

An aerial photograph of Austin, Texas, showing the city skyline with various skyscrapers and buildings. The Colorado River flows through the center, with several bridges crossing it. In the foreground, there are green trees and a modern building with a curved roof. The sky is clear and blue.

Community and Regional Planning MSCRP Fall 2019

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Graduate Adviser
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Agenda



1. Welcome to CRP!
2. Our curriculum
3. Professional Report/Thesis
4. Internship
5. Dual Degree, Specialization, and Portfolio Programs
6. Events and activities
7. Health and safety
8. Stay in touch!
9. Reminder of key dates

WELCOME TO CRP!



“To train future leaders in planning and related fields”

- ▶ *Theory*: What role should planning play in shaping cities? What do we know about the causes of current problems? About solutions?
- ▶ *Skills*: How do we project population growth? Run a public meeting? Assess neighborhood conditions? Create maps, posters?
- ▶ *Experience*: Addressing real-world situations through Practicums

“To train future leaders in planning and related fields”

Our graduates work at:

- ▶ Federal, state and local agencies
- ▶ Planning consulting firms
- ▶ Private development firms
- ▶ Nonprofit organizations
- ▶ Higher education
- ▶ Governance and public policy

Our research

Social equity:

How do we create communities that meet the sometimes conflicting needs of different segments of the population?

How can we ensure planning doesn't deepen social divides?

What do we need to preserve for our cities to remain livable and socially meaningful places?

Our research

Sustainability and resilience:

How can we make our cities more socially and environmentally resilient in the face of disasters and climate change?

What constitutes infrastructure in socially resilient and environmentally sustainable cities?

How do transportation options relate to other planning goals in cities today?

Our research



Design:

How does design relate to access to and uses of public spaces?

Methods:

How can we use information technologies to learn about planning needs and facilitate responses?

How can we finance and incentivize development consistent with public planning goals?

Our research



Community engagement:

How do we ensure that all stakeholders can and do participate fully in important planning decisions?

How can the planner him or herself become a catalyst of more respectful, impactful, and generative interactions between government and the public and among diverse stakeholders?

OUR CURRICULUM



Course requirements

2-Year Program

48 Credit Hours in Total

Planning History, Theory and Ethics

Foundations of Planning Law

Quantitative Methods

Sustainable Land Use Planning

Qualitative and Participatory Methods

GIS/Visual Communications

Public Economics and Finance

A 6 hour Practicum

Professional Report or Thesis

Typical curriculum: Year 1

FALL - YEAR 1	HOURS	SPRING - YEAR 1	HOURS
Core 1: CRP 380F-1 Planning History, Theory, and Ethics	3	Core 3: CRP 386-9 Sustainable Land Use Planning	3
Core 2: CRP 380F-2 Foundations of Planning Law	3	Method 2: CRP 381M-2 Qualitative and Participatory Methods	3
Method 1: CRP 386-6 Introduction to Viz-Com and GIS	3	Method 3: CRP 381M-1 Quantitative Methods	3
Elective	3	Elective	3
SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS:	12		12

Summer: PR/Thesis research...and internship? Summer courses?

Typical curriculum: Year 2 PR option

FALL - YEAR 2	HOURS	SPRING - YEAR 2	HOURS
Method 4: 380F-3 Public Economics and Finance	3	CRP 398R Professional Report	3
CRP 685D Planning Practicum/Studio**	6	Elective	3
		Elective	3
Elective OR CRP 397- Internship	3	Elective	3
SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS:	12		12

Typical curriculum: Year 2

Thesis option

FALL - YEAR 2	HOURS	SPRING - YEAR 1	HOURS
CRP698A Thesis A	3	CRP 698B Thesis B	3
Method 4: 380F-3 Public Economics and Finance	3	Elective	3
CRP386 Research Design	3	Elective	3
CRP395C: Practicum*	3	CRP 395D: Practicum*	3
SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS:	12		12

Practicums!

In the Practicum, students apply the skills they have learned to address real world planning problems, often in partnership with a client.

The Practicum is 6 credit hours: typically 6 credits in fall semester; occasionally 3 credits each semester for two semesters.

A list of Practicum options will be distributed prior to registration for fall semester. We will also hold an orientation session in the spring.

Studio courses in other SOA programs may count as CRP Practicums. See instructions in the [CRP Student Handbook](#). **You need permission of Graduate Adviser to receive Practicum credits for classes outside CRP.**

Electives! Yes, you have choices!

