# Masters in City and Regional Planning Handbook



# Masters in City and Regional Planning Handbook

February 2025 Update





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# **Quick Reference**

| Required Courses |                                     |              |             |  |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------|--|
| Course Number    | Course Title                        | Credit Hours | Offered In: |  |
| CRPLAN 5001      | Introduction to GIS                 | 4            | Autumn      |  |
| CRPLAN 6000      | Planning History & Theory           | 3            | Autumn      |  |
| CRPLAN 6200      | Data & Graphic Representation       | 4            | Spring      |  |
| CRPLAN 6300      | Law & Planning: Land Use            | 3            | Autumn      |  |
| CRPLAN 6400      | Site Planning & Development         | 4            | Spring      |  |
| CRPLAN 6500      | Plan Making & Analysis Techniques   | 3            | Spring      |  |
| CRPLAN 6600      | Spatial Models & Project Evaluation | 3            | Autumn      |  |
| CRPLAN 6191S     | Professional Development I          | 1            | Autumn      |  |
| CRPLAN 6191S     | Professional Development II*        | 1            | Spring      |  |

NB: CRPLAN 6400, Site Planning and Development must be taken in advance of any graduate studio course. Exceptions are only possible with approval of Graduate Chair and studio course instructor. It is also recommended, but not required, that CRPLAN 6500 is taken before CRPLAN 6600.

# **Credit Hours and Requirements**

Students intending to graduate in two years should complete an average of 12 credit hours each semester to meet the 48-credit hour total. Full-time status for all graduate students is between eight and 18 credit hours per semester.

#### **Elective Courses**

In addition to the listed core courses, and a studio course, a minimum of 16 credit hours of graduate-level electives in City and Regional Planning must be taken to meet the 48-hour total. CRPLAN courses must be graduate level (5000 level and above) to count towards elective fulfilment.

Courses taken outside of Clty and Regional Planning must be approved by an advisor and be at least 4000-level (and taught by a professor or lecturer) to be counted towards elective fulfilment.

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#### **Studios**

A key component of a planning education is experiential learning. To that end, students must take at least one studio before graduation. Studio topics vary by semester depending on client proposals and teaching needs. Studios generally topically fit into one of the following course numbers:

- CRPLAN 6910 Community Development Studio
- CRPLAN 6920 Urban Design & Physical Planning Studio
- CRPLAN 6930 Neighborhood Planning Studio
- CRPLAN 6950 Sustainability & Resiliency Studio
- CRPLAN 6960 Transportation Studio
- CRPLAN 6970 International Development Studio

CRPLAN 6400 Site Planning & Development must be completed prior to enrolling in a studio.

# **Exit Projects**

All students are required to complete a substantial research project to complete their MCRP degree requirements.

The two main types of projects are:

#### 1. Thesis

Independent scholarly work that empirically analyzes a planning problem and contributes to academic knowledge of the topic. Best suited for MCRP graduates who want to pursue research-focused jobs or further study.

#### 2. Applied Planning Research Paper

Independent practice-oriented project that empirically analyzes a planning problem and presents practical recommendations for improving planning outcomes.

# Internship program

Through participation in internships, students learn to connect classroom learning with the practical work of the planning discipline while establishing valuable connections with planners in the field. Students must complete an approved internship experience prior to graduation. Learn more about City and Regional Planning's internships and career services at go.osu.edu/crp-career-services

# **Key Program Contacts** & CRP Faculty Directory



# **Primary Program Contacts**



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# MCRP Degree Program Overview



# Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) Standards (effective January 1, 2023)

The most current PAB Standards suggest ways in which programs can deliver instruction and content that is understood to be essential and critical planning knowledge and skills that are important for practicing planners in our current age. While no individualized project can address all of the competencies and skills outlined by PAB, they are presented here to help students understand the breadth of skills and knowledge that we aim to deliver through our degree program.

# **Guiding Values**

- 1. **Equity, Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion**: key issues of equity, diversity, and social justice, including planners' role in expanding choice and opportunity for all persons; planning for the needs of disadvantaged groups; reducing inequities through critical examination of past and current systems; and promoting racial and economic equity.
- 2. Sustainability, Resilience, and Climate Justice: environmental, economic, and social/political factors that contribute to sustainable communities, reducing impacts of climate change, and creating equitable and climate-adapted futures.
- 3. **Professional Ethics and Responsibility:** key issues of planning ethics and related questions of the ethics of public decision-making, research, and client representation (including the provisions of the AICP Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, and APA's Ethical Principles in Planning).

# Required Knowledge and Skills of the Profession

- General Planning Knowledge in Global Context: The
  comprehension, representation, and use of ideas and information
  in the planning field, in the U.S. (or Canada) and internationally
  including appropriate perspectives from history, social sciences,
  design, and other allied fields.
  - a. Planning History and Theory: The evolution and current practice of planning in communities, cities, regions, and nations; how planning has advanced and hindered the attainment of justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion; expectations about planning outcomes in different local and national contexts; conceptual models about what planning is and how it works; past and present conceptions of the future, including the relationship between planning and the future; the role of planning in responding to the global climate crisis.

- b. **Planning Law and Institutions:** Behaviors and structures available to bring about sound planning outcomes; mechanisms and practices for ensuring equitable and inclusive decision making; legal and institutional contexts within which planning occurs in the U.S. and/or internationally.
- c. **Urban and Regional Development:** Political, economic, social, and environmental explanations of and insights on historical, present, and future development; relationships between the built and natural environments and individual and community health and wellbeing; planning responses to mitigate climate change, reduce risks, and recover from climate exacerbated impacts; interactions flows of people, materials, ideas, and cultures across world regions.
- 2. Skills and Tools for Planning Practice: The use and application of knowledge to perform tasks required in the practice of planning.
  - a. **Planning Process and Engagement:** Planning process and community and stakeholder engagement; plan creation and implementation; methods of design and intervention to understand and influence the future.
  - b. Analytical Skills and Tools: Research and critical analysis skills for preparing and conducting research; quantitative and qualitative methods of data collection, analysis, and forecasting; methods of geospatial analysis, mapping and data visualization; data analytics and urban technology.
  - c. **Professional, Communication, and Leadership Skills:** Ability to work in teams and with professionals in allied fields; professional leadership in the planning context; written, oral, and graphic communication.

# **Program Overview**

The MCRP Program at The Ohio State University is an PAB-accredited professional degree program administratively housed in the College of Engineering's Knowlton School. This 48-credit hour degree program focuses on helping students gain mastery of core knowledge of the field of planning, identify and analyze planning problems, propose evidence-based solutions and effectively communicate their analysis and solutions with multiple constituencies.

The program's requirements include the following:

- Core courses (9 courses, 26 credit hours)
- Studio course (1 course, 6 credit hours)
- **Elective courses** (varies, 16 credit hours)
- Internship (no academic credit; no minimum hour requirement)
- Exit Project (thesis or applied planning research paper (APRP))

To best prepare students to engage with the MCRP curriculum and Ohio State, we highly recommend that all new students participate in the MCRP Curriculum Warmup and Orientation which take place a few days before Autumn term classes begin.

## **Core Course Descriptions**

## CRPLAN 5001 – Introduction to GIS for Planning (Autumn)

The course introduces basic principles and techniques of Geographic Information System (GIS) in city and regional planning. The course focuses on developing hands-on experience of GIS applications in planning. It is also designed to cultivate spatial thinking and help students to gain an understanding of cutting-edge geospatial technologies, their capabilities, uses, and limitations for planning. Prereq: Not open to students with credit for CIVILEN 5400 or GEOG 5210.

## CRPLAN 6000 – Planning History & Theory (Autumn)

This is an introduction to the history and theory of planning practice in the United States. The focus is on the people, movements, theories, and principles which have shaped contemporary planning practice as well as consideration of what past successes and failures mean for the future of planning.

# CRPLAN 6191S -- Professional Development I & II (Autumn and Spring)

Provides successful candidates with a broad but intensive learning experience in various areas of city and regional planning. The program is designed to prepare individuals for professional planning positions. Prereq: Grad standing, or permission of instructor. This course is graded S/U.

### CRPLAN 6200 - Data & Graphic Representation (Spring)

Fundamental skills in graphics and graphic technology commonly used in planning, including on-line, print, document, poster, and video layout and design. Prereq: Grad standing, or permission of instructor.

## CRPLAN 6300 – Law and Planning I: Land Use (Autumn)

The impact of law on planning, with an emphasis on the regulation of land use. Prerequisite: Grad standing, or permission of the instructor.

## **CRPLAN 6400 – Site Planning and Development (Spring)**

This course introduces students to theories, skills and tools associated with site planning and development. Prereq: None but 5001 and 6200 are recommended.

#### CRPLAN 6500 -- Plan Making and Analysis Techniques (Spring)

Collection and analysis of information used to make plans, including population projections and economic activity. Prereq: Grad standing, or permission of instructor.

## CRPLAN 6600 - Spatial Models & Project Evaluation (Spring)

City and regional planners routinely plan and evaluate public sector interventions which generally take the form of physical infrastructure projects or public policies and programs. This course offers an overview of the concepts, methods, and metrics used to anticipate the impact and evaluate the trade offs of proposed. Prereq: Grad standing, or permission of the instructor.

#### Studio Courses

Planning studios engage students in a variety of academic and research activities that put ideas to work for communities. We believe that it is critical for students to learn how to effectively engage their communities in the design and planning process. All courses expose students to community engagement, critical thinking, and design-by-research as a way to inform planning policy and design.

The goal of the planning studio is to develop deliverables that make a positive impact on socioeconomic conditions and human health factors while generating connections between social networks and the built environment. Studio topics vary by semester depending on client proposals and teaching needs. Studios generally topically fit into one of the following course numbers:

- CRPLAN 6910 Community Development Studio
- CRPLAN 6920 Urban Design & Physical Planning Studio
- CRPLAN 6930 Neighborhood Planning Studio
- CRPLAN 6950 Sustainability & Resiliency Studio
- CRPLAN 6960 Transportation Studio
- CRPLAN 6970 International Development Studio

# **Exit Projects**

All students matriculating in the MCRP program will complete an individualized exit project in partial fulfillment of the degree's graduation requirements. In alignment with the 2024-2029 MCRP Program Strategic Plan and Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) standards (2022), all exit projects will aim to reflect the learning outcomes of the core courses, electives, studio courses, and internship program to meet the following aim:

"An accredited degree program must ensure that each graduate demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for competent professional planning in diverse occupational and institutional settings." (Section 4, 2022 PAB Standards)

While every exit project will be unique to the subject, topic, research question(s), audience, methodological approach, conclusions and recommendations, etc., the Graduate Studies Committee and graduate faculty will review all exit projects to ensure that each student's project meets the standards set by the faculty (See Appendix A).

