



MAKE A FUTURE

In the Master of Urban and Regional Planning program, I gained foundational understanding of the complex systems, processes, and people that drive our cities. The Humphrey School introduced me to faculty and professionals who helped me discover the areas where I could make a meaningful impact after graduating.

Andrew Owen

Influencing how neighborhoods, cities, and regions develop is the work of urban and regional planners. The Master of Urban and Regional Planning (MURP) degree program brings together experts from planning, sociology, engineering, law, architecture, social work, public health, landscape architecture, urban design, and other disciplines to build cities, tackle urban sprawl, upgrade housing, protect the environment, and promote community and economic development.

The MURP degree program challenges students to think analytically and strategically, and to actively participate in tackling serious urban and regional issues with sustainable and equitable solutions.

Planning careers embrace a range of issues, including land use, housing, transportation, economic development, and environmental protection.

DEGREE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

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Teaches an interdisciplinary approach to problem solving through collaboration with teams that share knowledge and expertise from various fields

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Works with a broad array of tools that offer promising solutions to neighborhood, urban, and regional problems

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Provides access to faculty members who are practitioners with lasting involvement in and connections to planning organizations throughout the country

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Develops skills to successfully plan, shepherd, and implement ideas to shape local and regional communities

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Offers a network of professionals who have a strong desire to make the world better

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Provides hands-on research opportunities throughout the Humphrey School, University of Minnesota, and the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul





For nearly 10 consecutive years, graduates of our MURP degree program have had the highest passage rate on the American Institute of Certified Planners' exam.

POSITIONS HELD BY MURP GRADUATES

Career options span a variety of public service fields, all levels of government, nonprofit organizations and NGOs, and the private sector.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

U.S. Federal Transit Administration, Washington, DC

DIRECTOR

Aviation Services, ICF International, China

PRESIDENT AND CEO

The Improve Group, Mendota Heights

VICE PRESIDENT FOR ENVIRONMENT

JPB Foundation, New York

PLANNER

Boston Planning and Development Agency, Boston

CITY PLANNER

City of St. Paul

VICE PRESIDENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Westwood Renewables, Minneapolis

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Trust for Public Land, Washington, DC

MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNER

NCDOT Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation, Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina

ASSOCIATE PLANNER

City of Anchorage, Alaska

PRESIDENT AND CEO

Project for Pride in Living, Minneapolis

SUPERVISOR OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Metro Transit, Minneapolis

DIRECTOR OF PLANNING

City of St. Paul Department of Planning and Economic Development, St. Paul

DUAL DEGREES WITH MURP

- MURP/JD, Law School
- MURP/MSCE (Civil Engineering), College of Science and Engineering
- MURP/MSW, School of Social Work
- MURP/MPH, School of Public Health

REQUIRED CORE COURSES

- Introduction to Planning
- Law and Urban Land Use
- Stastics for Planning
- Economic and Demographic Data Analysis
- Designing Planning and Participation Processes
- Urban Land Use Planning
- Urban Spatial and Social Dynamics
- Urban and Regional Economics

CONCENTRATIONS

Students select a focus from one of the areas below or self-design a concentration.

- Environmental planning
- Housing and community development
- Land use and urban design
- Transportation planning

CAPSTONE WORKSHOP

The Capstone workshop is designed for students to apply what they have learned to an actual client project. Students work in teams on a professional project to analyze a public policy or management problem for a public, nonprofit, or private sector community client. The Capstone workshop includes research, a written report, and a presentation to the client. The faculty, client, and students contribute to evaluation.

REQUIREMENTS

- 48 semester credits
- 400-hour internship (approximately 10-week) in a professional setting doing work related to your academic training and career interests. Typically, students complete their internships after the first year of the program.

PREREQUISITES

While no specific experience or academic pathway is required, students with a strong liberal education background and sound quantitative and analytical skills will be best prepared for academic success at the Humphrey School of Public Affairs. Previous coursework in mathematics, statistics, and economics is recommended. Past applicants needing to strengthen this part of their skill set have found courses in introductory microeconomics, college algebra, and introductory statistics to be helpful preparation.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

- Resume
- Personal statement
- College transcripts
- GRE scores
- Three letters of recommendation
- TOEFL/IELTS scores (required for most non-native English speakers)

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

HUMPHREY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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