

# RUTGERS

Edward J. Bloustein School  
of Planning and Public Policy



## Graduate Program in Urban Planning & Policy Development



[bloustein.rutgers.edu](http://bloustein.rutgers.edu)



*A Rutgers University team, led by Bloustein School students Chelsea Moore-Ritchie (MCRP), Christine Winter (MCRP), Jane Allen (MCRP-MPP), Sharone Small (MCRP), and Kimberly Tryba (Landscape Architecture), and Bloustein School Professor Tony Nelessen, won the 2017 HUD Innovation in Affordable Housing Competition. The students were challenged with redesigning an existing public housing development in Cleveland, Ohio, to connect residents with each other and their neighborhood*

The mission of the Urban Planning and Policy Development program is to advance planning—defined as the application of foresight to action—through education, research, and public service. It provides students with the conceptual foundation and technical skills to engage collaboratively with affected individuals and groups, using planning to increase opportunity and reduce social inequality. The program is committed to giving students an innovative, distinctive, and comprehensive planning education at the highest standard of scholarly excellence, and instilling a passion for public service. The program is policy-oriented with six concentrations: transportation policy and planning; development/redevelopment; environmental, human health and land use planning; community development and housing; international development; and urban informatics.

## THE BLOUSTEIN SCHOOL

The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey seeks to improve our increasingly urbanized and interconnected world by exploring planning approaches and public policy solutions that are healthier, greener, fairer, and generate greater prosperity than do current practices. It pursues equitable and efficient solutions to public problems at multiple levels from the global to the local and emphasizes the professional perspectives of urban planning, public policy, public informatics, and public health. Within each of these domains, the school advances its aspiration to be a global leader in teaching, research, and service by engaging society's challenges with focused programs that align current strengths with emerging needs.

The Program in Urban Planning and Policy Development at the Bloustein School is ranked among the top five planning programs in the country. Faculty in the program are nationally and internationally renowned scholars who are actively involved in shaping the fields of transportation, development/redevelopment, environment, community development and housing, international planning, health policy, workforce development and social policy. The faculty's cutting edge research and policy work are augmented by the numerous research centers within the school, providing a rich, vibrant learning environment.



# THE PROGRAM IN URBAN PLANNING

Founded in 1967, the Urban Planning and Policy Development (UPPD) Program educates innovative people who wish to combine social concerns with analytic skills. While planners work on a wide range of problems, they also are likely to focus on a particular issue or specialization in building individual careers, concentrating their professional expertise. For this reason the trained planner is often called “a generalist with a specialty.” That phrase is more than just a cliché. It suggests that a useful curriculum will contain a productive application of faculty disciplines and other program resources. It defines the approach to graduate study in urban planning and policy development at Rutgers University.

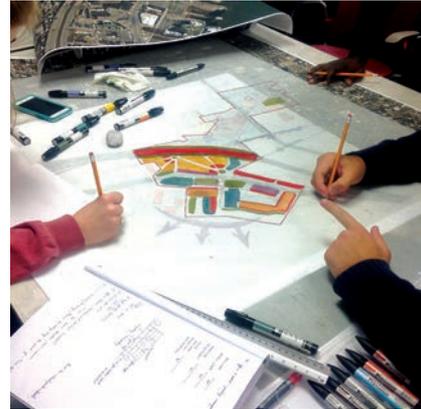
Planning is future-oriented and comprehensive. It seeks to link knowledge and action in ways that improve the quality of public and private development decisions affecting people and places. Because of its future orientation, planning embraces visionary and utopian thinking, yet also recognizes that the implementation of plans requires the reconciliation of future states to present realities. To become effective and ethical practitioners, students must develop a comprehensive understanding of cities and regions, and of the theory and practice of planning. They must also be able to use a variety of analytic methods in their practice. They must become sensitive to the ways in which planning affects individual and community values, and must be aware of their own roles in this process.

## MASTER OF CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING (MCRP)

The Master of City and Regional Planning (MCRP) degree is recognized as the most common professional degree in the field. This program prepares students for practice in planning as well as policy and program development through a curriculum designed to develop an understanding of the linkages between the social, economic, and political factors of urban society and the physical and environmental framework of regions and communities.

The program requires two years of full-time coursework, a total of 48 credits over four semesters. Some employed students complete the program with part-time study. Reflecting the school's philosophy of providing an interdisciplinary and custom approach for each student, 24 elective credits are included in the 48-credit total. Students must maintain an overall grade-point average of 3.0 in order to graduate.

Students also participate in two, 3-credit Graduate Planning Studios, providing students with practical experience in a specific area of planning while working as a team member with a client on a real planning problem.



