

MASTER OF URBAN PLANNING PROGRAM INFORMATION

Department of
Urban Studies and Planning



Explore, Learn, and Practice

CSUN

CALIFORNIA
STATE UNIVERSITY
NORTHRIDGE

[Urban Studies and Planning Website](#)

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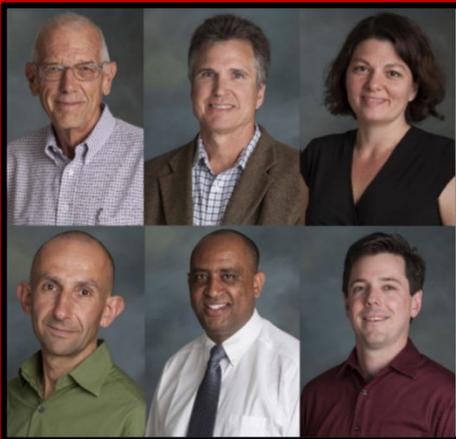
18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330-8259

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT

Since 1971, the Department has been offering degrees in Urban Studies and Planning. It is comprised of 6 full-time and 10 adjunct faculty members who are engaged in the interdisciplinary facets of the field:

- Urban Design and Land Use Planning
- Environmental Planning and Analysis
- Economic Development Planning
- Community Development
- Transportation Planning
- Housing and Real Estate Development

The Department is actively involved with professional planning organizations such as the American Planning Association, the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and the Urban Affairs Association. Students and faculty members are also actively engaged in local community planning, such as planning for Mayor Garcetti's "Great Streets" Initiative on Reseda Boulevard and many other local planning projects.



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Master of Urban Planning provides a broad-based education in urban planning, especially as it is practiced in the State of California, where a wide range of state laws and mandates have created a planning environment which is distinct from its practice in much of the United States. The degree's curriculum is thoroughly grounded in the academic and applied dimensions of the profession. Classroom experience emphasizes key theoretical aspects of urban planning, while practical exercises and field experiences address how planning problems are addressed at the local and regional level.

The 36-unit master's degree in urban planning is designed to be completed in two academic years. The degree program is cohort driven with new class cohorts beginning each year in the Fall Semester. Once a cohort starts, no other student will be accepted into the specific cohort.

This degree is designed specially to serve the needs of working students and professionals. Classes are scheduled for evenings and Saturdays, and are scheduled sequentially over the course of the two-year program. It is intended that the students receive as much exposure to different professional planning environments as possible through field experiences and assignments in the Los Angeles metropolitan area.

COURSEWORK INCLUDES

- Contemporary Urban Planning in the US
- Principles of Urban Planning
- Sustainable Development & Environmental Analysis
- Planning for Communities and Local Economic Development
- Policy Analysis & Implementation
- Planning Law
- Visual Communication Skills for Planners
- Quantitative Analysis
- Qualitative Research in Urban Planning
- Seminar in Comprehensive Planning
- Field Project in Urban Planning
- Professional Project

Total Units Required for MUP Degree: 36



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Hold a bachelor's degree from an officially accredited university or college.
- Have an overall GPA of 3.0 or greater in the bachelor's degree.

Students with an overall GPA of less than 3.0 will be considered if they have: A GPA of over 2.5 and; Pass one section of the GRE exam (verbal, quantitative, or analytical) with a score at the 50% percentile or higher.

If none of the specified requirements are met, applicants with personal or professional experience providing strong evidence of a commitment to planning may be considered.

Be in good academic standing at the last college or university attended. For more information please see CSUN Policies and Procedures: [Admission to the University for Graduate Programs](#).

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications for admission to the master's program will be processed by the university's Admission and Records office, and will then be reviewed by the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, which will make the final admission decision.

To Apply:

- Step 1: Submit a formal application to the program at CSUN through [Cal State Apply](#).
- Step 2: Submit OFFICIAL transcripts to [CSUN Admissions and Records](#). *Electronic submission of OFFICIAL transcripts is preferred.* But you may submit OFFICIAL transcripts by mail in unopened, sealed envelopes sent directly from each educational institution attended to: **CSUN—Admissions and Records**
18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330-8207
- Step 3: Submit supporting documents by the deadline to the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at mup@csun.edu or by mail at:

CSUN—Department of Urban Studies and Planning
18111 Nordhoff Street. Sierra Hall-220
Northridge, CA 91330-8259

Supporting documents:

- I. A current resume
- II. A Statement of Purpose, between 500 and 1,000 words, explaining the reasons why the candidate is seeking the master of urban planning degree and how it will contribute to his or her personal and/or professional growth and success
- III. Unofficial transcripts
- IV. Two letters of recommendation, preferably one from a professional reference and the other from an academic reference. These letters must be submitted by the recommending parties directly to the department mailing address above or to mup@csun.edu by the deadline.

Upon review and approval of the application, the Department of Urban Studies and Planning will notify the applicant of his or her admission status

ABOUT CSUN

Founded in 1958, California State University, Northridge is a vibrant, diverse university community of 40,000 students and more than 4,000 faculty and staff, sited on a 356-acre campus in the heart of Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley. One of the nation's largest single-campus universities, CSUN encourages students to combine academic pursuits with hands-on experience. It also serves as the intellectual, economic and cultural heart of the Valley and beyond.

CSUN offers over 60 master's degrees and two doctoral programs, and is committed to setting high academic standards that attract a faculty of superior scholars who are experienced in the teach and research essential to graduate education.

For more information, contact:

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