A partial list:

Intro to urban ecology (Lieberknecht)

Affordable housing planning (Mueller)

Environmental impact assessment (Paterson)

Design for planners (Smith)

Participatory action research (Wilson)

Women's transportation issues (Rosenbloom)

Transportation planning and policy (Sciara)

Social life of public places (Sletto)

<https://soa.utexas.edu/courses/fall-2019>

- You can also take electives in other programs in SOA and in other departments at UT!
- You can take a maximum of two electives (6 credits) on a credit/no credit basis.
- We recommend you do NOT take CRP electives on a credit/no credit basis.

Curriculum flexibility (yes, really!)

▶ COURSE WAIVER

- ▶ Possible with any core course
- ▶ Course instructor's approval (test-out exam may be required)
- ▶ Graduate Adviser's approval
- ▶ SOA Graduate Coordinator recording
- ▶ **DOES NOT** reduce number of hours needed for MSCRP

▶ CHANGE IN SEQUENCE

- ▶ Course instructor's approval
- ▶ Graduate Adviser's approval

▶ INDEPENDENT STUDY COURSES

- ▶ 6 credit hours maximum



PROFESSIONAL REPORT/ THESIS

What's the difference between a Thesis and a PR?

- ▶ A **professional report** involves documenting and analyzing a specific, real-world planning issue or case, drawing on planning concepts and literature you have learned in class.
- ▶ Original data collection is limited and developed together with your first reader.
- ▶ It's a good idea to develop your PR on the basis of an internship experience.
- ▶ Most students choose to do a PR.
- ▶ Most PRs are between 50-70 pages.

What's the difference between a Thesis and a PR?

- ▶ A **thesis** involves in-depth research of a complex, planning-related problem. You need to conduct a literature review of previous research both inside and outside planning, develop a research design, and collect extensive, original data.
- ▶ The data can be quantitative, qualitative or both. You select the research methods appropriate for your study.
- ▶ A thesis is highly recommended for students considering doctoral studies or research-oriented professional work.
- ▶ Theses are typically around 100 pages.
- ▶ You need to attend the Research Design class.

Thesis or PR? Implications for your coursework

- ▶ **PR students** enroll in one, 3 credit-hour PR course (final semester), leaving time for more electives.
- ▶ **Thesis students** enroll in two, 3 credit-hour Thesis courses (Thesis A and B; during the final 2 semesters). They must also take Research Design (Fall, year 2) as one of their electives. They **must plan carefully** when to take a practicum to balance their course load in the second year.
- ▶ **PR/Thesis workshops** will be offered in the Fall and Spring semester of your first year. **All students (whether you choose the PR or Thesis option) must attend these workshops in order to receive full consideration for CRP scholarships.**

PR/Thesis schedule

Students must meet all these requirements to receive full consideration for CRP scholarship funding, including travel funding for the APA conference.

FALL SEMESTER YEAR 1

1. Meet with your assigned Faculty Mentor (August 30, 2pm)
2. Attend PR/Thesis Workshop 1 (Oct. 2, 4-6 or Oct. 4, 2-4; SUT 2.114)
3. Develop your PR/Thesis **idea**
4. Meet with your Mentor and relevant faculty (November)

SPRING SEMESTER YEAR 1

5. Attend PR/Thesis Workshop 2 (February)
6. Submit your PR/Thesis **abstract** (February-March)
7. Matching and meeting with your readers (March)
8. Attend PR/Thesis Workshop 3 (March-April)
9. Submit **preliminary proposal** to your readers (April)
10. Follow-up meetings with readers (April-May)

SUMMER: CONDUCT YOUR RESEARCH

PR/THESIS SCHEDULE

Students must meet all these requirements to receive full consideration for CRP scholarship funding, including travel funding for the APA conference.

FALL SEMESTER YEAR 2

1. Keep meeting with your First and Second Reader (September)
2. Submit your PR/Thesis **final proposal** to be able to register for PR in Spring (October)
3. Submit at least one chapter of your PR/thesis to your First Reader (By last day of class)

(Note: Thesis students attend Research Design in Fall)

SPRING SEMESTER YEAR 2

4. Submit your **complete PR/Thesis draft** to your First and Second Reader (April)
5. Submit your **final PR/Thesis** to the Graduate School (Last day of class).