# **Learning Outcomes**

The CRP Faculty has identified learning outcomes for all exit projects. Graduates of the MCRP program will demonstrate their ability to:

- Undertake an independent project that demonstrates mastery of core planning knowledge and a student's area of focus through the systematic exploration of a clearly defined planning problem
- 2. Identify and employ relevant data and research methods to analyze the historic, contemporary, and/ or projected impacts of planning
- 3. Communicate the results of their analysis with a diverse array of audiences, organizations, and stakeholders
- 4. Connect the practical recommendations and conceptual significance of their projects to one or more of the following guiding values (as defined by the 2022 PAB Standards):
  - Equity, Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion
  - Sustainability, Résilience, and Climate Justice
  - Professional Ethics and Responsibility

The program has identified two general formats for MCRP Exit Projects, a thesis, and an applied planning research paper (APRP). Under the penumbra of the applied planning research project, there are four main forms that those projects may take. Students are free to choose one of those four or propose their own through a fifth, flexible option.

# **MCRP Thesis**

## **Overview & Purpose**

A master's thesis in city and regional planning is an independent scholarly work that demonstrates a student's ability to systematically examine a planning problem and contribute to academic and professional discourses about that problem. The characteristics that help define what a thesis is include, a deep engagement with scholarly literature, sophisticated quantitative/qualitative analysis, and a clear connection between the study's findings and some larger conceptual significance. The central research questions of a thesis may focus on a conceptual problem rather than a practical one, allowing a student to contribute to academic discourses and current scholarly debates around a particular research topic. Such contributions may enable students to pursue advanced study beyond their MCRP degree by demonstrating expertise on a topic and mastery of managing a long-term research project.

# A satisfactory thesis will:

- Be organized around a clear empirical reaearch question and use a quantatative, qualitative, or mixed-methods research method to analyze primary or secondary data in order to answe that question
- Engage, cite and synthesize the most canonical and relevant research in planning and related fields to contextualize the research question and findings
- Effectively employ data tables, maps, illustrations/photos, charts and other graphics to support claims and arguments
- Present a coherent and compelling summary of the research findings based on the evidence and analysis presented
- Offer a provocation on the conceptual significance of the findings and contribution to the larger field's understanding of the given research topic
- Adhere to university regulations around responsible research conduct and human subject research

# **Faculty Advisors/Committee**

All MCRP exit projects must be supervised by at least two full-time faculty members in the City and Regional Planning Section. Dual-degree theses and projects may be co-advised by one CRP faculty member and a faculty member from the student's secondary program.

The thesis committee's responsibilities are to:

- Counsel students on their research questions, strategy, methodological approaches, relevant coursework and skill-building opportunities within the CRP Section and across the university
- Assist students in connecting to scholars, practitioners, and their published work and datasets of relevance to their projects
- Help students complete their projects by providing thorough, constructive, and timely feedback on drafts with awareness of university, graduate school, college and program-specific standards, expectations, and deadlines

## Formatting Guidelines/Recommendations

As a constituent program of Ohio State's Graduate School, the City and Regional Planning Section of the Knowlton School is bound by its rules and regulations. Those rules and regulations include the formatting guidelines set forth by the Graduate School. Only theses prepared in alignment with the Graduate School's standards will be accepted in partial fulfillment of degree requirements. The Graduate School's role is to certify that the documents have been prepared as required. In support of that role, the Graduate School has provided many resources including downloadable templates for student use. To access the full formatting guidelines and downloadable templates, please visit this page: https://gradsch.osu.edu/current-students/dissertations-and-theses/document-preparation

As early in the writing process as possible, it is the student's responsibility to understand and conform to the Graduate School's guidelines for a properly formatted thesis.

#### Final Oral Examination

In furtherance of PAB Standard I.2.c., Professional, Communication, and Leadership Skills, all thesis students must pass an oral presentation and defense of their thesis. MCRP theses will follow the Graduate School's guidelines for Final Oral Examinations as outlined in Section 6.2 of the Graduate School Handbook: https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-school-handbook-gsh/gsh-section-6-masters-degree#section6.2

For spring term graduates, most final oral examinations will take place as a part of Research Day. In others, the committee chair will announce the date, time and location of the oral defense to the CRP Faculty and larger community. The public may attend but not participate in committee deliberations or voting.

# **Suggested Timeline for an MCRP Thesis**

| Task  | Required /<br>Recommended | Task Deadline                           |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| Meet with academic advisor to create a plan of study      | Strongly                  | Autumn Year 1                           |
| that includes thesis credits, research and writing        | Recommended               | / (acaiiii 10ai 1                       |
| Enroll in CRPLAN 6194 and hone research question, lit-    | Strongly                  | Spring, Year 1                          |
| erature review and methodological approach                | Recommended               |   |
| Meet with advisor/committee to discuss and decide on      | Recommended               | End of Spring,                          |
| summer/fall research schedule.                            | 11000111111011010         | Year 1                                  |
| Prepare and submit a research protocol to Ohio State      | Required                  |   |
| Univ. Office of Responsible Research – Institutional      | (depending on             | Summer Year 1                           |
| Review Board (IRB) (if thesis involves human subjects     | project)                  |   |
| only)   | p. 6, 6 6 6 6,            |   |
| Conduct research (NB: You do not have to enroll in credit | Strongly                  | Summer Year 1                           |
| hours to conduct research.)                               | Recommended               |   |
| Enroll in CRP 6999 – Thesis Research (1-12 credits) to    | Strongly                  |   |
| aid in the timely completion of the thesis                | Recommended/              | Autumn Year 1                           |
|   | Required                  |   |
| Engage in analysis and start drafting thesis chapters     | Strongly                  |   |
| sections in consultation with advisors, committee and     | Recommended               | Autumn Year 1                           |
| The Writing Center  |                           |   |
| Apply for graduation (via GRADFORMS.OSU.EDU)              | Required                  | First month of                          |
| ,                   | - 1                       | Spring Year 2                           |
| Complete penultimate draft and circulate among advi-      | Strongly                  | Late February                           |
| sors for comment  | Recommended               | Spring, Year 2                          |
| Complete final draft and schedule oral defense / Partici- | Required                  | March, Year 2                           |
| pate in Research Day                                      |                           | Widion, Todi Z                          |
| Submit PDF of final project to advisors ahead of final    | Required                  | March, Year 2                           |
| oral examination  |                           | .,, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , |
| Schedule a formatting check with the Graduate School      | Strongly                  | End of March,                           |
| before submission   | Recommended               | Year 2                                  |
| Formal submission to Graduate School and Carmen           | Required                  | April, Year 2                           |
| MCRP Exit Project Site                                    | 110 4 3                   | . ,                                     |

Dual degree students should adjust this timeline to meet the standards and expectations of both programs. Joint BSCRP/MCRP students should start this timeline in their 4th year of the combined program.

# **Applied Planning Research Paper (APRP)**

Applied planning research projects differ from a traditional thesis in that they are practice-oriented research papers that go well beyond the scope and depth of a traditional semester-long paper. Similar to a thesis, applied planning research projects will employ rigorous qualitative, quantitative or mixed-methods research approaches and engages the planning literature to situate the work within a larger body of planning knowledge. They key difference between an applied planning research project and a thesis is the depth and rigor of the empirical analysis and the orientation of the findings, conclusions, and/or recommendations towards practical planning significance.

In order to provide guidance to students and faculty advisors, the faculty of the City and Regional Planning Section has agreed on a typology of applied planning research paper project formats to assist students in conceptualizing, undertaking and completing their projects. APRP can fit into one of 5 types:

- A. Applied Research Paper (ARP)
- B. Client Project Paper (CP)
- C. Small Area Plan/Plan Update (SAP/PU)
- D. Physical Planning and Design Project (PP & DP)
- E. Specialized Project (SP)

For the sake consistency of effort and quality, all applied planning research projects should adhere to the following criteria:

- 1. Present a clearly stated central research question or planning problem,
- 2. Engage the relevant academic, policy, planning, or grey literature to that/those research question(s) or planning problem(s),
- Outline a well-conceptualized methodological approach to the qualitative, quantitative or mixed-methods analysis that will address the central research question(s) or planning problem(s),
- 4. Produce conclusions and practical recommendations that emerge directly from the project's analysis,
- 5. Consistently employ the American Psychological Association (APA), 7th Edition for all included sources (published books, articles, maps, photos, illustrations, etc.)
- 6. Use high quality graphics (300 dpi) throughout
- 7. Include a two-page (or less) executive summary of the: 1) project's focus, 2) academic context, 3) methods and data, 4) analysis and findings, 5) practical application and significance.
- 8. Include the program's cover/signature page.
- 9. Adhere to university regulations around responsible research conduct and human subject research

# **Applied Research Paper (ARP)**

Applied research papers are intended to mimic the structure and methodological rigor of a thesis in all ways except that the audience for the analysis and results are planning practitioners, governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the broader public. While the same rigor of analysis as a thesis is expected, students should aim to describe highly technical empirical analysis to a non-academic audience and suggest the practical significance of the project's findings through implementable recommendations. Claims of the practical significance of the research findings and recommendations should emerge clearly from the literature review, evidence and analysis presented. While discussions of the conceptual significance of the findings is useful, this is not required for the applied research papers.

**Suggested Length:** 30 or more pages, not including executive summary, font covers, acknowledgements, table of contents, and bibliography.

# Client Project Paper (CPP)

Client Project Papers (CPPs) emerge from internships or other forms of long-term engagement with city/municipal office or department, state-level agency, government entity, non-profit organization, neighborhood-based organization (e.g., community development corporation). This format for the applied planning research projects may be the original idea of the student or co-generated by representatives of client organization. However, the idea must become a research question involving a planning problem that the project client is, or will soon, face. While the dataset(s) involved in a client project paper may be secondary or not the creation of the student, the methodological approach, analysis, and conclusions and practical recommendations must be original and emerge entirely from the student's effort. This project type should represent the individual student's intellectual work, mastery of quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods analytical tools for planning purposes, and proficiency in synthesizing information and presenting technical information and analysis in a coherent and compelling way.

For this particular format of applied planning research project, a representative of the client organization must serve as an external member of the evaluation/advising committee in addition to the two full-time CRP faculty required by Graduate School policy (§6.2.5)

## Small Area Plan/Plan Update (SAP/PU)

Comprehensive and small area plans require a great deal of analysis on existing conditions, future challenges and opportunities, federal, state, and local laws to be practically useful. One applied planning research project option is to select an area of interest (e.g., neighborhood, district, retail corridor, historic Main Street, etc.) and devise a small area plan. Alternatively, a student might select an existing plan and update it with new data and analysis. Unlike the client project paper (CPP), the Small Area Plan/Plan Update does not require engagement with a city/neighborhood as receiving client. This project format must still incorporate all of the required elements of the other applied planning research project types and present a rationale for this small area plan/plan update.

NB: Under exceptional circumstances, two students (but not more) can petition the Graduate Committee to work on this type of project in tandem.

