and watch MURPspace and Handshake for open RA positions. The availability and nature of RA positions depends on current faculty work and funding, but typically there are about 15 RA positions each year. The University Technical Assistance Program also hires students to work on landscape, planning, and architecture projects for small towns throughout Colorado.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

Graduate Assistants provide essential administrative and organizational support to ensure smooth program operations. Duties may include managing departmental communications, maintaining records and databases, coordinating events and guest lectures, preparing materials, supporting outreach to community partners, local governments, and planning organizations. This role offers valuable experience in project coordination, communication, and public engagement, while giving the GA first-hand insight into the operational and professional networks that support planning education and practice.

INTERNSHIPS

Meaningful student work provides experiential learning that integrates academic experience with practical application and skills development in a professional setting before graduation. Internships and ongoing employment afford CAP students valuable applied experience and settings in which to make professional connections, setting you up for greater career outcomes whatever you choose to do with your degree. These opportunities allow students to test career interests, apply classroom concepts to real-world challenges, and build a portfolio of work that demonstrates their capabilities to future employers. They also foster essential professional skills such as communication, problem-solving, teamwork, and adaptability, while helping students gain confidence in their abilities. In addition, meaningful work often offers mentorship from experienced professionals, opening doors to industry insights, networking opportunities, and potential job offers after graduation.
Find an Internship or Job:

- Begin your search with Handshake. This is where employers recruiting from CAP post their openings.
- Check professional organization websites, like the MURPAA LinkedIn Group, Colorado APA, and other industry-related career sites.
- Attend the CAP Career Fair, held each year in February.
- Utilize LynxConnect, CU Denver's Career Center, for help with your resume, cover letter,

MURPSPACE - MICROSOFT TEAMS

The Department uses Microsoft Teams as a central hub for communication, collaboration, and resource sharing among students, faculty, and staff. Organized into dedicated channels such as General, Jobs and Funding Opportunities, MURP Alumni Association (MURPAA), Advising, Student Organizations, and topic-specific threads, Teams ensures information is accessible and easy to navigate. In addition, channels are devoted to the department's four pillars of urban planning; Transportation and Mobility, Land Use and Urban Design, Housing and Community Development, and Environment and Sustainability. It also serves as a space for sharing news, research, events, and discussions relevant to each focus area. This structure allows students to engage with opportunities, stay updated on departmental announcements, and connect across professional and academic interests in one streamlined platform.

MURP space

Check MURPSpace Jobs and Funding Opportunities Channel for TA and RA positions.





CAREER BUILDING

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



JEN SKIDMORE

Director of Professional Development and Internships
303-315-1014
jen.skidmore@ucdenver.edu
Planning internships, career fair, professional developmnet resources

Individual Support: The Director of Professional Development and Internships works with students on an individual basis to support them in their career search. For more information about professional development services, please contact Jen Skidmore, CAP Director of Professional Development and Internships.

As a complement to the robust academic programming in the MURP program, students benefit from the practical experience gained in a professional work environment. CAP's Professional Development and Internships office provides support to all students in connecting to the practice community and developing the skills and materials necessary to secure employment and internships. Additionally the University's Career Center offers assistance in career development. During your time in the MURP program you'll have access to the following activities and services:

- CAP Career Fair: Over 65 employers attended the 2020 Career Fair. The event included networking sessions, panel discussions and one-on-one interviews.
- Skills Training: CAP and the CU Denver Career Center collaborate to offer targeted trainings on resumes, cover letters, networking and interviewing.
- Portfolio Trainings: For students interested in developing a professional portfolio, CAP offers trainings and review sessions to assist in the creation of printed and/or digital portfolios.
- Professional Presentations: CAP organizes panel discussions and talks by professionals, including alumni, to support students in their transition from school to employment.
- Firm Tours: CAP sponsors tours with local firms that work in the areas of Planning, Architecture and Landscape

Mentorship Program: Students can get matched with a professional mentor who can offer insight and guidance on their field of study. Mentorship is also a valuable way to begin building your professional network.