### MCRP Required Course of Study (48 credits)

- History and Theory of Planning (3 credits)
- Urban Economy and Spatial Patterns (3 credits)
- Graduate Planning Studios (6 credits)
- Basic Quantitative Methods (3 credits)
- Planning Methods (3 credits)
- An additional methods course (3 credits), chosen from an extensive list of qualitative and quantitative courses approved by the program director
- Survey of Planning Law Principles (3 credits)
- 24 credits of elective courses, which includes 4-5 courses in an area of concentration (12-15 credits)

# ANNING AND POLICY DEVELO

## MCRS Required Course of Study (30 credits)

- History and Theory of Planning (3 credits)
- Urban Economy and Spatial Patterns (3 credits)
- Basic Quantitative Methods (3 credits)
- Planning Methods (3 credits)
- Electives (18 credits)

## MASTER OF CITY AND REGIONAL STUDIES (MCRS)

The Master of City and Regional Studies (MCRS) is a 30-credit degree offered only in specialized circumstances. Applicants must hold an advanced degree and are seeking auxiliary knowledge in planning, or be international practicing planners.

Requirements and standards for admission are otherwise comparable to the two-year MCRP degree. The 30 credits required for this degree include the core required courses in theory and urban economy and spatial patterns as well as two semesters of methods, including Basic Quantitative Methods. Studio courses are not required; international students are waived out of the planning law course requirement. All MCRS candidates are required to pass an extensive comprehensive oral examination. Students must maintain an overall grade-point average of 3.0 in order to graduate.

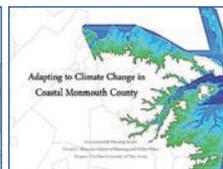
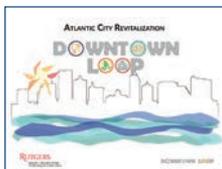
## KOREA DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

In January 2001, the UPPD program entered into a partnership to accept students from the School of Public Policy and Management of the Korea Development Institute (KDI) into the MCRS program. The purpose of the program is to offer selected students at KDI the chance to study policy, public affairs, and city and regional planning and development while obtaining a master's degree and concentrate in a field of interest.

Scholars apply to the program on an annual basis and are selected based upon standard admission criteria. Scholars are admitted to the spring term semester and continue for one calendar year, taking courses in the summer and fall terms as well. Approximately 8-14 students arrive each spring to spend a year at the Bloustein School and immerse themselves in the MCRS degree program.

## GRADUATE PLANNING STUDIOS

The Graduate Planning Studio requirement connects MCRP students at the forefront of their careers in planning to communities throughout the state of New Jersey and beyond. Under the direction of faculty and research staff, graduate students analyze a real-world issue for a real client and develop real solutions. Students use a range of analytic and/or research techniques to gain practical experience in a specialized topic of planning during a semester-long studio. They consider socioeconomic, demographic, environmental, and political conditions as well as stakeholder engagement as they research and assess projects, and are encouraged to pursue "best practices" in planning in order to develop solutions that are equitable and efficient for their communities and clients.



Additional information about our programs can be found on the Bloustein School website at [bloustein.rutgers.edu/graduate/uppd/](http://bloustein.rutgers.edu/graduate/uppd/)

# P M E N T

## CONCENTRATIONS

Six issue-oriented concentrations, or specialties, go beyond the broad foundation of the core requirements to explore more deeply the scope of specific planning issues. They allow more detailed examination of the dimensions, questions, conflicts, and impacts addressed by the professional as well as by the researcher and encourage recognition of common elements that resonate between and among various problems, policies, and programs.

The concentrations cover areas of substantial strength within the program and school. Students may also design a custom concentration with their adviser's support. All required and most recommended courses for these concentrations are offered through the program and other units of the Bloustein School.

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

This concentration provides broad exposure to the political, economic, and social processes of community development and housing. This concentration meets the needs of students with a range of interests, including redevelopment, community revitalization, urban poverty, community economic development, health, housing, housing markets, and housing and community development finance.

### DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT/REDEVELOPMENT

This concentration naturally divides into two tracks. The Urban Design track focuses on the visioning, planning and design of neighborhoods and developments. The Development/Redevelopment track emphasizes a broad understanding of real estate development and redevelopment, including land, building, market and financial analysis, particularly in the United States.

### ENVIRONMENTAL, HUMAN HEALTH AND LAND USE PLANNING

This concentration prepares students to plan and manage the human-environment interface. The Environmental and Human Health Planning track focuses on the application of management and policy tools to reduce anthropogenic environmental impacts, mitigate natural hazards, and improve human health outcomes. The Land Use Planning track emphasizes land use planning, master planning, and zoning regulation at the scale of towns and cities.

### INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This concentration prepares students to effectively frame and engage with the dynamic challenges of designing and implementing plans and public policies in international settings, with particular focus on urbanization and human settlement systems.

### TRANSPORTATION POLICY AND PLANNING

The concentration provides a broad survey of the field as well as a critical evaluation of current and alternative policies and practical application of planning methods. Urban transport systems are examined in the context of environmental, energy, safety, equity, financial, and health impacts.

### URBAN INFORMATICS

Evidence-based decision making in urban planning requires the use of advanced computational tools and data management techniques that can evaluate the data generated in public settings. This concentration provides the vehicle for educating this new cross-trained professional cohort by providing competencies needed in urban informatics: context, statistics, programming, data management, data analytics, visualization, spatial analysis, applications and integration of skills.

## DUAL AND JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS

Allied with the Program in Urban Planning and Policy Development is the school-wide PhD program, which focuses on the preparation of planning-focused scholars who will teach and conduct research. In addition, the following dual degrees are also offered:

- MCRP/Juris Doctor (JD) — with Rutgers School of Law in Camden and Newark
- MCRP/Master of Business Administration (MBA) — with Rutgers Business School
- MCRP/Master of Infrastructure Planning (MIP) — with New Jersey Institute of Technology
- MCRP/Master of Public Informatics (MPI)
- MCRP/Master of Public Policy (MPP)
- MCRP/Master of Science (MS) in food and business economics
- BA or BS/MCRP



## FACULTY

Faculty in the Urban Planning and Policy Development Program teach; publish in scholarly journals; serve as advisers and consultants to local, state, and federal governments, professional corporations and not-for-profits; and are engaged in cutting-edge research that addresses many of today's most challenging issues.

**Hooshang Amirahmadi, Professor**

— national economic development policies and planning; globalization and international relations; foreign investment and trade; regional economic development; and industrial and technology policy.

**Clinton J. Andrews, Professor and Associate Dean for Research; Director, Rutgers Center for Green Building**

— the use of technical knowledge in environmental decision making; environmental management; energy policy; and social science aspects of industrial ecology.

**Juan Ayala, Assistant Professor of Practice**

— urban design; community participation and visioning; expansion of the semipublic realm; 3-D visualization and image sequencing; critical thinking, decision making and design; and parametric design development in planning.

**Alan Cander, Assistant Teaching Professor**

— urban redevelopment; how public and private entities in declining cities collaborate to revalorize contested urban space; and factors affecting the political economy of land assembly.

**James DeFilippis, Professor**

— urban political economy and political philosophy; community development theory and practice; unregulated work and the informal economy; and immigration.

**Barbara Faga, Professor of Practice in Urban Design**

— participatory planning, landscape architecture, and urban design.

**Frank A. Felder, Research Professor; Director, Center for Energy, Economic and Environmental Policy and Director, Rutgers Energy Institute; Director of the Public Informatics Program**

— energy policy; restructured electric power systems.

**Michael Greenberg, Distinguished Professor; Director, Environmental Analysis and Communications Group**

— risk analysis; environmental health; nuclear waste management; and senior citizen environmental risks.

**Radha Jagannathan, Professor**

— school-to-work transition; social capital and community development; culture and human capital development; international comparative studies on youth; poverty, public welfare, and child welfare; and evaluation of social programs.

**Michael L. Lahr, Research Professor, Director, Rutgers Economic Advisory Service (R/ECON)**

— economic development; interindustry economics; urban and regional economics and geography; public finance; and labor markets.

**Robert W. Lake, Professor**

— community-based planning; planning and social theory; locational conflict and social movements; environmental politics; and urban and political geography.

**David Listokin, Distinguished Professor and Director, Center for Urban Policy Research**

— housing and land development; development impact assessment; and historic preservation.

**Dawne Mouzon, Associate Professor**

— physical and mental health disparities, including the sub-disciplines of race, gender, and sociology of the family.

**Anton E. Nelessen, Professor**

— design sustainability; community participatory visioning and planning; and the use of in-field research and media for planning.

**Kathe Newman, Associate Professor; Director, Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement; Director, Urban Planning and Policy Development Program**

— urban change, revitalization, and community development; community food planning; housing policy and finance; and economic development.

**Robert B. Noland, Distinguished Professor; Director, Ph.D. Program; Director, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center**

— the impacts of transport planning and policy on environmental outcomes; microsimulation of pedestrian-vehicle interactions; non-motorized transportation; and safety analysis.