Suggested Length: 40 or more pages with 10 more graphic elements. The suggested page length does not include executive summary, front covers, acknowledgements, table of contents, and bibliography.

# Physical Planning and Design Project (PP & DP)

Some students who are interested in physical planning, urban design or are pursuing a dual degree with the Architecture or Landscape Architecture sections may find that they wish to pursue a design-oriented project that does not meet the spirit and technical requirements of a thesis. To that end, one format for an applied planning research project is a Physical Planning and Design Project (PP&PD) where students identify a physical planning and design related problem (e.g., the need to redesign a significant public urban space), evaluate current and historical precedents, and present a fully conceptualized set of design proposals. Students choosing this option should also incorporate some analyses of the potential impacts of their design proposals (i.e., economic, environmental, socio-political) and present recommendations to minimize negative impacts.

NB: Students pursing a dual-degree with a design-oriented discipline, such as Architecture or Landscape Architecture, should aim to have a member of that section's faculty as a secondary advisor.

Suggested Length: 40 or more pages with 10 or more graphic elements. This suggested page length does not include executive summary, front covers, acknowledgements, table of contents, and bibliography.

# **Specialized Project**

Some students may find that the four options above may not provide enough latitude to undertake a project that best suits their interests. In consultation with the advising faculty and with the approval of the Graduate Committee, students may pursue a specialized project. That proposal must provide the following:

- 1. A justification for the specialized project and how it differs from the other types of applied planning research projects,
- 2. A summary of how their specialized project engages learning from core courses, area of focus, and elective coursework into a coherent project,
- 3. Engages a significant practical problem that has enough sufficient secondary data to support an analysis.
- 4. Presents a report outline, central research question(s), potential research design and datasets, a hypothesis of findings, and timeline for completion.

Specialized Projects must follow all of the guidelines required of all applied planning research projects.

Suggested Length: This will vary by project but should exceed 30 pages, not including executive summary, front covers, acknowledgements, table of contents, and bibliography.

# **Advising Structure**

- 1. All applied planning research projects (APRPs) will be supervised by current, full-time City and Regional Planning faculty with "M" status with the Graduate School.
- 2. Like theses, Ohio State Graduate School policy requires that projects and final projects are evaluated or supervised by at least two faculty members. To that end, each project will have a primary adviser and a secondary adviser. Both adviser and secondary adviser will take part in the final oral defense. The primary adviser will ensure that students adhere to university and program-level regulations and deadlines.
- 3. Client Project Papers will invite and include a representative (one) from the client organization or entity to the final presentation. Their approval (signature) is required for project completion.
- 4. Students should reach an agreement with their advisors on a schedule of deliverables, expectations for feedback, responsiveness, etc.

## Final Oral Examinations/Research Day

To facilitate the public presentation of the various and master's theses APRPs, all Spring 2025 graduating students will present their projects to their committees and the CRP community on Thursday, March 20 and Friday, March 21, 2025. While the projects will only be formally evaluated by the student's advisors/committee, local practitioners, government officials, project clients, CRP alumni and the program faculty will be invited to participate and engage with the projects.

The specific logistics of the presentations will be announced to graduating students and advising faculty in February 2025.

#### **Submission Guidelines**

Completed applied planning research projects will only be considered complete after graduating students submit their final copy of the thesis or APRP to the Graduate Chair and committee via the Carmen site: "MCRP Exit Projects." Advising faculty will complete the evaluation of thesis or APRP using a standard rubric (see Appendix B. Learning Outcomes Rubric).

Thesis writers will submit to the Graduate School via OhioLink. Instructions on uploading final papers can be found here: https://gradsch.osu.edu/current-students/dissertations-and-theses/format-review-and-submission

APRP writers will submit only to the Carmen site. Failure to submit by the Graduate School deadlines will result in delaying graduation for a future semester.

Graduation and submission deadlines are outlined below.

#### **Spring 2025 Commencement**

APRP Submission Deadline: April 10, 2025 Thesis Submission Deadline: April 17, 2025

Commencement: May 4, 2025

#### **Summer 2025 Commencement**

APRP Submission Deadline: July 10, 2025 Thesis Submission Deadline: July 17, 2025

Commencement: August 3, 2025

### **Autumn 2025 Commencement**

APRP Submission Deadline: November 25, 2025 Thesis Submission Deadeline: December 4, 2025

Commencement: December 21, 2025

# **Spring 2026 Commencement**

APRP Submission Deadline: April 16, 2026 Thesis Submission Deadline: April 23, 2026

Commencement: May 10, 2026

# Suggested Timeline for APRP's

| Task   | Required /<br>Recommended             | Task<br>Deadline          |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Meet with academic advisor to create a plan of study that includes thesis credits, research and writing  | Strongly<br>Recommended               | Autumn, Year 1            |
| Enroll in CRPLAN 6194 and hone research questions, draft literature review and methodological approach   | Strongly<br>Recommended               | Spring, Year 1            |
| Present formal research proposal to committee.   | Recommended                           | End of Spring,<br>Year 1  |
| Prepare and submit a research protocol to Ohio State Univ. Office of Responsible Research – Institutional Review Board (IRB) (only if project involves human subjects) | Required<br>(depending on<br>project) | Summer, Year 1            |
| Conduct research (NB: You do not have to enroll in credit hours to conduct research.)  | Strongly<br>Recommended               | Summer, Year 1            |
| Engage in analysis and start drafting sections in consultation with advisors, committee and The Writing Center   | Strongly<br>Recommended               | Autumn, Year 2            |
| Apply for graduation (via GRADFORMS.OSU.EDU)   | Required                              | End of January,<br>Year 2 |
| Complete penultimate draft and circulate among advisors for comment  | Strongly<br>Recommended               | March, Year 2             |
| Complete final draft and prepare for Research Day  | Required                              | March, Year 2             |
| Submit PDF of final project to advisors ahead of final oral examination / Research Day Presentation  | Required                              | March, Year 2             |
| Formal submission to Advisor/Committee and CRP<br>Graduate Chair via Carmen MCRP Exit Projects Site  | Required                              | April, Year 2             |

# Research Funding for MCRPs

Some student exit projects may require funding for travel, equipment and supplies. Students are highly encouraged to be entrepreneurial and explore options both within the Knowlton School and OSU but also beyond them.

# Architecture Research Travel Awards (ARTA) (Knowlton School Award)

The Knowlton School's Architecture Research Travel Awards (ARTA) program was established to encourage independent travel and research initiatives of up to 30 days by Knowlton students from all degree programs. The ARTA program is made possible by generous support from the Columbus Foundation. In the autumn semester following completion of their projects, ARTA winners present their work to the school.

In order to qualify for participation in the program, students must be a U.S. citizen and be able to provide 25 percent matching funds for their travel. Students also must make a public presentation to the school about their summer research experience during the fall semester following their travel

**Deadline:** January

**More Information:** https://knowlton.osu.edu/arta-awards-application-requirements-and-instructions

# Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship (AGGRS)

The Graduate School's Alumni Grants for Graduate Research and Scholarship (AGGRS) Program provides small grants up to \$5,000 to support the research and scholarship of doctoral or terminal master's degree candidates for their dissertations or theses

Most grants will be made at the \$2,000 or \$3,000 level. Only a small number of awards will be made at the \$5,000 level.

The competition is held twice each year. Awards are made on the merit of the proposal, which must be for work that is essential to the dissertation or thesis.

**Deadlines:** July and September

**More Information:** https://gradsch.osu.edu/faculty-and-staff/fellowship-program/alumni-grants-graduate-research-and-scholarship

# Environment, Natural Resources, and Energy Division Fellowship Program: American Planning Association (APA)

To provide financial support for a student interested and excelling in graduate level studies in planning related to the environment, natural resources, or energy.

Deadline: Mid-November

Link: https://environment.planning.org/fellowship-program/

application-requirements/

# **Council of Graduate Students (Ohio State University)**

Ohio State University's Council of Graduate Students offers a number of research and professional development awards that assist students in traveling to research sites, attending conferences to present research, and more.

**Deadlines:** Vary

Link: https://cgs.osu.edu/funding-awards-resources

# **Dual and Joint Degrees**

#### Overview

Dual degrees present students with the opportunity to the hone in on their particular research interests through transdisciplinary study. Dual degrees allow students to combine two degree programs in ways that reduces the overall time required to complete two degrees separately.

All of these tables reflect CRP being the primary program from which the dual degree is being initiated. If your primary program is another academic unit, please consult their Handbook and Graduate Coordinator to design your dual degree program with the MCRP.

College of Engineering
Department of Civil, Environmental and Geodetic
Engineering (CEGE)

# Joint Program in Urban Transportation Planning (MCRP+MS)

With full time study, the MCRP and MS in Transportation Planning dual degree program can be completed in six semesters of full-time study (averaging about 12 credit hours per semester). Students must submit a course of study for approval by Graduate Studies Chairs of both programs. Dual MCRP + MS students will typically complete a thesis to meet the exit project requirements for the two degrees.

# School for the Environment and Natural Resources Environment and Natural Resources (MCRP + MS)

With full time study, the MCRP and MS dual degree program can be completed in five semesters of full-time study (averaging about 12 credit hours per semester). Students must submit a course of study for approval to both programs. Dual MCRP + MS students will still need to complete either the MCRP thesis or APRP to complete this dual degree program.

# The John Glenn College of Public Affairs Public Affairs (MCRP + MPA)

With full time study, the MCRP and MPA dual degree program can be completed in six semesters of full-time study (averaging about 12 credit hours per semester). Students must submit a course of study for approval to both programs.

# Knowlton School, Landscape Architecture Section (MCRP + MLA)

With full time study, the MCRP and MLA dual degree program can be completed in six semesters of full-time study (averaging about 12 credit hours per semester). Students must submit a course of study for approval to both programs.

The time to degree may be longer based on placement within the Landscape Architecture program (G1, G2, G3). Design-based programs like Landscape Architecture require studio courses each semester. Dual degree students can not be exempted from MCRP required courses due to scheduling conflicts between required Landscape Architecture studios and planning courses.

# School of Social Work Social Work (MCRP + MSW)

With full time study, the MCRP and M.S.W. dual degree program can be completed in six semesters of full-time study (averaging about 14 credit hours per semester). Students must submit a course of study for approval to both programs during their first semester of study.

\*The MSW courses to be taken will be determined at the time of dual degree program approval by both programs. Through that process, the primary program will be identified and required courses in the secondary program will be tailored to the student's career interests.

## Combined BS/MCRP (3+2) Degree

Students in Knowlton's Bachelor of Science in City and Regional Planning Program (BSCRP) may wish to earn both the BSCRP and MCRP degrees jointly to reduce the time it would take to earn them separately. By double-counting 9 credit hours, students may earn both degrees in five academic years instead of six.