HANDSHAKE

Handshake: MURP students and alumni have access to Handshake, an online job board, where employers post available positions. Through Handshake, students will have access to positions in Metro Denver, Colorado and nationwide. Sign up for Handshake here.

handshake

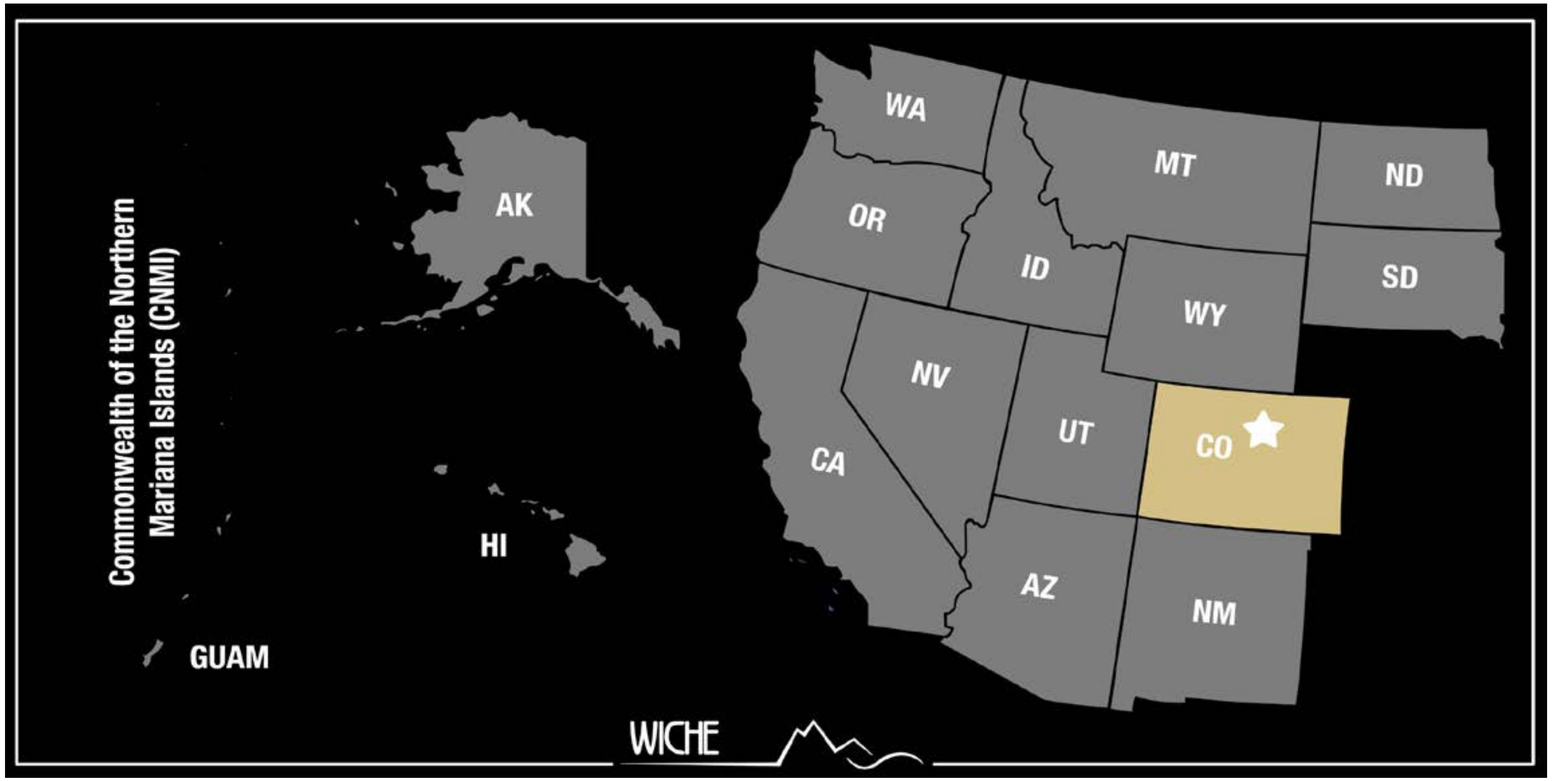
Handshake is the university platform to discover jobs and internships, register for events, schedule appointments, and find career resources available to all CU Denver students and alumni.



