

Master of Science in Land Use Planning Policy

The Department of Geography offers a graduate program leading to a master of science (M.S.) degree in Land Use Planning Policy aimed at preparing students for planning research or professional practice. The Land Use Planning Policy program curriculum is multi-disciplinary, taking full advantage of a wide-range of planning and planning-related courses offered in Geography and in over 20 other disciplines campus-wide. It offers emphases in three critical sub-fields of land use planning and stresses in all areas a holistic policy approach for addressing the planning challenges of the twenty-first century.

Applications for acceptance into the Land Use Planning Policy program must include (1) a graduate admissions application, (2) application fees, (3) GRE scores (official copy), (4) official college transcript(s), (5) statement of purpose and goals, and (6) three letters of recommendation. Complete applications received by February 1 are guaranteed consideration for the fall semester. *Matriculating students who have not taken an introductory course in statistics must make up this deficiency during the first semester in residence.**

In general, minimum standards for admission include a GRE score of 1,100 and an undergraduate GPA of 3.00 (on a four point scale). Candidates for the M.S. in Land Use Planning Policy must satisfy Graduate School general requirements. Students choose between the thesis (Plan A) and non-thesis (Plan B) degree plans. No student may register for classes beyond 14 credits without filing an approved program of study.

Core Courses –14 Credits

GEOG 700–History and Nature of Geography† (3)

GEOG 707–Introduction to Planning Methods (1)

GEOG 710–History and Nature of Planning† (3)

GEOG 711–Planning Theory (3)

GEOG 759–Introduction to Planning Studio (1)

GEOG 760–Planning Studio (3)

* Credits do not count toward graduation.

† Must be taken during the first semester of residency.

Plan A (Thesis) – 31 Credits

Core Courses–14 Credits

Other Required Courses–7 Credits

GEOG 795–Comprehensive Examination (1)

GEOG 797–Thesis (6)

Elective Courses–10 Credits ‡



University of Nevada, Reno

Plan B (Non-Thesis) – 42 Credits

Core Courses–14 Credits

Other Required Courses–16 Credits

GEOG 655–Planning Ethics (3)

GEOG 756–Planning Law (3)

GEOG 798–Exit Examination (1)

One of the following:

GEOG 652–Urban Geography (3)

GEOG 654–Urban Landscape Analysis (3)

Approved course in methods (3)

Approved course in Economics or

Resource Economics (3)

Emphasis Courses–6 Credits

Environmental Planning

GEOG 666–Environmental

Planning and Policy (3)

Approved course in environmental planning (3)

Growth Management

GEOG 658–Land Use Planning and Policy (3)

One of the following:

GEOG 657–Transportation

Planning and Policy (3)

GEOG 659–Housing Planning and Policy (3)

Historic Preservation

HP 600–Principles of Historic Preservation (3)

One of the following:

HP 601–Laws and Policies (3)

HP 605–Historic Preservation Survey
and Planning (3)

Elective Courses–6 Credits ‡

‡ Subject to advisor approval.