

**Urban Studies
and Planning**

Urban Studies and Planning

Master of Community Planning
Master of Community Planning/
Master of Architecture
Dual Degree

Master of Community Planning/
Master of Historic Preservation
Dual Degree

Master of Community Planning/
Master of Landscape Architecture
Dual Degree

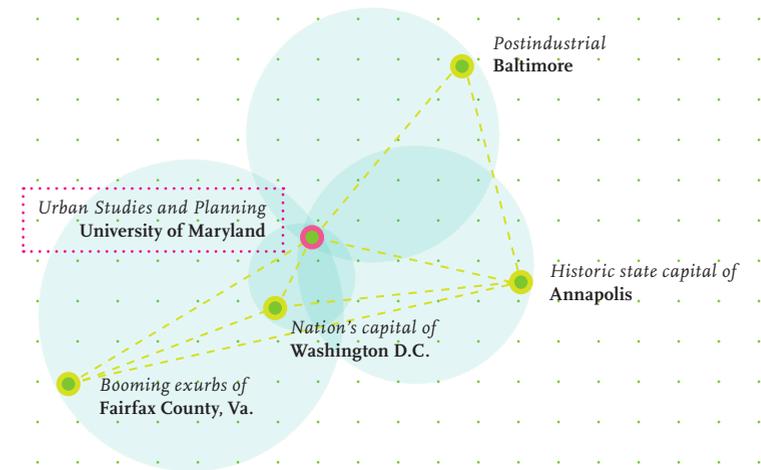
Master of Community Planning/
Juris Doctor

Graduate Certificate
in Urban Design





Introduction



The Urban Studies and Planning Program prepares the next generation of professionals to address the planning issues facing our cities, counties and states. Our location offers you unparalleled opportunities to study urban and regional planning in a variety of geographic settings, from the postindustrial transitioning city of Baltimore, to our rapidly developing nation's capital, to counties intent on maintaining their farmland and forests, to nationally known planned communities in Maryland and Virginia.

Here, you'll be connected with a community of planners, scholars and practitioners, and will have the opportunity to advance your skills through an internship with entities including federal, state and local planning offices, international organizations, planning consulting firms and innovative nonprofits.

Urban Studies and Planning: GRADUATE PROGRAM

Rankings in *Planetizen*

#5

for scholarly publications

#15

for part-time students/
working professionals

#18

by planning educators
for overall program

Master

of *Community Planning*

Bachelor's Degree

+

48 graduate credits

2 years full-time / flexible part-time

Size

of class per year

25-28

graduate students

Year program

was founded

1974

Pass rate

on American Institute of Certified
Planners exam (2010–14):

92.3%

Job placement rate

one year after graduation

95%

Employers have included:

Baltimore Economic Development Corp.
Environmental Protection Agency
Maryland Department of Planning
Maryland Transit Administration
Montgomery County, Md., Department of Planning
National Park Service
Parsons Brinkerhoff
Smart Growth America
Washington, D.C., Office of Planning

Academic Experience

Our curriculum will expand your understanding of the political, economic, institutional and social contexts that planners face. You'll participate in a community planning studio and an internship, learn to use technology such as geographical information systems (GIS) and have opportunities to explore the changing character and critical problems of modern urban development. Community planning studio projects have included:

- establishing a methodology to identify food deserts in Prince George's County
- developing a revitalized identity for the Westside neighborhood of Baltimore that capitalizes on its creative energy
- creating a design and business plan for the redevelopment of a former industrial site in St. Petersburg, Russia, into a mixed-use community



Research Opportunities

Through our work with the two major research centers based in the school, you'll learn new planning technologies, conduct practical research and meet some of the best mentors in the field. At the [National Center for Smart Growth \(NCSG\)](#), you can focus on transportation, sustainability and economic growth. Or you can turn to the [U.S. Economic Development Administration University Center](#) to get in-depth experience in economic development, entrepreneurship and innovation.

Our students also get hands-on opportunities through the [Partnership for Action Learning in Sustainability \(PALS\)](#) program. Launched by the National Center for Smart Growth, PALS is a university-wide initiative that brings together students, expert faculty and leaders of communities across the state of Maryland to tackle their unique sustainability challenges. Urban studies students are producing a sustainability plan for The City of Frederick and are researching the university's home in the city of College Park.

Many of our faculty members also maintain research positions providing opportunities for our students to work as research assistants and publish scholarly papers on numerous different topics.

Students also enjoy other unique, multidisciplinary experiences:

ULI/Hines Competition: The University of Maryland (UMD) took home the \$50,000 first prize in 2014 and 2015 in the industry's most formidable competition of its kind. Graduate students from at least three disciplines combine talents to tackle a design and development challenge in a major U.S. city, selected by the Urban Land Institute.

St. Petersburg, Russia, studios: A cross-cultural studio with St. Petersburg University pairs UMD planning, architecture and historic preservation students with peers in Russia to design and plot development plans for areas of the city.