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

WICHE – WRGP

WICHE stands for the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, a regional organization that helps higher education systems in 17 western US states and territories, including Colorado. WRGP stands for the Western Regional Graduate Program, which is coordinated by WICHE. The WRGP is a tuition-reciprocity program that allows graduate students who live in one of the WICHE states or territories to enroll in select high-quality, distinctive graduate programs located outside of their home state and pay the in-state resident tuition rate, resulting in substantial savings!
The CU Denver Master of Urban and Regional Planning program is a qualified WICHE-WRGP program—the only graduate urban planning program in the Rocky Mountain region that participates in the WICHE-WRGP program. Therefore, anyone living in a WICHE state or territory can apply to the CU Denver MURP program as a WICHE-WRGP applicant and, if accepted into the MURP program, pay Colorado in-state resident tuition. For more information, please visit



FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

For information about financial aid, begin at the CU Denver Office of Financial Aid website. There you will find resources about the different types of financial aid available, financial aid FAQs, links to other helpful websites, and a lot more.

The CU Denver Scholarship Resource Office provides assistance and support to students applying for institutional, state, and national scholarships. Located in the Tivoli Student Union, Room 259. phone: 303-352-3608, email: scholarship@ucdenver.edu.

CAP AND MURP SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit, academic achievement, financial need, or a combination of the three. The eligibility criteria for each scholarship depend on the values or goals of the group offering the scholarship. While you do not have to be admitted to the College in order to apply for financial aid or scholarships, you must be admitted at the time scholarship decisions are made to be considered. The college and department offer scholarhip opportunities two times per year for new and continuing students. For more information, visit the College's scholarships website. Also, College Academic Advisor Kyle Danforth (kyle.danforth@ucdenver.edu) can assist students with scholarship information.

The University of Colorado Denver's Master of Urban and Regional Planning program is a qualified WICHE-WRGP program—the only graduate urban planning program in the Rocky Mountain region that offers this opportunity!

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

MURP TOWN HALL

Each spring the MURP program has an important tradition: The Annual MURP Townhall. This collaborative process is an opportunity for you to provide feedback to the department along with your peers. The faculty take this seriously and use the information to continuously improve the program.

The townhall process has two steps:

1) APAS sends out a survey to collect your anonymous feedback in advance, which they will summarize for a presentation at the Townhall; and

2) Students and faculty attend the townhall to discuss the feedback with each other in-person.

Please watch for and respond to the survey, and then mark your calendars for this important annual event!

FACULTY COURSE QUESTIONNAIR (FCQS)

The Faculty Course Questionnaire (FCQ) is a confidential survey that allows students to provide feedback on their courses and instructors at the end of each term. The Department uses FCQs to assess teaching effectiveness, identify strengths, and pinpoint areas for improvement. All survey results are reviewed and incorporated into the department's learning objectives, helping faculty refine course content, delivery methods, and overall curriculum design. This process ensures that courses remain relevant, engaging, and aligned with both student needs and program goals.



GRADUATE EXIT SURVEYS

A Graduate Exit Survey is a questionnaire completed by students as they near the end of their degree program. It gathers feedback on their overall academic experience, including curriculum quality, faculty support, advising, resources, and professional preparation. The Department uses this information to evaluate program strengths, identify areas for improvement, and ensure learning outcomes are being met. Insights from the survey help guide updates to courses, advising practices, and departmental initiatives, supporting continuous improvement and alignment with student and industry needs.

1-YEAR-OUT ALUMNI SURVEYS

The Urban and Regional Planning department uses 1 year out from your graduation dateto gather feedback from graduates approximately one year after completing their program. It typically collects information on career outcomes, such as employment status, job relevance, and further education, as well as alumni perspectives on how well the program prepared them for professional or academic pursuits. The survey also helps identify areas for improvement in the curriculum, faculty support, and skill development. By analyzing this feedback, the department can assess the effectiveness of its programs, refine learning objectives, and enhance student services, ultimately ensuring that graduates are well-prepared for their careers and continued education.



STUDENT AWARDS

END OF YEAR AWARDS

The MURP program annually awards four graduating students. Students are recognized at the annual awards event and receive a gift from the faculty.