#### Qualifications and Process

To qualify, students wishing to complete the joint BSCRP/MCRP degree program must meet the following qualifications and follow the steps outlined below.

- 1. Be on track to earn 90 credits hours before the end of their 3rd Year.
- 2. Earn a cumulative GPA of 3.5 / 4.0 at the time of application.
- 3. Formally apply to the MCRP degree program by no later than February 1 (Spring Term) of the 3rd Year. Please note that OSU students must meet all submission requirements for admissions review including personal statements, resumes, letters of recommendation and fees. Advising reports (transcripts) will be furnished by the university. For more information, please review those guidelines for applying at:

Please note that applications to the joint degree program for the following Autumn will not be considered after the February 1 deadline. (see "Paying for Your Degree: Financial Aid" section of this Handbook for information on joint degree students' eligibility for financial support).

- 4. Submit a Course of Study through GRADFORMS.OSU.EDU for review and approval by the Graduate Studies Chair.
- 5. If admitted, commit to matriculate by April 15.
- 6. Register to participate in MCRP New Student Orientation and Curriculum Warmup Activities at the beginning of Year 4.

For more information on BSCRP requirements and advising for the joint degree program, please consult the BSCRP Handbook.

Students from the Architecture and Landscape Architecture or City and Regional Planning minor are not eligible for this program but may apply for regular admission to the MCRP program.

# **Certificates and Minors**

#### Certificates

Certificates allow students to enhance their primary degree without committing to a dual degree. Certificates are a minimum of 12 credit hours. To complete a certificate, students much complete all required courses and earn a 3.0 GPA in those courses.

# Graduate Minors / Graduate Interdisciplinary Specializations (GIS)

Similar to certificates, many students find that graduate minors or graduate interdisciplinary specializations allow them the training and exposure to another discipline without the commitment of a completing dual degree program. All graduate minors are ten (10) credit hours or three courses outside of the MCRP program. All certificates require admission through approval by the Graduate Studies Chair of the certificate program. Completion of the graduate minor is noted on the student's transcript.

### **Graduate Minor in City and Regional Planning**

Non-CRP students may be interested in a graduate minor in City and Regional Planning. Interested students should indicate their interest by completing a form on GRADFORMS.OSU.EDU.

To complete the minor, interested students should do the following:

- Take either CRPLAN 6000 (History and Theory of Planning), 3 credit hours OR CRPLAN 6500 (Plan Making and Analysis Techniques), 3 credit hours
- 2. Take 9 credit hours in City and Regional Planning courses at the 5000-level and above.
- 3. Earn a "B" or better in all courses taken.

Non-MCRP students who are interested in pursuing the Graduate Minor in City and Regional Planning should consult with Jon Bullock with questions about required courses and application process.

The full list of currently available Graduate Certificates, Graduate Minors and Graduate Interdisciplinary Specializations (GIS) can be found on the Graduate School website here:

https://gradsch.osu.edu/future-students/find-your-program/graduate-minors-interdisciplinary-specializations-and-graduate



# MCRP Degree Program Policies



# **Academic Policies**

# FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) (University)

Our program complies with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), which sets forth requirements designed to protect the privacy of student education records. In most circumstances, we will require express permission from the involved student to disclose information outside the university. Learn more about FERPA, and your rights, here: https://registrar.osu.edu/policies/releaseinfo.asp

# Student Code of Conduct (University)

The current version of the Code of Student Conduct is found here. https://trustees.osu.edu/bylaws-and-rules/code. To the right, you will find PDFs that detail revisions to the Code made since 2016.

The university recently revised the policies referenced in the Code of Student Conduct as university policy 1.15 and university policy 1.10. Please refer now to the Non-Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct policy found at https://policies.osu.edu/sites/default/files/documents/2024/09/Policy-NDH-Sexual-Misconduct.pdf.

# Academic Misconduct (University)

Like all other Ohio State students, MCRP students are subject to the Code of Student Conduct. Section A of 3335-23-04 outlines prohibited conduct which includes plagiarism, unauthorized use of articifial intelligence systems to complete academic activities, falsifying data or research results and more. Violations of the Code of Student Conduct may be referred to the Committee on Academic Misconduct (COAM). That committee is charged with the responsibility of adjudicating investigations of academic misconduct and can impose sanctions that may include suspension or dismissal from the university.

# Reasonable Academic Progress (Graduate School)

Upon matriculation all full and part-time MCRP degree students are expected to meet the Graduate School's standard for reasonable academic progress and complete all degree requirements within five years. Students who exceed that time period will be denied the ability to register for courses and will have to petition the Graduate Studies Chair to reenroll. **Section 5.3** of the Graduate School Handbook defines poor academic performance and the process through which it must be remediated. It is included here for convenience:

#### Section 5.3.1 Poor Academic Performance

A full-time student with fewer than nine earned hours or whose cumulative GPA (cGPA) is below 3.0 after nine graduate credit hours will receive a warning letter from the Graduate School urging consultation with the advisor and graduate studies committee. A student enrolled in a graduate certificate program (Section 8.3) whose graduate cGPA falls below 3.0 after three graduate credit hours have been attempted will receive a similar warning letter from the Graduate School.

#### Section 5.3.2 Remediation

A student whose graduate cGPA is below 3.0 after nine graduate credit hours have been attempted will, in close consultation with their advisor, Graduate Studies Committee and the Graduate School, enter into a remediation plan for one autumn or spring semester or summer term. The remediation plan would be aimed at increasing the student's cGPA to a 3.0 or better. Remediation is not available to graduate non-degree students.

#### Section 5.3.3 Probation

Students who do not improve their graduate cGPA after a remediation plan has been attempted will be placed on academic probation for one semester by the Graduate School. A student who is on probation in the Graduate School may not be appointed or reappointed as a graduate associate (Section 9) or a graduate fellow or trainee (Section 10).

#### Section 5.3.4 Removal from Probation

A student who raises the graduate cGPA to 3.0 or better is removed from probation by the Graduate School. Course work used in raising the cGPA must be a part of normal degree requirements and approved by the Graduate Studies Committee. An international student who is on probation upon admission to an international cooperative graduate degree agreement (ICGDA) program is removed from probation upon meeting the conditions stated in the ICGDA.

# Section 5.3.5 Warning of Potential Academic Dismissal

A student on a remediation plan or on academic probation whose record continues to deteriorate will be warned that academic dismissal is likely if the record does not improve. Warnings include performance criteria tailored to the individual student, usually in consultation with the Graduate Studies Committee Chair.

#### Leave of Absence

On occasion, circumstances require time off to deal with financial issues, physical or mental health, caretaking responsibilities for children or relatives. Masters students who do not enroll are automatically considered to be on a leave of absence.

Students not enrolled for the previous two calendar years will need approval from the Graduate Studies Committee and the Graduate School to reenroll.

# **Course Waivers for Core Courses (Program)**

Some students may waive out of core MCRP courses taken at another institution or for undergraduate degree coursework. Requests for course waivers should be made before the end of the first year of enrollment in the program. To be eligible for a course waiver, students must meet the conditions and steps outlined below:

- Course must be an upper-level course (comparable to a 3000 or higher level course at OSU
- Student must have earned a final grade of "B" or better
- Student must present the syllabus for the course so its content and rigor can be compared to our core course(s).
- The Graduate Chair will consult with the Graduate Coordinator and instructor(s) of core courses to see if the learning objectives/ outcomes, content and rigor is comparable to its OSU-Knowlton counterpart.
- Students may not take OSU courses to substitute for MCRP core courses after matriculation.

Students who successfully waive out of a course must replace the credits with electives and are still required to reach a minimum of 48 credits to graduate.

# **Independent Study Courses (Program)**

Students are strongly encouraged to take advantage of CRP course elective course offerings. Independent study course requests must be approved by the Graduate Studies Chair. Approval depends on several factors including the rationale for the independent study and the lack of comparable available courses that match the rationale for the request. Independent study hours taken in service of thesis/APRP research and writing should be taken under CRPLAN 6999.

# **General University and Program Level Policies**

# **Grievance Policy (Program)**

The culture of the City and Regional Planning Section is to empower students to resolve conflicts on their own with impartial assistance from faculty advisors, the Graduate Studies Chair and Committee, and the Graduate and Professional Student Ombudsperson.

If and when a conflict arises and persists between a graduate student and their advisor, the first effort to resolve it should occur between the graduate student and advisor. If concerns remain, students should reach out the Graduate Studies Chair (etienne.21@osu.edu) following the procedure outlined below.

Step 1. Student brings grievance to the attention of the Graduate Studies Chair in writing (email is acceptable) including the following information:

Student Name

Student's Primary Department / Degree (e.g., City and Regional Planning Section, MCRP Student)

Position (if relevant, GA, GRA, GTA, etc.)

Faculty Advisor

Involved Faculty Instructor and Course Information

Statement of Grievance (summarize issue, communications with faculty advisor(s) or instructors, GTAs and anything that is relevant to the grievance)

Relief Requested

- Step 2. Graduate Studies Chair and Graduate Coordinator review evidence to determine if grievance has merit and if further action should be taken. At the student's request, a representative from a student organization, such as GPS Ombudsperson may be present as a witness to this meeting.
- Step 3. If a determination is made that the grievance has merit, the Graduate Studies Chair meets with Section Head to review evidence and determine how it might be resolved. At the student's request, the Graduate and Professional Student (GPS) Ombudsperson may be present as a witness to this meeting. Visit this site to learn more about the GPS Omsbudsman: https://ombuds.osu.edu/grad-ombuds
- Step 4. Regardless of the outcome, all steps and determinations will be documented in writing. Copies of this documentation will be provided to the student and included in student's academic file.

# Accommodations for Faith, Religious, Spiritual Beliefs

A student can be absent for up to three days per academic semester for reasons of faith or religious or spiritual belief system or to participate in organized activities conducted under the auspices of a religious denomination, church, or other religious or spiritual organization.

Should the student's sincerely held religious belief or practice severely affect their ability to take an examination or meet an academic requirement, the instructor will provide alternative accommodations for examinations and other missed academic requirements. These accommodations will not carry any academic penalty.

Students will need to notify instructors with dates of absence and request for accommodation in writing, no later than fourteen days after the first day of instruction in a particular course.

An instructor shall accept without question the sincerity of a student's religious or spiritual belief system. An instructor shall keep requests for alternative accommodations confidential. An instructor shall schedule a time and date for an alternative examination, which may be before or after the time and date the examination or other academic requirement was originally scheduled but shall do so without prejudicial effect.

Should there be a grievance regarding the implementation of this policy, the student should consult the Grievance Policy outlines in the previous section.

