HOW TO APPLY to the UPSD MAJOR

Review the College of the Environment website for Application Form and Deadlines

As a nationally accredited professional planning program, admission to the urban planning and sustainable development major at Huxley College is a competitive process. The program typically accepts a junior cohort class of about 25 students during spring quarter. Before applying, students are encouraged to complete UPSD foundation courses.

Application Content - submit an application (and a PDF copy) that includes the following:

- A statement of interest (700-1,000 words) that describes your interest in the urban planning major; your familiarity with urban planning and sustainable development problems; and your vision and affinity to work in the planning field.
- A plan of study created with and approved by the Huxley professional advisor.
- A resume summarizing academic, curricular, extra-curricular, and volunteer activities.
- A portfolio of work that demonstrates your skills and affinity with the major. Suggested portfolio materials include any or all of the following, or other materials that represent your vision, skills, and experience: a) examples of your best academic writing; b) an annotated list of no more than three inspirational readings; c) examples of creative expression, drawings, or other illustrative skills; and d) description of volunteer or work activities.

Applications are ranked based on the applicants’ demonstrated interests in solving urban planning problems; commitment to planning’s social and environmental justice goals; aspirations for working in the public interest; relevant skills and experiences; and academic performance. Applicant selection is also based on creating a cohort representing diverse perspectives and lived experiences. To become familiar with the work of urban planning and our program’s curriculum, applicants should review the American Planning Association (https://planning.org) as well as the program’s brochure (https://huxley.wwu.edu/urban-planning-and-sustainable-development-program).

Applications are accepted at the College of the Environment Office, E5 539 for admission to the program. If you have any questions, please contact a professional advisor at the Huxley College Student Support office in E5 539, or by phone 360-650-2817, or 360-650-3748. For further information, questions, or application forms, please visit the College of the Environment website at https://cenv.wwu.edu/.

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Consider a major in Urban Planning and Sustainable Development

Huxley’s Urban Planning and Sustainable Development (UPSD) major emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to solving complex problems that face communities. The program emphasizes a concern for progressive change that is needed in the design of equitable, healthful, livable, diverse and sustainable communities for present and future generations. The curriculum combines urban planning, sustainable design, policy and environmental science to provide students with an understanding of the multidimensional issues in urban development. Our program aspires to serve diverse communities and we encourage students with a breadth of backgrounds and life experiences to apply.

The program prepares students with the knowledge and skills that are necessary to make positive changes towards sustainability in an increasingly complex world. Graduates are prepared for professional careers in planning agencies, consulting firms, and non profit organizations that face communities. The program prepares students with the knowledge and skills necessary to make positive changes towards sustainability in an increasingly complex world.

For more information on the program and next steps to preparing your application, please visit our program website at: https://cenv.wwu.edu/uepp/department-urban-and-environmental-planning-policy.

Urban Planning and Sustainable Development Major (UPSD)

WWU’s College of the Environment | Western Washington University

Vision

The program envisions a society where individuals and groups can fully participate in the planning and development of their communities such that basic needs of safety, shelter, livelihoods and opportunity for self-realization and participation are met for all. Community aspirations are discussed freely and form the foundation of planning for a more sustainable future, with special consideration for those who are most marginalized and for the ecological systems that sustain and inspire us.

Mission

The mission of the Urban Planning and Sustainable Development Program is to cultivate students to become future planning leaders who are ethical, knowledgeable, and technically capable to assist communities as they plan more sustainable futures. The Urban Planning program’s mission affirms and works within the broader mission of the College of the Environment to integrate an outstanding urban planning educational program through faculty-student collaboration, applied research, and professional and community service.

Many of our graduates go on to professional careers in urban planning, while others continue their graduate studies in urban planning, law, natural resource management, architecture, and public policy fields. Our curriculum is designed to help students make the intellectual connections and gain the practical skills necessary for building socially and environmentally sustainable community futures. Through the integration of urban planning with the natural and social sciences, and allied fields, the Urban Planning program endeavors to educate problem solvers who are able to meet the environmental challenges of our times.

WWU’s Urban Planning program’s mission emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach to solving complex problems that face communities from the local to the global level. The curriculum provides students with a solid core understanding of the linkages between urban and natural systems and the multi-dimensional problems faced in urban development. The program prepares students with the knowledge and skills necessary to make positive changes towards sustainability in an increasingly complex world.

Recommended Class Sequence

Academic Year 2022-2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>WINTER</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 170 Sust Futures</td>
<td>UEPP 261 American Cities</td>
<td>UEPP 343 Urban Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 263 Climate Policy</td>
<td>UEPP 355 Env Law</td>
<td>UEPP 356 Env Law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 270 Cities, Nature</td>
<td>UEPP 356 Housing</td>
<td>UEPP 370 Plan History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 355 Env Law</td>
<td>UEPP 373 Transp Planning</td>
<td>UEPP 375 Indigenous Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 360 Plan Graphics</td>
<td>UEPP 375 Indigenous Place</td>
<td>Electives / Specializations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives / Specializations</td>
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<td>ENVS 371 Hazards PI</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

In addition to (in any quarter available): Electives / Specializations

Spring:

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<tr>
<th>FALL</th>
<th>WINTER</th>
<th>SPRING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 355 Env Law</td>
<td>UEPP 429 Design Principles</td>
<td>UEPP 439 Design Applic</td>
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<tr>
<td>UEPP 363 Native Am Plan</td>
<td>UEPP 431 Natl Res Policy</td>
<td>UEPP 443 Soc Justice City</td>
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<tr>
<td>UEPP 470 Plan Methods I</td>
<td>UEPP 457 Dispute Res</td>
<td>UEPP 457 Dispute Res</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 475 Comm Develop</td>
<td>UEPP 461 Land Use Law</td>
<td>UEPP 461 Land Use Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>UEPP 493 EIA</td>
<td>UEPP 473 Plan Studio III</td>
<td>UEPP 473 Plan Studio III</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives / Specializations</td>
<td>UEPP 464 Topics in Plan</td>
<td>Electives / Specializations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UEPP 437/498a,b,c,d</td>
<td>UEPP 474 Pl Sust Com</td>
<td>UEPP 493 EIA</td>
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In addition to (in any quarter available): Electives / Specializations

Elective Specializations: Select minimum 10 credits from the following categories. Substitute courses require Faculty Advisor approval. (Note: Verify course availability, scheduling, and prerequisites in the WWU Course Catalog and in WWU class finder)

- [A] Urban Design
- [B] Hazards Planning
- [C] Tribal and Indigenous Planning
- [D] Climate Action
- [E] Food Security
- [F] Business and Sustainability
- [G] Students/Faculty Designed Elective Specialization
- [H] An approved Minor

Students:

Note: Verify course availability, scheduling, and prerequisites in the WWU Course Catalog and in WWU class finder.