The faculty also select one graduate to receive the Outstanding Student Award for the department for December and May graduations. This student is recognized in the commencement brochure and on campus websites. The five awards are as follows;

- EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH
- EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE
- EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING ASSISTANCE
- EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP
- OUTSTANDING STUDENT



CAPSTONE PROJECT AWARDS

In Spring 2026, we will be implementing awards for Capstone projects with the MURPAA





STUDENT HEALTH & WELL-BEING

INSURANCE

Colorado residents can get private health insurance through the state-run ACA Marketplace, Connect for Health Colorado. The Marketplace lets you compare plans, determine eligibility for financial assistance, and enroll online or with help from certified assisters or brokers. Open enrollment runs from November 1 through January 15. Coverage starts January 1 if you enroll by December 15, or February 1 if you enroll between December 16 and January 15. Outside this period, you can only enroll after a qualifying life event. This can be especially helpful for students, as CU Denver does not currently offer a student health insurance option.

MEDICAID

In Colorado, Medicaid is known as Health First Colorado and provides free or low-cost health coverage to eligible residents. To apply, first check if you meet income and household size requirements, which vary by age, disability status, pregnancy, and whether you have children. Gather necessary documents such as proof of identity, Colorado residency, income, and immigration or citizenship status. You can apply online through Colorado PEAK, by calling the Medicaid Customer Contact Center at 1-800-221-3943, or in person at your county human services office. Applications are typically processed within 45 days, though emergency cases may be faster. If approved, you'll receive a Medicaid card and instructions for selecting a

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

The University of Colorado Denver has a mandatory health insurance policy for all enrolled international students in the non-immigrant visa categories of F-1 and J-1. Unfortunately, we do not offer health insurance for our domestic students at this time. While many other countries bear health care expenses for their residents, individuals in the United States are responsible for these expenses themselves. Healthcare in the U.S. can be very costly, and a single visit to the emergency room can cost thousands of dollars. Therefore it is important to have a good insurance policy that gives students access to medical facilities and protects against the high cost of healthcare.

If you are covered under comparable coverage, you may qualify to waive university-issued student health insurance plans. Every student wishing to be waived from the University-sponsored plan must fill out and submit the waiver form twice every year.

FOOD RESOURCES

Milo's Market is a food pantry located on Level 3 of the Lola & Rob Salazar Student Wellness Center in the Wellness Suite. Our Wellness Associates are available to answer any questions and help folks shop in the market during our open hours.

Milo's Market is open and available to folks:

Mondays – Wednesdays: 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Thursday: 12 p.m. -3 p.m.

The Market is restocked every Monday and Wednesday from 10am-12 pm, keeping the market full of goods throughout the week!

STUDENT WELLNESS CENTER

The Lola & Rob Salazar Student Wellness Center includes a wide variety of services that are centered around the 7 Dimensions of Wellness: Emotional, Physical, Spiritual, Social,

Environmental, Financial, and Creative. In this unique approach, the Student Wellness Center contains facilities and resources that are aimed towards all 7 dimensions of wellness, such as,

- Physical fitness facilities and resources, including a gym, exercise rooms, fitness classes, climbing gym, and a spa & pool.
- Financial wellness courses and mental health first aid trainings.
- The Outdoor adventure desk with Adventure Rental Shop, climbing and adventure trip information and registration, and the educational bike shop. Several study and lounge areas, including a student kitchen with vending machinges and microwaves.
- The Wellness Suite, which includes reflection rooms, seminar room, food pantry, and the Nook nap room.

The Terrace, an outdoor, elevated patio for yoga classes, personal workouts, studying or lunch breaks.

The Student Wellness Center is committed to an inclusive approach to wellness. To learn more about what the Wellness Center is doing to ensure that spaces are welcoming and safe for all guests, visit here.



HEALTH CENTER

Health Center at AURARIA

The Health Center at Auraria is located on the Auraria campus, just south of the Tivoli Building and exclusively serves current AHEC, CCD, MSU Denver and CU Denver students, faculty and staff.

The Health Center at Auraria is located in Plaza Building, Suite 150.

The Auraria Immunizations offices are located within this Suite.

MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

CAMPUS ASSESMENT, RESPONSE, AND EVALUATION - (CARE) TEAM

CONTACT

PHONE: (303) 315-7306.

https://www.ucdenver.edu/student/health-wellness/care-team

We CU, and We CARE

Balancing life and school can be difficult. At CU Denver, every student matters. The CARE team was created to help you navigate a wide variety of life's challenges. We help students create plans to confront difficulties while providing support and resources to keep you safe and successful. If you're facing challenges or know someone who is, we encourage you to submit at CARE report to connect with our friendly and compassionate team. Together we can help you get through difficult times and get back on track .