#### Harassment and Discrimination

Institutional Equity and Non-Discrimination Policies: It is expected that that all members of the university community are to conduct themselves in a manner that maintains an environment free from discrimination, sexual misconduct and harassment. The Office of Institutional Equity exists to help the Ohio State community prevent and respond to all forms of protected class harassment, discrimination and sexual misconduct. It serves as a centralized response center to uphold policies and investigate any violations. Non-Discrimination, Harassment, and Sexual Misconduct and Title IX policies are in place to define expectations for the university community and establishes mechanisms for determining when those expectations have been violated.

The Office of Institutional Equity coordinates the university's response to all complaints of harassment and discrimination based on age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, gender, sexual orientation, pregnancy, protected veteran status, or any other bases under the law. You can report discrimination, harassment or sexual misconduct, or child abuse through the online form available at https://equity.osu.edu.



# Paying For Your Degree: Financial Aid



# **Financial Aid Opportunities**

There are many funding and financial aid opportunities available to CRP students. The Ohio State University is committed to making college affordable and more details on that commitment can be found via Buckeye Opportunity Program: https://news.osu.edu/buckeye-opportunity-program-helps-keep-college-affordable-at-ohio-state/

We advise that MCRP students apply for financial aid through Ohio State's financial aid office in order to ensure that they can access all of the grant, loan, work, and fellowship opportunities available: <a href="https://sfa.osu.edu/">https://sfa.osu.edu/</a>. We encourage all students to file FAFSAs and apply for financial aid

Prospective international students are advised to contact the Ohio State University's Office of International Students to learn about financial opportunities and financial requirements --- including financial issues related to student visas: https://oia.osu.edu/international-students

Below is a list of funding opportunities available to CRP students. Visit this link to learn more about some of the opportunities: https://knowlton.osu.edu/how-apply-knowlton-graduate-programs/funding-financial-aid-and-scholarships

- Ohio State Student Financial Aid Opportunities including Scholarships
- Ohio State Graduate School Fellowships and Graduate School Grants
- Ohio State College of Engineering Scholarships
- Knowlton and CRP Endowed Scholarship Funds
- CRP Graduate Teaching Assistantships
- Council of Graduate Students Funding and Awards
- CRP Internship Program + other work and internship opportunities facilitated by Engineering Career Services
- External Fellowships and Grants opportunities posted on ScholarshipUniverse (https://osu.scholarshipuniverse.com/ requires OSU login)
- Student Jobs posted on the Student Job Board (<a href="https://sfa.osu.edu/jobs/job-board">https://sfa.osu.edu/jobs/job-board</a>)

Please note that neither the Knowlton School nor the CRP Section manages need based financial aid intended to cover the total cost of attendance. A Knowlton emergency grant fund does exist for students in unexpected crises or emergency circumstances: The Knowlton Access Fund: <a href="https://knowlton.osu.edu/how-apply-knowlton-graduate-programs/funding-financial-aid-and-scholarships">https://knowlton.osu.edu/how-apply-knowlton-graduate-programs/funding-financial-aid-and-scholarships</a>

The Ohio State Office of Student Life also provides one-time Student Emergency Funding: <a href="https://advocacy.osu.edu/emergency-financial-assistance">https://advocacy.osu.edu/emergency-financial-assistance</a>

CRP also offers some partial fellowships and scholarships to MCRP students funded by endowments. The goal of these funds is to recruit a talented and diverse graduate cohort. The scholarships are not designed to cover the full cost of attendance but to assist in facilitating attendance.

The Section nominates incoming MCRP for university and college fellowships based on qualifications. CRP also occasionally has graduate teaching/research assistantships available to MCRP students. Students who are offered GA in their first year are still beholden to this policy. (no more than 40 hours of work outside of coursework). Survey at beginning of the semester – done by mid semester.

# **Funding for Joint and Dual Degree Students**

Joint BSCRP/MCRP 3+2 students will be considered for aid along with external candidates. Some university fellowships and scholarships are limited to students who will be new to Ohio State University upon matriculation.

Students from a cognate field (e.g., Civil Engineering, Geography, Social Work, etc.) adds the MCRP as a secondary masters degree are ineligible for Knowlton School scholarship funds or funding from the City and Regional Planning Section.

Students who matriculate in the MCRP degree program upon entering Ohio State and transfer to another program or designate the MCRP as their secondary degree program forfeit any funding committed in the offer of admissions.

# **Graduate Associateships**

Graduate assistantships (GAs) offer students an opportunity to support the teaching, research, and administrative functions of the City and Regional Planning Section. Different academic units manage their allocation of graduate assistantships differently. In the City and Regional Planning Section, students can not apply for associateships. In almost most cases, GAs are awarded as a part of an offer of admission. GAs take three main forms and have different expectations and duties. Those main types are:

- Graduate Teaching Associate (GTA)
- Graduate Research Associate (GRA)

Depending on program needs in any given semester, students who have been awarded a GA position may be assigned to any of the three types of GA positions. The terms of employment for all GA positions generally follow the schedule of academic terms and are funded at two levels, 50% (full appointment) or less than 50% (partial appointment).

Graduate Teaching Associates (GTAs) will support the instruction of courses primarily in the BSCRP and MCRP programs but in some rare instances be assigned to Ph.D. level courses. Duties for GTAs may include exam and assignment grading, note taking, meeting with enrolled students to discuss course materials, attending regularly scheduled meetings with course faculty, assisting in the preparing of course materials, etc.

Assignments for GTAs are made at least one month in advance of the start of each subsequent semester. Students must be available and not have course conflicts with the course to which they are assigned. It is the student's responsibility to make the Graduate Studies Chair aware of any course conflicts as soon as possible so that they can be reassigned to another course. Conflicts with internships or external jobs and commitments are the student's responsibility to resolve.

Graduate Research Associateships (GRAs) support faculty research. In addition to CRP Section supported GRAs, many faculty recruit and hire GRAs to support external grant-funded research. Based on research needs, faculty will recruit and hire students based on skills, common research interests, fit, and availability. Duties may include data collection and cleaning, data analysis, library research, writing and editing, field research and more. GRAs may be funded at the 50% or 25% appointment levels.

The CRP Section carefully follows the Graduate School's guidance on periods of appointment, percent time, stipends, resignations, reappointments, termination criteria, and procedures for grievances. Please see Section 9 - Graduate Associates of the Graduate School Handbook (https://gradsch.osu.edu/graduate-school-handbook-gsh/gsh-section-9-graduate-associates).

Terms of employment are determined by the Graduate School. Typically, GA appointments for the Autumn term begin during the second week of August and run through December 31. Spring GA appointments typically run from after the new year until the Monday after Spring Commencement.

GAs appointed at the 50% level are expected to work no more than 20 hours per work during their term of employment. GAs appointed at the 25% appointment are expected to work 10 hours work per week during their term of employment.

All GAs should communicate regularly with their supervising faculty about their expectations, work tasks, timelines for delivering outputs (e.g., grading quizzes or exams, research related tasks, etc.).

# Conflict of Commitment (Program)

Students who are offered aid in the form of a Graduate Teaching Associateship (GTA) or Graduate Research Association (GRA) may elect to pursue other positions simultaneously. While the CRP faculty has decided not to institute a Conflict of Committment policy, students working as GTAs and GRAs are bound by expectations set by the Graduate School. Students who fail to work the minimum required hours or meet expectations in their role may have their funding commitments for subsequent semesters rescinded. If there are violations of the Code of Student Conduct, students may be terminated from their GTA/GRA positions.

MCRP students who are awarded fellowships are allowed to pursue internships opportunities during their fellowship year. In the instance that a MCRP student is awarded a 50% GTA/GRA appointment (20 hour per week work requirement), they are prohibited from engaging in work outside of their award. Failure to comply could result in a loss of funding for subsequent semesters.

For New Students: Please note that you cannot pay your bill from the university until after you have registered for classes, which you will be able to do after check-in. Once you have a U.S. checking or savings account, the easiest way to pay your fees is to use Ohio State's secure ePayment site. Payment for tuition and fees can be made through your Student Center account (<a href="https://buckeyelink.osu.edu/">https://buckeyelink.osu.edu/</a>), on the Student Information System (SIS), by clicking the Make a Payment link in the Finances section.

For All Students: Tuition and fees are due one week (seven calendar days) prior to the beginning of each term, unless otherwise noted on your Statement of Account (your bill from the university). Students who arrive for check-in and orientation with the Office of International Affairs after the payment deadline should look on their Statement of Account for their due date.

For more about paying tuition such as late fees or statement of account please visit this page: https://oia.osu.edu/international-students/life-ohio-state/paying-tuition.

To learn more about the Tuition Option Payment Plan (TOPP) visit this page: https://admin.resources.osu.edu/student-information-systemsis/sis-my-buckeye-link-reference-guide/how-to-enroll-in-tuition-option



# Internships and Career Services



# **Internship and Career Resources**

As a part of our MCRP curriculum, all students are required to complete a planning internship. This experience should take place in a municipal planning department or planning commission, private planning firm, economic development agency, state, county, or city-related agency that manages planning related projects.

The internship requirement does not have a minimum time requirement but most MCRP students are able to remain within their internships for the entirely of academic semesters and sometimes the length of their programs.

Students must document their completion of this requirement by reporting their internship in Handshake under "Experiences". This must be done no later than the third Friday of the semester or term in which you plan to graduate.

# **Engineering Career Services**

Career Services for the City and Regional Planning Section at the Knowlton School are managed by The Ohio State College of Engineering's Career Services team: <a href="https://ecs.osu.edu/">https://ecs.osu.edu/</a>

The College of Engineering's Career Services serves as the "front door" for planning employers to post internships and permanent positions, join career fairs, and access the network of talented students and alumni of the City and Regional Planning programs. To support students and employers the College of Engineering has developed a world-class set of career services resources to support students and connect with the employer community

By registering with Engineering Career Services, Knowlton students get access to the wide range of services listed below. All students should register in order to take part in their robust career services resources. Register here: https://ecs.osu.edu/register-ecs

**Employer Connections -** Maximize your job search efforts by connecting with companies that hire city and regional planners.

Individualized Career Advice - Meet one-on-one with an ECS Career Advisor or Peer Career Coach to enhance your documents and skills to ensure a successful job search. Schedule an appointment here: <a href="https://ecs.osu.edu/meet-career-advisor/30-minute-advising-appointment">https://ecs.osu.edu/meet-career-advisor/30-minute-advising-appointment</a>

- Creating And Editing Resumes
- Using Handshake
- Networking
- Job Offer Negotiations
- Drafting And Editing Cover Letters
- Interviewing
- Salary Negotiations
- Tips To Appear Professional
- Job Search Skills
- Linkedin Training
- How To Make The Most Of Career Fairs

# **Job Postings**

Apply to internships, co-ops, part-time jobs, and career opportunities via our online job search system, Handshake. See open positions in city and regional planning: https://knowlton.osu.edu/city-and-regional-planning-job-postings-handshake

# **Exclusive Resource Library**

Boost your job search with access to more than 90 career-related resources designed uniquely for Knowlton, Ohio State engineering, and city and regional planning students.