Clarifying some terms

- ▶ You have already been paired with a **Faculty Mentor** based on your interests as indicated in your application. Meet with your mentor on **Friday, August 30 at 2pm. Email to confirm.** If you or they can't make it, contact them for an appointment!
- ▶ After submitting your PR abstract in the spring, you will be paired with two faculty members who will serve as your **First** and **Second Reader**. The First or Second Reader may, or may not, be your Faculty Mentor...it depends on your research interests.
- ▶ The three of you decide which faculty member will serve as First and who will serve as Second Reader.
- ▶ Think of your First Reader as your “adviser.” S/he works most closely with you as you develop your research.

And don't forget...

You are always welcome to meet with me, Abbey Judd, the Graduate Coordinator, and any faculty members! Come to office hours and/or send us an email!


And sign up for a meeting this week with me, if you want!

INTERNSHIP



Should I do an internship?

- ▶ Internships are not required but can help you define your career goals, and they may even lead to a job!
- ▶ Requires 300 hours of work as an intern, enrollment in a 3 credit Internship course, submission of a report by you, and an online form by your supervisor.
- ▶ Remember, you can develop your PR based on your internship! See the Thesis and PR Guidelines web page.
- ▶ There's also a 1-credit internship option, but that does not provide you with course credits.
- ▶ Our Career Services Center can help you find internship opportunities: <https://soa.utexas.edu/resources/career-services>



DUAL DEGREES,
SPECIALIZATION,
AND
PORTFOLIO PROGRAMS

Dual-degree options

CRP + Urban Design (contact Dean Almy)

CRP + Sustainable Design (contact Matt Fajkus)

CRP + Latin American Studies (contact Bjørn Sletto)

CRP + Public Affairs (contact Michael Oden)

CRP + Law (contact Bjørn Sletto)

- You must apply and be admitted separately to both programs
- Yes, you can apply for admission to the second program after starting your first degree program
- For application materials, see the Graduate Office
- For more information, see <https://soa.utexas.edu/programs/community-and-regional-planning/dual-degree-programs>

CRP/Urban Design

MS in Community and Regional Planning (M.S.C.R.P.)
& MS in Urban Design (M.S.U.D)

Total credit hours: 66

- ▶ CRP: 33; UD: 33
- ▶ Joint Terminal Projects: PR and Urban Design Project
- ▶ Three years

DUAL DEGREE FACULTY ADVISER:

Dean Almy, dja3@utexas.edu

CRP/Sustainable Design



MS in Community and Regional Planning (M.S.C.R.P.) & MS in Sustainable Design (M.S.S.D)

Total credit hours: 66

- ▶ CRP core: 27; SD core: 18; Electives: 15
- ▶ Thesis: 6
- ▶ Three years

DUAL DEGREE FACULTY ADVISER:

Matt Fajkus, matt.fajkus@austin.utexas.edu

CRP/Latin American Studies

MS in Community and Regional Planning & MA in Latin American Studies (M.A.)

Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS)

Total credit hours: 66~69

- ▶ CRP: 30; LLILAS: 30~33
- ▶ PR + Internship or Thesis: 6
- ▶ Three-year program

DUAL DEGREE FACULTY ADVISER (FROM CRP):

Dr. Bjørn Sletto, bjorn@utexas.edu

CRP/LBJ School of Public Affairs

MS in Community and Regional Planning
(M.S.C.R.P. & Master of Public Affairs (M.P.Aff.)
Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs (LBJ)

Total credit hours: 69

- ▶ CRP: 33; LBJ: 33
- ▶ Joint PR: 3
- ▶ Three years

DUAL DEGREE FACULTY COORDINATOR (FROM CRP):
Dr. Michael Oden, oden@austin.utexas.edu

CRP/ School of Law

MS in Community and Regional Planning (M.S.C.R.P)
& Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.)
University of Texas School of Law

Total credit hours: 122

- ▶ CRP: 30; Law: 86
- ▶ Thesis: 6

DUAL DEGREE FACULTY COORDINATOR (FROM LAW):

Professor Eden E. Harrington, eharrington@law.utexas.edu

Specialization in Historic Preservation

- ▶ This specialization provides students with the tools and skills for planning in settings with culturally-significant built environment and landscapes. Students are expected to take specific HP courses, complete the MSCRP Practicum requirement with a Preservation/Planning Studio, and complete the Thesis/PR requirement with a preservation planning project. The program may require a research presentation or evidence of a related, practical experience.
- ▶ Contact Professor Benjamin Ibarra, b.ibarra@utexas.edu.
- ▶ See: <https://soa.utexas.edu/programs/historic-preservation/historic-preservation-program-degrees-offered>

Portfolio Programs

- ▶ Obtain credentials in a cross-disciplinary area of inquiry. The portfolio program will appear on your transcript.
- ▶ Usually consists of four thematically related graduate courses...no additional courses are required.
- ▶ The program may require a research presentation or evidence of a related, practical experience. **Contact each program representative for details.**
- ▶ Most common choices among CRP students:
 - ▶ Dispute resolution
 - ▶ Nonprofit studies
 - ▶ Sustainability
 - ▶ Integrated watershed studies

<https://gradschool.utexas.edu/academics/programs/portfolio-programs>

Re-cap

Take initiative!! Think about your program of study. What do YOU want to get out of the program?