WHAT TO REFER

Examples of behaviors to refer may include, but are not limited to:

- Clear signs of distress
- Erratic behavior
- Paranoia
- Threatening words or actions
- Violent or aggressive behavior
- Classroom disruptions
- Excessive absenteeism
- Lack of responsiveness
- Lack of emotional expression
- Relationship violence
- Alienation/isolation from others
- Writings that convey clear intentions to harm oneself or others
- Suicidality, including threats, gestures, ideations, and attempts
- Observed self-injurious behavior, such as cutting or burning
- Extreme rudeness or insubordination toward university officials
- Postings on social media outlets that are threatening
- Overreaction to changes in policies/procedures
- Extreme or sudden changes in behavior



POLICIES

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities should be accommodated in all classes. The University's Disability Resources and Services Office determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. If you have a documented disability, please contact the Disability Services office and ask them to submit a letter describing your needs to each of your course instructors by the second week of the semester. Also, provide a copy of the letter to Roxy New for assistance in case of safety or fire emergency.

For information, contact the Office of Disability Resources and Services, located at North Classroom 2514, Phone: 303-556-3450 - TTY 303-556-4766, Email: disabilityresources@ucdenver.edu, or visit the Disability Resources and Services Office website.

POLICY RESOURCES

The CU Denver Graduate School website is an excellent resource for important information, policies, procedures, and regulations related to all graduate students at CU Denver. Unless stated otherwise, the College of Architecture and Planning and the MURP program follow the policies outlined by the Graduate School. Information is available at the Graduate School's resources web page.

ACCREDITATION

The Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) accredits university programs in North America leading to bachelor's and master's degrees in planning. PAB standards are developed with input from the public and sponsoring organizations: the American Planning Association (APA); the APA's American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP); and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP).

The Master of Urban and Regional Planning program at the University of Colorado Denver is fully accredited through December 31, 2023. For more information, please visit the PAB's website at: https://www.planningaccreditationboard.org/.

STUDENT PRIVACY

Student privacy requirements are delineated in the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974. FERPA sets guidelines for higher education institutions that protect students' rights with respect to their educational records and other personally identifiable information. Violations of student rights can lead to serious consequences, such as lawsuits and/or withholding of federal funds to the University.Circulation or posting of class/grade rosters that display students' names and ID numbers is a FERPA violation. Faculty may display a roster of students' names in a section of a course on a protected website or slide that is available to students in that section only, but may not create a public posting identifying students enrolled in a section of a course.

Faculty must collect assignments directly from students and return graded assignments directly to students. Staff may not be used to collect or return assignments. Assignments may not be left in boxes outside of offices or in the mail room. Staff will not receive or return student assignments.

FERPA does not allow any public posting of student information with any part of the name, student identification number, or any other personally identifiable information. Students' grades may be posted without written permission, if they are not posted in a personally identifiable manner. FERPA Guidelines can be found at the University's FERPA web page.

ABSENCES

Students are expected to attend all meetings of classes. Excessive unexcused absences may result in a grade reduction at the discretion of the instructor. Absence from a class will be excused for verified medical reasons, religious obligations or for extreme personal emergencies. The student may be required to furnish evidence.

GRADUATION

During your last semester in the MURP program, you must apply to graduate. The deadline to apply for graduation is the Census Date of your last semester. You can apply online through your student center in UCDAccess. Once you have applied for graduation you will receive information about registering for the Commencement ceremony. If you have any questions about the process please contact Roxy New.



CAMPUS RESOURCES

AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENT SERVICES

The office provides access and educational opportunities to American Indian students through academic advising, scholarship information, cultural programs, and other supportive services. Located in Student Commons Building. Phone: (303) 315-1880. https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/diversity-and-inclusion/our-offices/american-indian-student-services

ASIAN AMERICAN STUDENT SERVICES

The office provides academic advising, scholarship information, cultural programs, advocacy, resource referral, student organization sponsorship and other supportive services tailored to the specific needs of Asian American students. Located in Student Commons Building. Phone: (303) 315-1879. https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/diversity-and-inclusion/our-offices/asian-american-student-services

BLACK STUDENT SERVICES

In an effort to promote and maintain quality higher education for students of African descent, the office assists undergraduate and graduate students in all phases of their educational career through admissions services, academic counseling and peer support. Located in Student Commons Building. Phone: (303) 315-1881. https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/diversity-and-inclusion/our-offices/black-student-services