# **Special Access**

Meet exclusively with hiring companies via career fairs and ECS-sponsored events.

# **Get Timely Updates on Events and News**

Be the first to receive updates and relevant news on special events, programs, and opportunities to connect with employers. Our weekly Wire is another benefit of registering with ECS.



# Research and Learning Resources



# Research Resources

# **University Libraries**

The University Libraries of The Ohio State University boasts a collection of six million titles and volumes housed in fifteen different libraries across the Columbus campus. In addition to its collection, the Universities Libraries continually hosts seminars, workshops, and lectures. The resources and library locations that might be of most interest to MCRP students include the following:

# **Architecture Library**

The Architecture Library is located on the top floor of Knowlton Hall and consists of over 50,000 volumes and a listing of over 150 periodicals. There are provisions for state-of-the-art, on-site use of and remote access to electronic information resources. The facility features video equipment, scanners, and microfilm collections. The library also houses many pieces included in the School's Classic Furniture Collection. Students can keep up-to-date on the latest books, periodicals and other resources added to the collections by following a blog produced by the library. Students can find course reserves, reservable study and group meeting rooms.

For more information on the Architecture Library, please visit: https://library.osu.edu/locations/architecture

# Other OSU Library Locations

For all other libraries and their upcoming hours please visit: https://library.osu.edu/locations

# **Subject Research Guides**

City and Regional Planning https://guides.osu.edu/c.php?g=312712

Geography

https://guides.osu.edu/geog

Data (by subject and source) https://guides.osu.edu/data

Geospatial Data

https://guides.osu.edu/geospatial-data

Maps

https://guides.osu.edu/maps

Citation Help – Resources for Citation Style Guides and Citation Software Management - https://guides.osu.edu/citation

Interlibrary Loans (and document delivery, including Article Express) https://library.osu.edu/ill

Room Reservations (Group Study, Meeting Rooms, Wellness Rooms) https://library.osu.edu/roomreservation

# The Writing Center

The Writing Center offers free help with writing at any stage of the writing process for any member of the university community. During our sessions, consultants can work with you on anything from research papers to lab reports, from dissertations to résumés, from proposals to application materials.

The Writing Center provides a free service open to all writers in the OSU community, including but not limited to students, staff, faculty, visiting scholars, and post-doctoral scholars at OSU.

The OSU Writing Center's consultants are trained to listen to you and to work with you to identify your writing style, a particular assignment's or project's expectations, and to give you specific advice or writing tools. You can expect us to be compassionate, understanding, and eagerly committed to figuring out how to talk about your writing in a way that works for you.

Learn More about The Writing Center by visiting: https://cstw.osu.edu/our-programs/writing-center

#### **Research Commons**

The Research Commons is a campus community where graduate students, faculty, and postdoctoral researchers can connect with experts for support at any stage in the research lifecycle.

The Research Commons offers services and a venue for exploring collaborative, interdisciplinary, and emerging research methods. Our focus areas include Research Data, Funder Data Management, Data Visualization, Digital Humanities, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), and Research Impact.

Learn More about the Research Commons by visiting: https://library.osu.edu/researchcommons

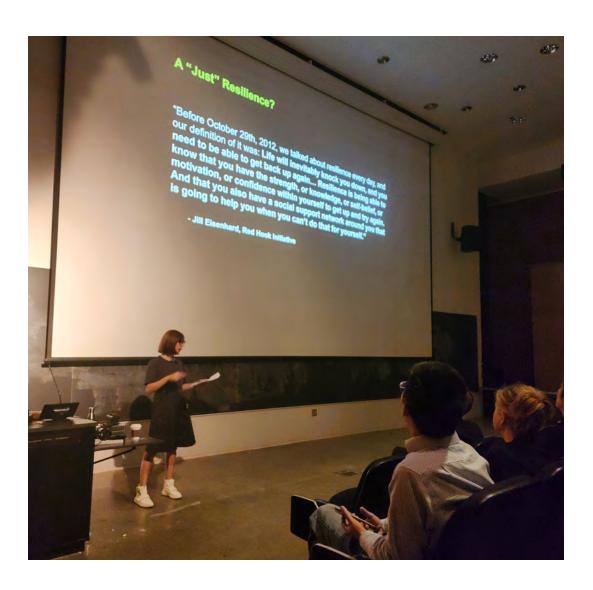
Location: 3rd Floor 18th Avenue Library, 175 West 18th Avenue, Columbus OH 43210.

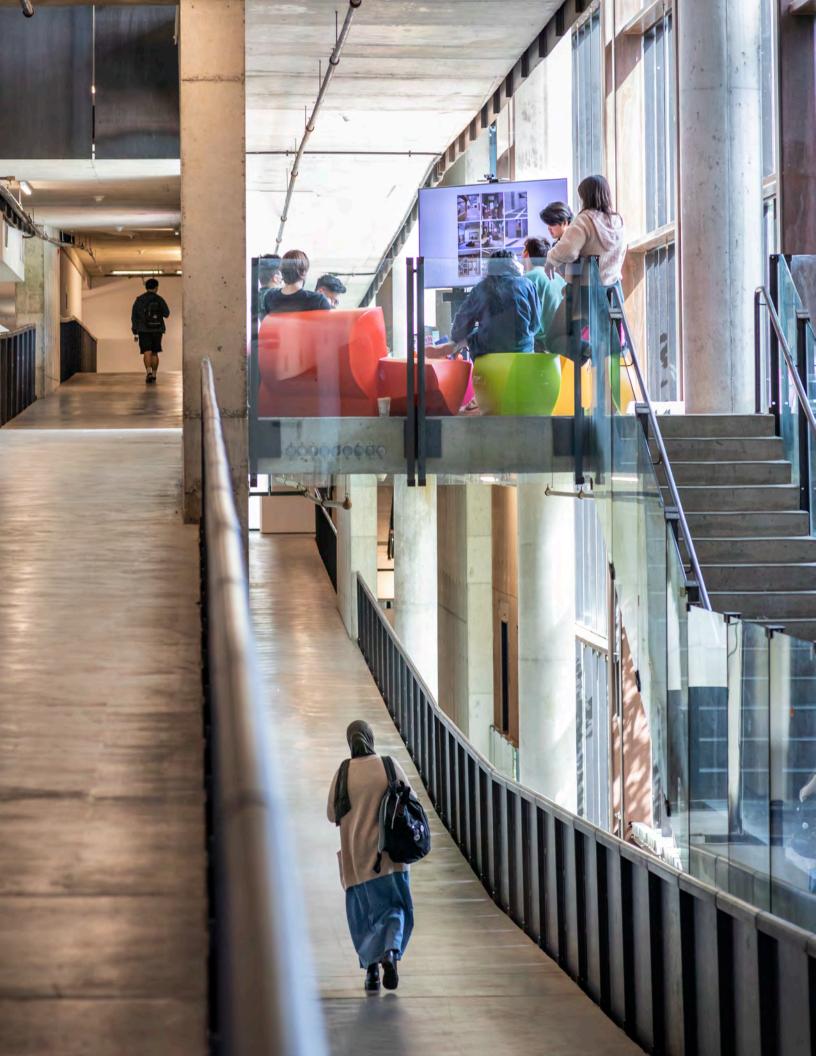
#### **Baumer Lecture Series**

The Baumer Lecture Series invites prominent researchers and practitioners of architecture, landscape architecture and city and regional planning to present their work and engage topic both topical and enduring. Every semester a number of Baumer Lecture presentations focus specifcally on city and regional planning issues. Notice will generally be given so that interested students may be invited to interact with the speaker before or after the lecture.

Unless indicated otherwise, Baumer Lectures take place in the Knowlton Auditorium on Wednesdays, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m.

https://knowlton.osu.edu/baumer-lecture-series







# Campus Life, Resources and Facilities



# **Facilities**

The Knowlton School is fortunate to have one of the most noteworthy buildings for a school of architecture to be found anywhere. Below are some of the features of most interest to MCRP students.

#### **CRP Studio**

CRP Studio is the home to the City and Regional Planning sections of the Knowlton School. It is located on the southwest corner of the 4th floor which is free to planning students to access 24 hours a day, seven days a week during the semester. The CRP studio has 48 computer workstations and four collaborative work spaces with large screen monitor connections and conference tables. Planning students are free to share this area for daily study after class, group work and meetings as well as information and posters exhibition among CRP community.

#### Restrooms

Two single-user restrooms with changing stations are available on the lower level of Knowlton Hall. An additional changing station is located at the women's multi-user restroom on the fourth floor of Knowlton Hall near the Architecture Library.

The gender-neutral restrooms on the lower level are accessible via the northwest elevator or stairs, via the ramp at the west end of the building, or the northwest entry door adjacent to the West Patio. Men's and women's multi-user restrooms alternate by floor and are located on floors one through four adjacent to the elevators at the northwest and southeast corners of the building.

For a full list of gender-neutral restrooms on campus, visit LGBTQ at Ohio State:

https://lgbtq.osu.edu/community/single-occupancy-restrooms

# "Big Stairs" / "Carpeted Areas"

During the academic year, Knowlton Hall is almost always buzzing with activity. Two of the main shared spaces are located on the first floor and are the sites for many events throughout the year.

#### **Quiet Room**

The Knowlton Hall Quiet Room provides a space for individuals to engage in quiet reflection, to de-stress and to participate in prayer and other wellness activities. The space is available to all students, faculty, and staff in the College of Engineering. The room is accessible, 8 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

# **Rooftop Garden**

At the conclusion of ramps, and adjacent to the entrance to the Architecture Library, is the school's Rooftop Garden. Open whenever the building is publically accessible, the space offers several semi-private seating areas, and a plethora trees and landscaping that makes the space feel like an escape at the top of the building.

#### KSA Café

The KSA Café is located in the northeasternmost corner of the 1st floor of Knowlton Hall. Offering some light fare, snacks, coffee and tea drinks. Food can be pre-ordered through the GrubHub app. Operating hours for the KSA Café and all other Dining Services locations can be found here: https://dining.osu.edu/hours/

# **Knowlton Food Pantry**

The Knowlton Food Pantry aims to provide quick snacks and easy meals for our students. Located between Student Services and the Banvard Gallery on the first floor of Knowlton Hall, the Knowlton Food Pantry is available to students 24 hours a day.

Students do not need to sign up or request assistance. Simply drop by, and take what is needed. Additional pantry resources are available through the Buckeye Food Alliance. The Alliance provides online ordering for easy pick up at Lincoln Tower.

Learn more about the Buckeye Food Alliance here:

https://www.buckeyefoodalliance.org/

# **Banvard Gallery**

The gallery hosts four to six exhibitions each year, including work from the school's three disciplines and an annual year-end exhibit by the LeFevre fellow. Gallery exhibitions have included drawings, collages, photographs, models, site-specific installations, investigations in new materials and technology, and questions in contemporary practice.