Portfolio options

Internship

PR or Thesis

Dual degree

First semester courses

History/Theory/Ethics

Intro to Vizcomm/GIS

Planning Law

An Elective!

Read the CRP Handbook:

https://soa.utexas.edu/sites/default/disk/MSCRP%20Booklet%20-%20Aug8_2019.pdf

And read the UTSOA Handbook:

<https://utexas.box.com/s/71msyr6hsxc5yz67f3j3h0k3xlt6qgtn>

And don't forget...

You are always welcome to meet with me, Abbey Judd, the Graduate Coordinator, and any faculty members! Come to office hours and/or send us an email!

And sign up for a meeting with me later this week, if you want!

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



Other things going on around SOA...

- ▶ City Forum speaker series—2 times a month on Friday, noon-1:30. Free lunch!
- ▶ SOA Lectures—1-2 times per week. Evenings.
- ▶ Goldsmith talks—more informal, faculty and student led talks.
- ▶ Center for American Architecture and Design lunch talks. Fridays, free lunch with reservation.
- ▶ Competitions! ULI, AICP, HUD, etc., etc.!
- ▶ Join CRPSO! Participate in Planners' Network activities! Join the *Planning Forum* journal team!



HEALTH and SAFETY

Health and Safety Resources

S.U.R.E. Walk

- 7 days a week from 8:30 pm – 2 am
- Fall, spring, and summer semesters
- 512-232-9255 – Program the number into your cell
- <https://www.utsg.org/request-a-sure-walk/>

Health and Safety Resources



Counselors in Academic Residence Program (CARE)

Abby Simpson, LCSW

BTL 114B

(512) 471-3115

https://cmhc.utexas.edu/CARE_simpson.html

cmhc.utexas.edu

Health and Safety Resources

- ▶ Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL)

24-Hour Hotline: Call 512-232-5050

<https://besafe.utexas.edu/behavior-concerns-advice-line>

- ▶ Online reporting

24/7 Crisis Line (UT students only)

512-471- CALL (2255)

<https://cmhc.utexas.edu/24hourcounseling.html>

- ▶ Student Emergency Services

<http://deanofstudents.utexas.edu/emergency/>



STAY IN
TOUCH!

Lists

Athenaeum: students, faculty and alums. Jobs and internship opportunities are often posted on this list.