CAREER CENTER

Offers a full array of services to prepare students for the transition from school to career. Graduate students are welcome and encouraged to utilize these resources. Located at Tivoli Student Union Annex. Phone: (303) 315-4000. https://www1.ucdenver.edu/services/career-center

CARE TEAM

The Campus Assessment, Response & Evaluation (CARE) Team addresses the health and safety needs of students. The team assess whether individuals pose a risk to themselves or others and to intervene when necessary, and more generally, to identify and provide assistance to those in need. Phone: (303) 315-7306. https://www.ucdenver.edu/student/health-wellness/care-team

CHILD CARE—AURARIA EARLY LEARNING CENTER

The Auraria Early Learning Center provides high-quality early childhood care and educational programs to children 12 months through 8 years old. The programs are utilized by the children of students, staff, faculty working on the Auraria Campus. Located at 950 9th Street Park. Phone: 303-556-3188. https://www.ahec.edu/services-departments/early-learning-center

DISABILITY RESOURCES AND SERVICES

The Office of Disability Resources and Services produces assistance for accommodations to provide equal opportunities to foster the personal growth and development of students with disabilities. Located in Student Commons Room 2116. Phone: (303) 315-3510. https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/disability-resources-and-services

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES

The International Student and Scholar Services office offers immigration services, programming and advising to enhance the experiences of international students. Location: 1380 Lawrence Suite 932. Phone: (303) 315-2230. https://www.ucdenver.edu/services/international-student-and-scholar-services

LATINX STUDENT SERVICES

The mission of Latin@ Student Services is to provide an inclusive environment that supports the intersectional experiences, diverse cultures and educational goals of Latin@ students a CU Denver. Located in Student Commons 2007-H. Phone: (303) 315-1878. https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/diversity-and-inclusion/our-offices/latinx-student-services

LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER

Promotes student success, retention, and graduation and is available to graduate students. Services include tutoring, supplemental instructions study skills workshops, and ESL support. Location: Student Commons Room 2105. Phone: (303) 315-3531. https://www.ucdenver.edu/learning-resources-center/resources

LGBTQ STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER

Open to all Auraria students as a resource for exploring sexual orientation/gender identification. Located in Tivoli Room 213. Phone: (303) 615-0515. Tri-institutional office managed by MSU Denver. https://www.msudenver.edu/lgbtq/

OFFICE OF EQUITY

Provides integrated assistance for complaints of protected characteristic harassment and/or discrimination or sexual misconduct. Location: Lawrence Street Center, Phone: (303) 315-2567. Email: equity@ucdenver.edu. https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/equity/support-resources

OMBUDS OFFICE

Assists students in resolving CU Denver conflicts, complaints, and disputes. Services are free and confidential. Examples of concerns may include: the actions of faculty, staff, or other students; denials of petitions; harassment of any kind; administrative decisions; grading disputes. Location: 1380 Lawrence Suite 1003. Phone: (303) 315-0046. https://www1.ucdenver.edu/offices/ombudsoffice

PHOENIX CENTER AT AURARIA

The Phoenix Center provides confidential help, education, and services for survivors of interpersonal violence, and their friends and family. All services are confidential. Phone: (303) 556-CALL (2255). https://www.thepca.org/

STUDENT AND COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER

Students receive up to 10 mental health counseling sessions at no cost per year as part of student fees. Make an appointment or simply walk in. All information is confidential (except cases of abuse or neglect of children, harm to self or others, or when reporting is required by law). Location: Tivoli Suite 454. Phone: (303) 315-7270. https://www.ucdenver.edu/counseling-center

STUDENT CONDUCT AND COMMUNITY STANDARDS

Serves as a resource to meet the developmental and educational needs of students related to community expectations, civility and respect for self and others through conflict management and resolution, and responding to inappropriate and threatening behaviors. Location: Tivoli Suite 309. Phone: (303) 315-7310. https://www.ucdenver.edu/student/health-wellness/student-conduct