# **Student Organizations**

There are over 1,400 student organizations at Ohio State and over half of all students join a student organization. Students who choose to get involved achieve many positive outcomes – leadership skills, better grades, friendships and mentors, and make a big campus seem small. Visit and use the tools to search for, find, and get involved with student organizations here:

https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student\_organizations/find\_a\_student\_org

The Knowlton School is home to six student organizations that engage students from architecture, landscape architecture, city and regional planning, and majors across Ohio State. Below are three student organizations primarily engaged with graduate students in the field of planning. Learn more details about the Knowlton Student organizations here:

https://knowlton.osu.edu/students/student-organizations

# **Graduate Planning Society (GPS)**

GPS's primary purpose is to promote the advancement of its members, in and out of the classroom, by providing opportunities for personal and professional development. GPS organizes academic, career and social & cultural events and strives to improve the overall graduate experience within the City & Regional Planning section.

# City and Regional Planning Student Association (CRPSA)

The Ohio State University City and Regional Planning Student Association (CRPSA) is the student organization for the City and Regional Planning program in the Knowlton School. CRPSA exists to help students create valuable relationships within and beyond the discipline, together and with faculty, alumni and professionals. Throughout the year, CRPSA organizes a number of fun events for the CRP student body, including social events, city trips, community service, and professional development opportunities.

#### **Knowlton Nomads**

Knowlton Nomads' purpose is to enrich the graduate classroom experience by using cities around the U.S. (including Columbus) as models to be studied in order to expand on knowledge learned within any of the Knowlton School disciplines—City and Regional Planning,

Landscape Architecture, and Architecture.

# **Public Safety**

Safety is a top priority for Ohio State University. Call 911 for emergencies: police, fire, medical (on and off campus).

For non-emergencies or to report a crime on-campus, call: 614-292-2121.

For more on the university's safety resources, please visit the following link:

https://dps.osu.edu/

Campus safetey resources include:

- Reporting Emergencies
- Building Fire / Explosion
- Medical Emergencies
- Evacualtion Procedures
- Active Aggressor
- Earthquake
- Bomb Threat
- Flood
- Utility Emergency
- Hazardous Material
- Shelter in Place
- Severe Storm Lightening
- Tornado
- Elevator Safety
- Disruptive or Distressed Individual

# **Public Safety Programs**

- Emergency Procedures
- Alert Notices
- Lyft Ride Smart
- Rave Guardian
- Safety Devices

# **Health and Wellness**

At Ohio State, we aim not only to create a healthier Ohio but a healthier world. Through our wide network of programs, initiatives and medical center, we are creating healthier campuses and addressing the most pressing health needs of Ohio communities. For students our services include:

#### Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS)

https://ccs.osu.edu/

CCS provides individual and group mental health services, psychoeducational prevention and outreach programming to currently enrolled undergraduate, graduate and professional students. As we know how important it is to get help when you need it and with the resources available at Ohio State, thus there is something you can do to promote positive mental health and well-being every day, 24/7. We also work with spouses/partners of students who are covered by the Student Health Insurance Benefits Plan

#### **Student Wellness Center (SWC)**

https://swc.osu.edu/

empowers students to strive for balance and wellness. Wellness is an active and ongoing process that allows individuals and the broader community to reach their full potential. Meanwhile, wellness is much more than merely physical health, exercise or nutrition. It is the full integration of states of physical, mental and spiritual well-being. Our model uses ten dimensions which act and interact in a way that contributes to our own quality of life. Find out more about Ten Dimensions of Wellness using the SWC website as posted above.

#### The Wilce Student Health Center

https://shs.osu.edu/

is committed to providing accessible, high-quality health service to support academic success and co-curricular engagement to meet the ever-changing health needs of the university community in support of a healthy campus environment for all. It's Student Life Student Health Services (SLSHS) at Ohio State is a Joint Commission accredited outpatient facility provides a variety of health care services to the student population. All students enrolled at the university are eligible to use SLSHS. Please use secure communication for all services provided at SLSHS through My BuckMD to both our providers and services areas

Recreational Sports offers members of The Ohio State University community an extraordinary experience to live active and meaningful lives while on-campus. The unit is enhanced by its award winning indoor and outdoor facilities, including five indoor locations and spacious parks and outdoor space. As Ohio State's largest recreation facility, the Recreation and Physical Activity Center (RPAC), is a multi-purpose facility complex that combines innovative fitness spaces, versatile event areas and an active atmosphere, located in the heart of campus, southeast of Ohio Stadium. It offers but not limited to an approximately 27,500 square feet of fitness space featuring state-of-the-art cardio and weight equipment, Aquatic Center and other amenities, please visit the Recreational Sports website for more information about facilities, services/outreach as well as space reservations:

https://recsports.osu.edu/

# **Student Disability Services**

Student Life Disability Services (SLDS) at Ohio State collaborates with and empowers students who have disabilities in order to coordinate support services and programs that enable equal access to an education and university life. SLDS are committed to creating an accessible educational experience for students with disabilities. We partner with students, faculty and staff to design accessible environments and to provide academic accommodations and support services. SLDS offer services including Exam accommodations, Notetaking support, Housing/Dinning accommodations at etc., please visit Disability Serivces for more information

https://slds.osu.edu/

As an Ohio State student with a disability, you can register with Disability Services to be approved for accommodations. Accommodations are designed to eliminate disability-related barriers in the environment and curriculum so that you have an equal opportunity for success. Use the navigation links on the website to learn more about available accommodations.

# **On-Campus Transportation**

Students on the Columbus campus can use the Campus Area Bus Service (CABS), a free transit service provided by The Ohio State University. CABS is dedicated to providing clean, reliable, and hassle-free transportation on and around Ohio State's Columbus Campus – you can view the bus map and the upto-date Schedules and Routes here:

https://ttm.osu.edu/cabs

# Information for International Students

Ohio State is one of the largest universities in the United States and offers many different resources to students. As an international student, there are important details to keep in mind. What follows are a set of links and brief descriptions of resources to help you navigate your transition to the U.S. and the university.

The are several offices and services dedicted to providing resources to international students. Some of the issues that international students face include:

# **Getting Help and Resources**

As with all students, your first stop in search of resources are this program's key contacts:

Graduate Studies Chair, Harley Etienne (etienne.21@osu.edu) Graduate Coordinator, Jon Bullock (bullock.151@osu.edu)

Beyond the Knowlton School, the university has a number of resources to help you find the support you need to thrive and complete your degree:

Office of International Affairs - https://oia.osu.edu/

Grants and Scholarships -

https://oia.osu.edu/grants-and-scholarships/graduate

Forms - https://oia.osu.edu/forms

On-Campus Employmenthttps://oia.osu.edu/international-students/employment/ campus-employment

# Office of Technology and Digital Innovation

IT Resources for Students - https://it.osu.edu/students

Office of Student Life - https://studentlife.osu.edu/

Office of Institutional Equity - https://equity.osu.edu/

# Taxes and Taxpayer ID Information

Anyone receiving payments from a U.S. source, whether they are U.S. residents or internationals, are subject to U.S. taxation. The Ohio State University uses a secure online international tax compliance software called Glacier Tax Prep (GTP):

https://www.online-tax.net/

GLACIER captures the information required to determine the actual tax status of an international person. All international persons who are not U.S. residents and who are receiving payments from The Ohio State University are required to have a GLACIER record.

IRS also issues ITINs to individuals who are required to have a U.S. taxpayer identification number but who do not have, and are not eligible to obtain, a Social Security Number from the Social Security Administration. An ITIN number is a tax processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), not the Social Security Administration. Please find more about Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) here:

https://www.irs.gov/individuals/individual-taxpayer-identification-number

To read more about taxpayer identification and paying U.S., state and local taxes, please visit the following sites:

- Driver's License and ID Cards:
  - https://oia.osu.edu/international-students/life-ohio-state/ drivers-license-and-id-cards
- Taxes and Taxpayer ID:

https://oia.osu.edu/international-students/life-ohio-state/taxes-and-taxpayer-id

Money and Banking:

https://oia.osu.edu/international-students/life-ohio-state/ money-and-banking



# Living in Columbus, Ohio



# Living in Columbus, Ohio

# **Off-Campus Housing Resources**

Every year, thousands of students look to move into off-campus rental properties. Most have never faced the challenge of finding a new place to live and are confronted with numerous options and choices. The Ohio State University Off-Campus Housing Network establishes certain criteria (PDF) for off-campus property owners. Those property owners that commit to meeting these criteria will be considered in-network.

Willie J. Young, Sr. Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement is The Ohio State University's resource center for off-campus living and commuting. We can provide you with the means to find housing and roommates, resources to encourage safe practices in the off-campus area and support you while being a responsible neighbor in the Buckeye community. We strongly recommend you visit the website and find more information on Off-Campus Living Guides: https://offcampus.osu.edu

# **Off-Campus Transportation**

Bus – If you are traveling to locations off campus, you can use the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) which provides public transportation within Central Ohio and the Greater Columbus area.

Thanks to the OSU/COTA partnership, undergraduate, graduate and professional students have unlimited access to COTA's entire bus system by swiping a BuckID when boarding. You must be enrolled in the current semester on the main campus and have the COTA fee on your statement of account to use your BuckID on COTA. Several COTA routes provide service between Ohio State's campus and locations throughout Columbus. Ohio State's Campus Area Bus Service (CABS) and COTA share multiple bus stops on campus, allowing for easy transfers between the two systems. Visit COTA for information about routes and schedules: <a href="https://cota.com/">https://cota.com/</a>

# **Exploring Columbus**

We are proud to be located in Columbus, Ohio's growing capital city. Our home city boasts a population of over 900,000, the second largest in the Midwest, and one of most affordable costs-of-living in the U.S. The city and region's growth, diversity, economy, amenities, and complex histories make this a unique place to study and practice city planning. We encourage you to learn more about our city by visiting this site: https://visit.osu.edu/experience.

Columbus has some must-see events and sites. This is a partial listing of some institutions and events that might be of interest:

- Center for Science and Industry (COSI)
- Columbus Museum of Art (CMOA)
- Short North District
- City of Columbus Recreation and Trails
- Columbus Metropolitan Library
- Columbus Crew (Major League Soccer)
- Columbus Blue Jackets (Major League Hockey)
- Columbus Clippers (Minor League Baseball)
- Ohio State Fairgrounds and Annual Fair
- Ohio State Capital
- King-Lincoln Theater
- Franklin Park Conservatory
- Columbus Zoo and Aquarium

#### **OSU Discount Tickets Program (D-Tix)**

With a student budget in mind, Ohio State's Discount Ticket Program (D-Tix) offers tickets to Columbus-area shows, museums, concerts, sporting events, and more at an exclusive rate: https://activities.osu.edu/programs/dtix

#### **Exploring Ohio**

In addition to the Metropolitan Columbus area, we are also situated in the seventh most populated state in the United States. In addition to the major cities of Cincinnati and Cleveland, Ohio is home to a network of medium-sized cities, and small towns that are all embedded in a state renowned for its geographic diversity and natural beauty.

