



[MS in Urban Policy and Leadership Program](#)

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MS Urban Policy and Leadership (MSUPL) Curriculum Summary:

Core General Requirements (12 credits):		Credits Required in this area
Introductory course - <u>take one</u> of the following two courses:	URBG 701 Introduction to Organization and Management for the Public Sector	3
	URBG 700 Introduction to Urban Policy Processes	
Applied Research Requirement	URBG 790 Urban Development Workshop	6
Capstone Requirement	URBG 792 Urban Affairs Capstone Seminar	3

Core Methods Requirements (6 credits):		Credits Required in this area
*Take <u>any two</u> of the following courses:	URBG 710 Urban Data Analysis (3 credits)	6
	URBG 713 Introduction to Qualitative Research (3 credits)	
	URBG 706 Introduction to Policy Analysis (3 credits)	
	URBP 702 Introduction to GIS for Urban Policy and Planning PREFERRED OPTION (formerly URBP 787.1Y) ** or GTECH 709 GIS Mapping (3 credits) *In-Person (P) section only	
<p>*For students entering the program with prior graduate work in these areas, please meet with your advisor to discuss alternatives.</p> <p>**Students who completed URBP 787.1Y will need a course substitution approval sent in writing to the registrar's office. Contact the MS UPL program director to request the written approval.</p>		

Core Structure Requirement (3 credits):		Credits Required in this area
Take <u>any one</u> of the following courses:	URBG 702 Structure of the Urban Region	3
	URBG 758 Governing the City	
	URBG 787.18 Political Economy of Cities	
	URBG 734 Environmental Planning	

<i>Sub total core Credits:</i>	21
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Electives continued below.....

Concentration (9 credits): Students are required to <u>take three electives</u> in one of the following four concentrations: Public Policy, Non-Profits, Neighborhood Development or an Individually Designed Concentration. Students should meet with their adviser to discuss.		
The following are <u>examples of courses</u> regularly offered in each concentration that may be used to fulfill this requirement.		Credits Required in this area
Public Policy	URBG 757 Politics of Education (3 credits) URBG 751 Education Planning and Policy (3 credits) URBG 727 Introduction to Housing (3 credits) URBG 704 Comparative International Urban Development & Planning URBG 787.96 Immigration Policy	9
OR		
Non-Profits	URBP 748 Management and Control of Non-Profit Orgs. URBP 749 Strategic Planning for Non-Profit Organizations URBG 787.19 US Non Profit Sector URBP 756 Citizen Participation Planning and Development URBG 787.69 Program Evaluation	9
OR		
Neighborhood Development	URBP 740 Planning for Urban Economic Development URBP 756 Citizen Participation Planning and Development URBP 727 Introduction to Housing URBP 787.98 Community Building and Neighborhoods URBG 787.30 Diversity and the City	9
OR		
Specially Designed Concentration	Many students entering our program have special interests that may not fit our traditional concentrations. You may design your own concentration with permission from your advisor.	9
AND		
Two addition open electives – these can be <u>in any area of interest.</u>		6
Sub total elective credits:		
Concentration		9
Open		6
Core Credits (from prior page)		21
Total for MSUPL		36

Suggestions for Course Sequencing for the **MSUPL**:

For full time students (Full time means 12-15 credits)

The following illustrates the sequence for those **opting to take 15 credits per semester**:

First Semester – 15 credits

- One of the new introductory courses (URBG 700 or URBG 701) – 3 credits
- URBG 790 Urban Development Workshop – 6 credits (never offered in summer sessions)
- One methods course – 3 credits
- Either an open elective, concentration, structure or additional methods course – 3 credits

Second Semester – 15 Credits

- URBG 775 Urban Affairs Capstone- 3 credits (never offered in summer sessions)
- 4 courses (Electives, concentration, structure or methods courses) – 12 credits

Third Semester (normally summer session) – 6 credits

- 2 courses (Electives, concentration, structure or methods courses) – 6 credits

The following illustrates the sequence for **those opting to take 12 credits per semester**:

First Semester – 12 credits

- One of the new introductory courses (URBG 700 or URBG 701) – 3 credits
- URBG 790 Urban Development Workshop – 6 credits (never offered in summer sessions)
- One additional course: methods (strongly advised to take one of the methods courses in your first semester but not required), concentration, elective or structure – 3 credits

Second Semester – 12 Credits

- One methods course – 3 credits
- Three additional courses (Electives, concentration, structure or methods courses) – 9 credits

Summer Semester – 6 credits

- 2 courses (Electives, concentration, structure or methods courses) – 6 credits.*
Note if you do not wish to take summer session courses, simply add these to your fourth semester.

Fourth Semester – 6 credits (or 12 credits if not taking summer session)

- URBG 775 Urban Affairs Capstone - 3 credits (never offered in summer sessions)

- One additional course – 3 credits (or three additional courses – 12 credits) (Electives, concentration, structure or methods courses).

For Part Time students:

The following is the sequence for your required core courses only. The remainder of your courses can be taken at any point.

First semester – 3-9 credits

- Must take one of the new introductory courses (URBG 700 or URBG 701) – 3 credits.

And – one or more of the following:

- One of the methods courses – 3 credits
- URBG 790 Urban Development Workshop – 6 credits (only offered in Fall and Spring)

Second semester – 3-9 credits

- If you did not take this during your first semester, you **must take this in your second semester**- URBG 790 Urban Development Workshop – 6 credits (**only offered in Fall and Spring**)

The sequencing for the remaining courses (second methods course, structure requirement, concentration and electives) is up to you.

Final Semester*

- URBG 792 Urban Affairs Capstone Seminar – 3 credits. This course should be the last one that you take. It is designed as a course in which you will be asked to demonstrate your mastery of the various skills learned throughout your graduate study. You cannot take this course until you have completed the other “Core General Requirements.” Though we will meet as a class, you will work on an individual final research project:

Either a “capstone” project in which you explore a real world problem, issue or organization with the expectation that your final research paper will include a set of real world recommendations based on research, practice and politics to grapple with that issue;

Or, a “thesis” project in which will be asked to develop a set of research questions (i.e. hypotheses) derived from literature and research in your area of interest. The expectation here is that the final thesis paper will include a set of conclusions regarding the validity of the hypotheses being tested (proving or disproving those assumptions).

This class will require weekly regular presentations of work in progress for critique and review in class.

You can of course take this alongside other courses, but you cannot take this until you are at the final stages of your degree. (**The course is only offered in Fall and Spring**).