VETERAN AND MILITARY STUDENT SERVICES

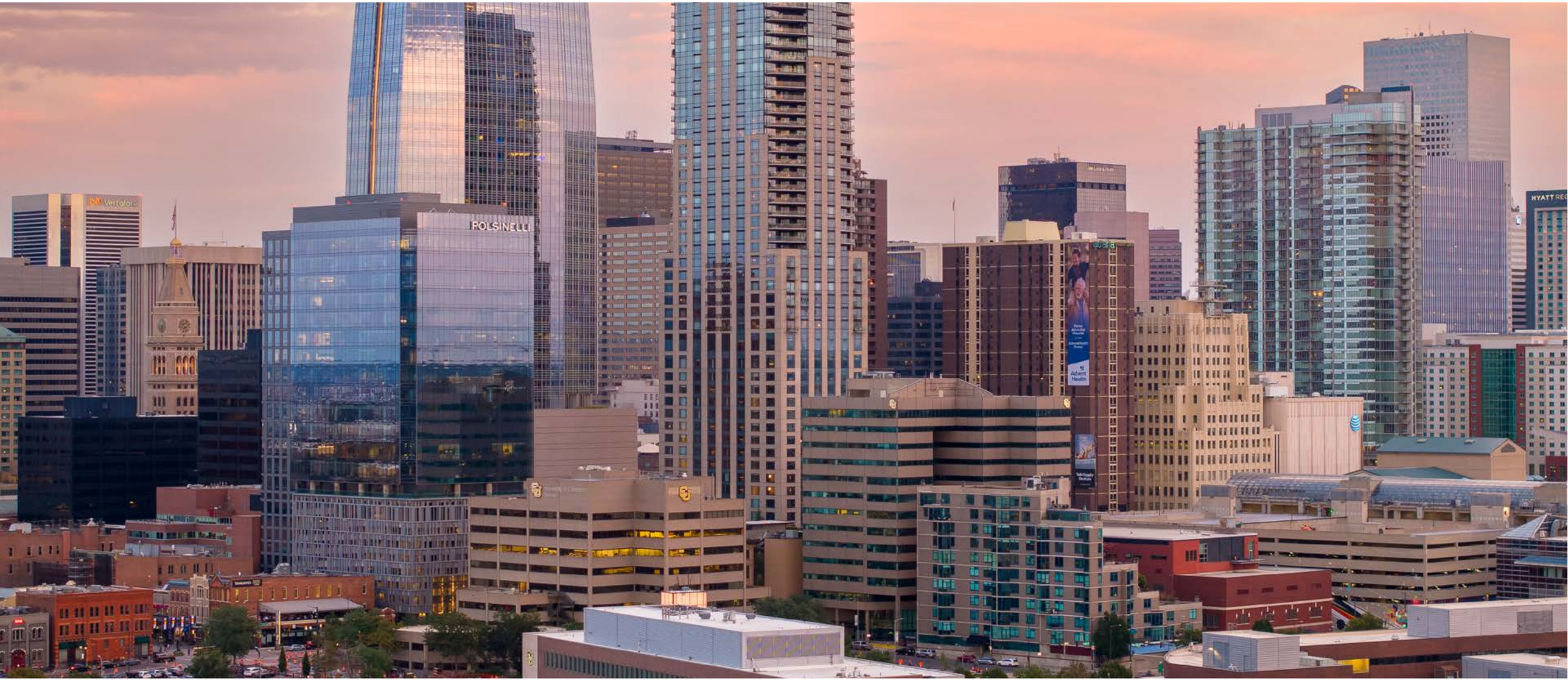
An initial contact point for eligible veterans and dependent students attending CU Denver, providing a variety of programming, support and services. Location: Tivoli Student Union. Phone: (303) 315-7300. https://www.ucdenver.edu/veterans

WOMEN AND GENDER CENTER

Open to all genders, the Women and Gender Center helps advance issues of gender equity and support the gender-focused needs of students, faculty, and staff, and address gender inequities and foster a campus community that values inclusion, social justice, equity, and respect for everyone regardless of background. Located in Tivoli Student Union. Phone: (303) 315-7262.
https://www.ucdenver.edu/offices/diversity-and-inclusion/our-offices/women-gender-center

WRITING CENTER

The CU Denver Writing Center provides one-on-one consultations and workshops about writing and composition. This is not a copyediting service. Location: North Classroom Room 4014. Phone: (303) 315-7355. https://clas.ucdenver.edu/writing-center/



University of Colorado **Denver**

Master of Urban and Regional Planning

COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

Revison redesgined by Amanda Spidel - August 2025