This is a partial listing of area parks and sites that may be of interest.

- Metro Parks
- Hocking Hills State Park
- National Museum of the US Airforce
- Easton Town Center
- Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
- Cleveland Museum of Art
- John Glenn Astronomy Park
- Cuyahoga Valley National Park
- Alum Creek State Park
- Appalachian Hills Wildlife Area
- Toledo Museum of Art

Living in Columbus, Ohio 65



# After the MCRP: Career Planning



#### After the MCRP

#### **Professional Networks and Associations**



American Planning Association (APA) – is a professional organization representing the field of urban planning in the United States. APA was formed in 1978, with the main function is to serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas between people who work in the field of urban planning. APA hosts its annual National Planning Conference (NPC) in the spring (~April) that attracts planners, local government officials, planning commissioners, advocates and planning students from across the United States, Canada and the world. The association also publishes the Journal of the American Planning Association (JAPA, ISSN 0194-4363)

Visit APA's website here: https://www.planning.org/



American Planning Association, Ohio Chapter – is a statewide, non-profit association of citizens and professional planners committed to promoting and enhancing planning and the quality of planning for all governmental entities in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for all Ohioans. APA Ohio provides regional and statewide forums for investigation and discussion, which lead to practical, useit-today solutions to planning and development challenges. APA Ohio encourages legislation and action programs to enhance sound planning at the state, regional and local levels. APA Ohio sponsors regional and state conferences and supports section-level workshops. These events provide opportunities for members to make new contacts, renew old ones, recognize achievements, and exchange ideas.

Visit APA Ohio here: <a href="https://www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/home\_page">https://www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/home\_page</a>



**Urban Land Institute** – The mission of the Urban Land Institute: Shape the future of the built environment for transformative impact in communities worldwide. ULI Columbus carries forth that mission by convening across disciplines and sectors to foster collaboration, share knowledge, and imagine a better built environment here in Central Ohio.

Visit ULI Columbus here: <a href="https://columbus.uli.org/">https://columbus.uli.org/</a>

#### **Further Study**

Some students may want to explore degrees and careers in academic research beyond the MCRP or dual degree combinations possible at Ohio State University. Over 50 programs in the United States and Canada offer doctoral degrees in city and regional planning. You can find an updated list of those programs here: <a href="https://www.acsp.org/page/PlanningPrograms">https://www.acsp.org/page/PlanningPrograms</a>.

Talented graduates and graduating students from the MCRP program are welcome to apply to the CRP Section's doctoral program; however we offer no preferential treatment of these applications in the process. Interested students can read more about Ohio State's Ph.D. Program in City and Regional Planning Program here: https://knowlton.osu.edu/city-and-regional-planning/phd-city-and-regional-planning

Students who are interested in doctoral study in corrolary fields may want to consider attending and even presenting their research at academic conferences. A few conferences and their hosting organizations are listd below:

- Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP)
- Association of American Geographers (AAG)
- Regional Studies Association
- Society for American City and Regional Planning History (SACRPH)
- Transportation Research Board (TRB)
- Urban Affairs Association (UAA)
- Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)

#### **Ohio State University Alumni**

The Ohio State alumni family is more than 600,000-strong and it is always growing stronger. Ours is a vibrant, inclusive community dedicated to making the world better. The association provides you ways to stay in touch with the university and each other through engaging programs, in person and virtual. You will find Buckeyes and Alumini Socites around the globe. For more information please visit: https://www.osu.edu/alumni/

#### **Knowlton Alumni Society**

The Knowlton School Alumni Society strives to promote and contribute to the mission of the Knowlton School. The group was formed to develop and strengthen the network of alumni across the country, to help alumni stay connected with the school, and also to provide current students with access and exposure to professionals in the areas that they are studying. For membership and events information: please visit: https://knowlton.alumni.osu.edu/



## Appendices



# MCRP Exit Projects Learning Outcomes Assessment Rubric (24-25)

(thesis) and Graduate Studies Chair (APRP). Each assessment should encompass both the oral examination and the final accepted draft of the exit project (i.e. thesis or APRP). In order to Advising faculty should complete this assessment rubric at the oral examination or after final edits have been made to the thesis or APRP but before final approval by Graduate School graduate, graduating students should demonstrate mastery or proficiency in no fewer than four areas and earn an overall score of five (5) or more.

|                              | 0   | 0   | 0   |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Proficiency Not Demonstrated | Central issue or problem is not defined and justification for analysis of the planning problem/issue at the center of the project is inadequate and does not use effectively or otherwise the scholarly and/or grey literature      | One or more of the following is true:  • Project inadequately creates and analyzes original data or secondary data • Research methods and data sources inadequately documented • Analysis poorly or inadequately utilizes quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods • (if relevant) Responsible research practices are not practiced nor documented (e.g., violates university guidelines for human subjects research)   | One or more of the following is true:  • Final document is poorly written, and references and citations are missing  • Oral examination/presentation is unclear and disorganized  • Both written document and final do not convey the basics of the planning problem, methodological approach, analysis and, findings and practical recommendations   |
|                              | /1  | 1/  | /1  |
| Proficiency                  | Central issue or problem is defined and presents a c justification for analysis of the important planning problem/issue at the center of the project using the scholarly and/or grey literature                                     | One or more of the following is true:  • Project adequately creates and analyzes original data OR analyzes secondary data • Project presents research methods and data sources in an adequate manner • Conducts analysis using quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods • (if relevant) Responsible research practices are documented (e.g., does not violate university guidelines for human subjects research)  | One or more of the following is true:  • Final document is well-written, well- structured, and references and citations are adequately documented • Oral examination/presentation is clear and organized • Both written document and final convey the basics of the planning problem, methodological approach, analysis and, findings and practical recommendations                                   |
|                              | /2  | /2  | 72  |
| Mastery                      | Central issue or problem is very well-defined and presents a compelling justification for analysis of the important planning problem/issue at the center of the project very effectively using the scholarly and/or grey literature | Project effectively creates and analyzes compelling original data OR uses a sophisticated analyzes compelling original data OR uses a sophisticated analyze using secondary data analysis using secondary data analyze the historic,  analyze the historic,  contemporary, and/ or projected or project reflects a systematic and sophisticated analyzes of planning analysis using appropriate quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods  of (if relevant) Responsible research practices are documented (e.g., does not violate university guidelines for human subjects research) | All of the following are true:  • Final document is very well-written, well-structured, references and citations are well-documented (re • Oral examination/presentation is extremely clear, well-organized, and impactful • Both written document and final presentation compellingly convey the significance of the planning problem, methodological approach, analysis and, findings and practical |
| Criteria                     | Undertake an independent project that demonstrates proficiency or mastery of core planning knowledge and a student's area of focus through a clearly defined planning problem   | Identify and employ relevant<br>data and research methods to<br>analyze the historic,<br>contemporary, and/ or projected<br>impacts of planning   | Communicate orally and in writing the results of their analysis with a diverse array of audiences, organizations, and stakeholders  |

| 0   | 0   |        |
|---|---|--------|
| One or more of the following are true: APRP: Practical recommendations are not implementable and are unconnected to the analysis presented. Thesis: Conclusions are not clearly presented and present no link to literature review or analysis presented  | Project (or final presentation) does not reference nor engage with any of PAB's Guiding Values in explanation and/or discussion of: central problem/question, methods and data analysis, findings and conclusions, recommendations and significance |        |
| 7   | 1/  |        |
| One or more of the following are true:  APRP: Practical recommendations are connected to the analysis presented; if presented, implementation adequately provides some information on steps, parties, costs, etc. Thesis: Conclusions that emerge from analysis are presented   | Project (or final presentation) engages with one or more of PAB's Guiding Values in explanation and/or discussion of: central problem/question, methods and data analysis, findings and conclusions, recommendations and significance               |        |
| 12  | /2  |        |
| One or more of the following are true:  APRP: Practical recommendations are well- connected to the analysis presented; if presented, implementation compellingly provides information on steps, parties, costs, etc.  Thesis: Conclusions emerge from analysis and demonstrate a conceptual/theoretical link to literature review and the set of implications for planning practice | Project (or final presentation) compellingly engages with one or more of PAB's Guiding Values in explanation and/or discussion of: central problem/question, methods and data analysis, findings and conclusions, recommendations and significance  |        |
| Presents practical<br>recommendations (APRP) OR<br>conceptual/theoretical<br>significance (thesis)  | Aga Guiding Values     Equity, Diversity, Social Justice, and Inclusion     Sustainability, Resilience, and Climate Justice     Professional Ethics and Responsibility  | Totals |

#### **Student Hardware Recommendations**

(College of Engineering)

All Engineering students are encouraged (not required) to purchase their own personal devices.

| Specification     | Minimum  | Ideal  |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Operating System  | -  | Windows 11 Professional<br>(Mac OS is not<br>recommended at this time)   |
| Disk              | 512GB SSD  | 1TB SSD  |
| CPU's             | Intel i7;<br>AMD Ryzen 7                               | Intel i7 or i9;<br>AMD Ryzen 7 or 9  |
| Graphics          | Dedicated Graphics<br>Card<br>w/ minimum 4GB<br>memory | Dedicated Graphics Card w/minimum 6GB memory  Note: Knowlton School of Architecture students should look for an NVIDIA GeForce RTX graphics card |
| Screen Resolution | 1920x1080 or better                                    | 1920x1080 or better  |
| Audio/Visual      | Built-in Camera/<br>Microphone/<br>Speakers            | Built-in Camera/<br>Microphone/ Speakers   |
| Network           | Wireless 802.11 ac<br>dual band                        | Wireless 802.11 ac dual band or better   |
| Warranty          | 3 year warranty with accident coverage                 | 4 year warranty with onsite/<br>walk-in repairs and accident<br>coverage   |

Please note that while iPads are not conducive to many engineering applications, iPads can be used to remotely connect to the ETS virtual desktop solution (Citrix). ETS provides an article with information on connecting to Citrix via an iPad.

### Notes



#### My Course of Study

#### Year 1

#### **Autumn Semester**

| Course # | Credits | Description / Notes |
|----------|---------|---------------------|
|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |
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#### **Spring Semester**

| Course # | Credits | Description / Notes |
|----------|---------|---------------------|
|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |
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|          |         |                     |
|          |         |                     |

#### **Summer Semester (optional)**

| Course # | Credits | Description / Notes |  |
|----------|---------|---------------------|--|
|          |         |                     |  |
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#### Year 2

#### **Autumn Semester**

| Course # | Credits | Description / Notes |
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#### **Spring Semester**

| Course # | Credits | Description / Notes |
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Master of City and Regional Planning Handbook

February 2025 Update



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