Purple Line Corridor Coalition: Spearheaded by the NCSG, the coalition guides the efforts and expertise of community, government and private business leaders active in planning sustainable, vibrant communities along the corridor of the anticipated Purple Line of D.C.'s Metro system.



Student Spotlight

Chelsie Miller M.C.P. '15
Business development manager,
Lutheran World Relief

Miller earned undergraduate degrees in social work and geography, completed two years in the Peace Corps in West Africa, then worked as a social worker before deciding to earn a graduate degree.

“What I really like about the program is that you can specialize any way you want. I took classes in public health and public policy, and I pulled those fields into my urban studies courses.”



Willow Lung-Amam Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Lung-Amam investigates how poverty and immigration trends are reshaping the Washington, D.C., suburbs. Her recent research concentrates on existing and proposed transit-oriented development sites in three Maryland communities. Transit usually increases land values, which can put affordable housing and small businesses at risk.

“I want to understand how vulnerable communities can not only bear the burden, but also share in the benefits that redevelopment and new transit bring. How can we plan for change in a way that makes sense for new and old?”

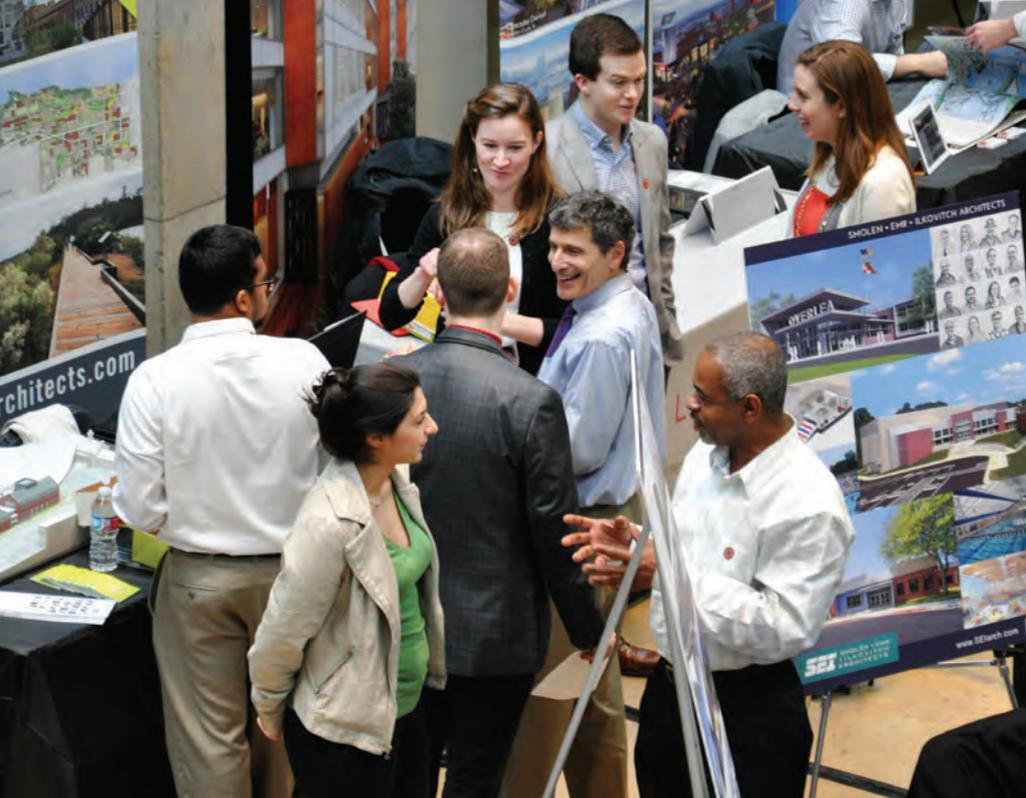


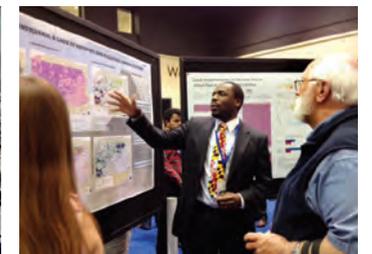
Alumni Spotlight

Ilana Preuss M.C.P. '02

Founder, *Recast City*

“Having this program in the D.C. area means that many of the faculty are experts with on-the-ground skills. When I took a course on transportation planning, we had a transportation planner from the city of Rockville come teach it, and he could give us practical and applied examples.”





Contact Us

MAILING ADDRESS

School of Architecture,
Planning & Preservation
University of Maryland
3835 Campus Drive
College Park, MD 20742

PHONE AND FAX

Phone: 301.405.8000
Fax: 301.314.9583

OFFICE HOURS

The office is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Enter the building using the bridge on Campus Drive (across the street from the entrance to the Parren J. Mitchell Art-Sociology Building) and walk straight ahead to reach the office.

WEBSITE

arch.umd.edu/urban-studies-and-planning

UNIVERSITY OF
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