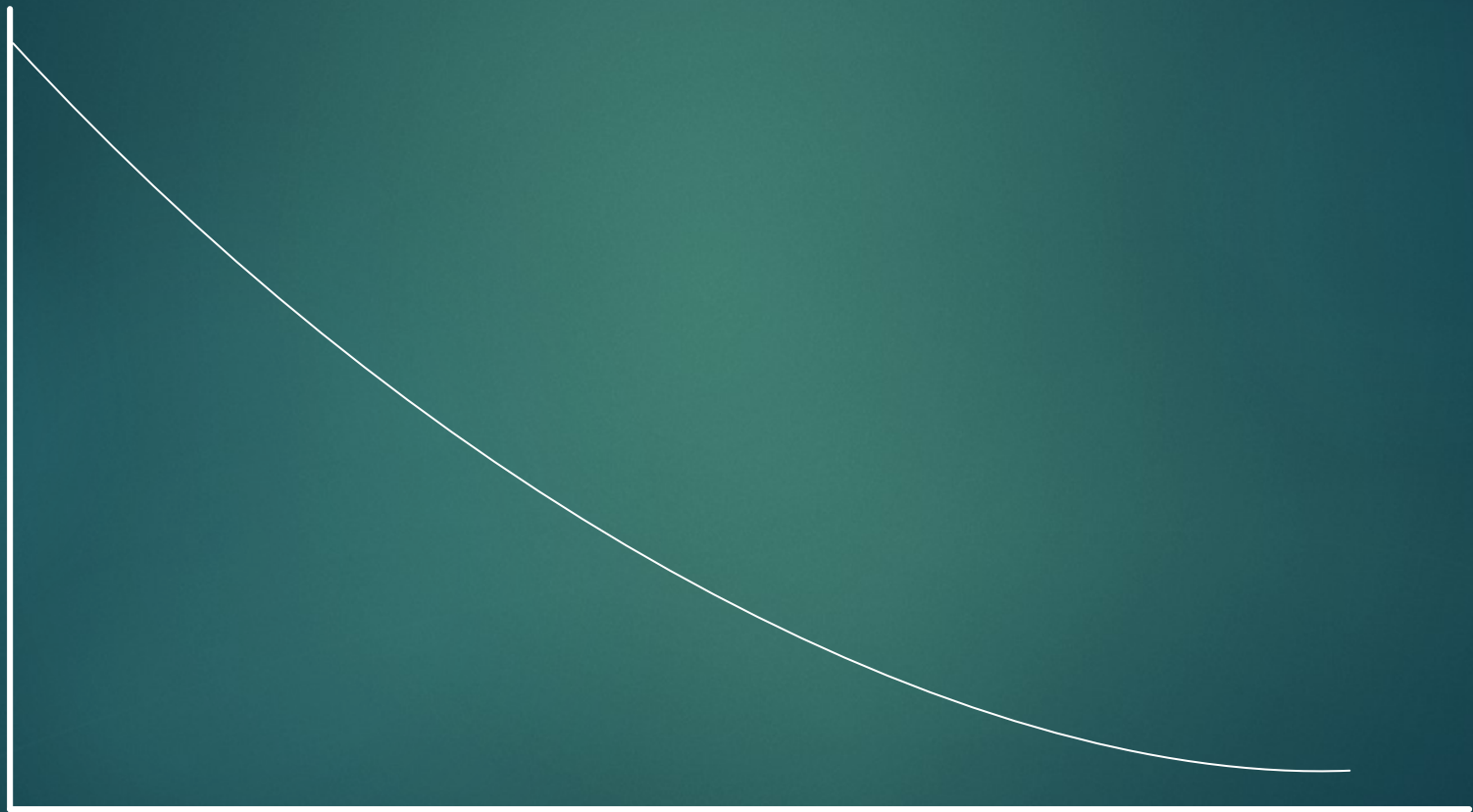
Current student email lists: for official notifications. Read all messages from Graduate Coordinator carefully!

CRP Student-only list: CRP students only. CRPSO organizes this.

LinkedIn: join our UT CRP Alumni Group!

The stress equation

Stress level



Attention to Grad Coordinator's emails

Graduate Adviser



More questions?

Come see me!! Or email me or Abbey with questions!

My office hours:

Monday, 1-3

Tuesday, 10-12

My office:

Sutton Hall, 3.124B

Key contacts

Graduate Coordinator's Office

Sutton Hall 2.130

SOA Graduate Student Handbook

<https://utexas.box.com/s/71msyr6hsxc5yz67f3j3h0k3xlt6qgtn>

Abbey Judd, Graduate Assistant

CRP-advisor@austin.utexas.edu

Dr. Bjørn Sletto, Graduate Adviser

Sutton Hall 3.142B

Graduate Adviser questions: CRP-advisor@austin.utexas.edu

Other questions: bjorn@utexas.edu

MSCRP Handbook:

https://soa.utexas.edu/sites/default/disk/MSCRP%20Booklet%20-%20Aug8_2019.pdf

Dr. Elizabeth Mueller, CRP Program Director

Sutton Hall 4.112

ejmueller@austin.utexas.edu



FINALLY: REMINDER OF KEY DATES

Reminder of key dates

Friday, August 23

IF YOU ATTENDED THIS PRESENTATION: Your bar will be lifted so you can register for classes starting Friday, August 23.

IF YOU DID NOT ATTEND THIS PRESENTATION: Contact Graduate Adviser so your bar can be lifted.

Disorientation party! 702 Texas Avenue, 7:00 PM-?

CHANGED FROM HANDBOOK!

Tuesday, August 27

5:00 pm SOA Graduate Student Orientation

6:00 pm Remarks by the Dean, Associate Deans, and Assistant Dean

6:30 pm Pizza Party + Student Affairs Fair

Friday, August 30, 2pm

Meet with your Faculty Mentor

Friday, August 30, 8pm

Meet up with students interested in Latin America and critical international planning; location TBD