Master’s Programs in City Planning & Urban Affairs at Boston University Metropolitan College

IMMERSIVE LEARNING. SUSTAINABLE PLANNING.

BU’s Master of City Planning (MCP) and Master of Urban Affairs (MUA) programs prepare future leaders, practitioners, and innovators for the myriad political, social, and technical challenges that arise in urban planning and policymaking.

Part of Metropolitan College’s Department of Applied Social Sciences, the MCP and MUA programs boast faculty with expertise in sustainable development, climate change, transportation, land reclamation, city finance, regional economics, and urban design.

Through a curriculum that embraces sustainability, creativity, pragmatism, and diversity of thought, City Planning & Urban Affairs students are trained to be critical, open-minded thinkers and inventive problem solvers. With access to a network of area and regional employers, policymakers, and analysts, graduates are uniquely positioned to make successful impacts in the field.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The MCP and MUA programs share a required, six-course core curriculum.

MUA/MCP core courses (24 credits):

MET UA 515  History, Theory, and Planning Practice
MET UA 701  Urban Problems and Policy Responses
MET UA 702  Urban Analytical Methods
MET UA 703  Urban Research Methods
MET UA 704  Urban Economic Issues and Analysis
MET UA 805  The Boston Urban Symposium OR
MET UA 761 Planning Thesis

Electives

MCP candidates are required to complete ten elective courses (40 credits), and MUA candidates must complete three (12 credits). Electives should be coordinated with a faculty advisor, and the construction of individual concentrations is encouraged.

SAMPLE OF CITY PLANNING/URBAN AFFAIRS ELECTIVES:

MET UA 503  Housing and Community Development
MET UA 505  Urban Management
MET UA 508  Real Estate Development
MET UA 510  Selected Topics in Urban Affairs

MET UA 580  Boston Experience: The Role of Architecture in Creating the Sense of Place
MET UA 610  Urban Environmental Issues
MET UA 613  Urban Design
MET UA 617  Actionable Sustainability
MET UA 619  Urban Transportation: Policy and Planning
MET UA 629  Urbanization and the Environment
MET UA 654  Geographic Information Systems for Planners
MET UA 664  Planning and the Development Process
MET UA 715  Planning and Land-Use Law
MET UA 801  Graduate Directed Study in Urban Affairs and Planning
MET UA 804  Supervised Fieldwork

LEARN MORE

If you have further questions, please contact us or visit us online:

City Planning and Urban Affairs Program
Phone: 617-353-3025
Email: cityplan@bu.edu
Visit: bu.edu/cityplanning

Boston University Metropolitan College
617-353-6000 | met@bu.edu | bu.edu/met
In addition to master’s programs in City Planning & Urban Affairs, MET offers undergraduate and graduate certificate options in related fields. These interdisciplinary tracks look at urban and economic development through an environmentally conscious lens, with courses in environmental law, green IT, urban planning history, and sustainability within the context of climate change. Students are taught the essentials of community development, service delivery, and the administration of public and private agencies in urban settings.

The Graduate Certificate in Applied Sustainability is a four-course, interdisciplinary course of study that guides students through the foundations of ecology; current theories of sustainability; methods for optimizing energy and land use; building management techniques; the politics, law, and economics of the global green movement; and the relationship between IT and the consumption of resources. All credits earned toward the Graduate Certificate in Applied Sustainability may also be applied to the Master of Urban Affairs or the Master of City Planning degrees. The certificate can be completed within the course of one semester through coordination with the department.

The Bachelor of Science in Urban Affairs interweaves a foundation in the liberal arts with the theoretical, analytical, and practical essentials to understanding the complexities of the urban environment. Students who complete the bachelor’s degree in Urban Affairs will be able to demonstrate knowledge of urban systems, the history of urbanization, and policy-making, as well as awareness of the political, social, and ethical issues inherent in policy work focused on minority or disadvantaged urban communities. Program requirements include twelve distribution courses (48 credits), four core Urban Affairs courses (16 credits), six major electives (24 credits), two related courses (8 credits), and eight general electives (32 credits).

For full BS in Urban Affairs program requirements, please visit bu.edu/cityplanning/undergraduate.

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