**Frank J. Popper, Professor**

— land use, regional, and natural resource planning; environmental history; the Great Plains, American West, and American South; and planning for population decline.

**Kelcie Ralph, Assistant Professor**

— travel behaviors of special populations and causes and consequences of the decline in driving among young adults.

**Hal Salzman, Professor; Senior Faculty Fellow, John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development**

— workforce development and labor markets; science and engineering workforce and policy; socio-economic analysis of Arctic communities and employment; effects of technological change; low-wage workers, internal labor markets, and corporate restructuring.

**Eric Seymour, Assistant Professor**

— community development; housing, informatics; statistical research methods, GIS.

**Mi Shih, Assistant Professor**

— international urbanization; land development and property rights; city redevelopment; social protests and citizenship in China.

**Michael Smart, Associate Professor**

— transportation; immigrant neighborhoods; LGBT neighborhoods; urban modeling; and GIS.

**Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuriah, Dean; Distinguished Professor**

— smart, socially-just and sustainable transportation; automation; artificial intelligence; using big data to understand complex urban problems.

**Lyna Wiggins, Associate Professor**

—geographic information science; urban applications of GIS; and planning methods.

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT

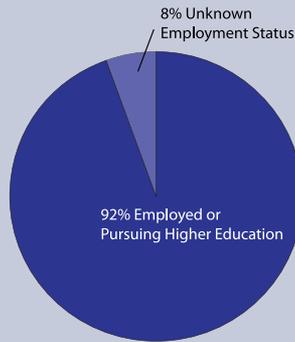
The Office of Student and Academic Services provides career development support to graduate students and alumni of the Bloustein School.

Our staff is committed to helping students and alumni through career advisement services such as:

- Job and internship search
- Employer engagement
- Resume and cover letter review



## OUR GRADUATES AT A GLANCE:



Percentage of 2016 MCRP students employed or pursuing further education six months post-graduation. **92%**  
\*most recent data available

**\$62,500**  
 Average salary for our class of 2016.

**\$24,166**  
 Average *additional* salary after obtaining a master's degree.

### Top Employers of our MCRP Graduates and Interns

Our students and alumni have found meaningful internships and work in the public, non-profit, and private sectors, and have dedicated themselves to enacting effective changes at the federal, state and local levels.

- AECOM
- Alta Planning and Design
- Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey
- NJ Transit
- New Jersey Community Capital
- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- New Jersey Department of Transportation
- The Port Authority of NY & NJ
- WSP-Parsons Brinckerhoff

## RESEARCH CENTERS AND INSTITUTES

Students in the Program in Urban Planning and Policy Development are encouraged to work on real-world projects by becoming involved with many of the school's centers and institutes. The centers and institutes maximize the school's ability to perform in-depth research; extend its activities beyond the classroom through public service and outreach; and provide students with the opportunity to develop professional skills and experience.

- Bloustein Center for Survey Research
- Bloustein Local Government Research Center
- Center for Energy, Economic, and Environmental Policy
- Center for Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
- Center for Urban Policy Research
- Environmental Analysis and Communications Group
- National Center for Neighborhood and Brownfields Redevelopment
- Planning Healthy Communities Initiative
- Sustainable Raritan River Initiative
- New Jersey Climate Adaptation Alliance
- HIV Prevention Community Planning Support and Development Initiative

- John J. Heldrich Center for Workforce Development
- New Start Career Network
- New Jersey Education and Workforce Longitudinal Data System
- Rutgers Center for Green Building
- Rutgers Economic Advisory Service
- Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center
- National Transit Institute
- New Jersey Travel Independence Program
- New Jersey Bicycle & Pedestrian Resource Center
- New Jersey Safe Routes to School
- Ralph W. Voorhees Center for Civic Engagement



**Betsy Wallace, MCRP '98**  
**Senior Relationship Manager, NeighborWorks America**

"Before coming to the Bloustein School, I had only lived in the South. Studying in the Northeast gave me a whole new perspective. With its proximity to cities like New York and Philadelphia, the Bloustein School provided an outstanding planning education in a uniquely urban setting. My fellow planning students were diverse and offered a rich mix of experience and perspectives as well. The faculty were outstanding – balancing planning theory and concepts with their own experiences as practitioners. The studio courses brought classroom concepts into the real world— one studio course in which student teams made recommendations for a business improvement district in Jersey City gave us hands-on planning experience. It taught me about the many stakeholders in a community and how they could work together for the neighborhood to be a better place to live, work, and play. I still use the lessons from that studio in my work today."



**Christopher Riale, AICP, MCRP '05**  
**Associate, City Design Practice Manager,**  
**Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM)**

"I am an Associate with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM) and lead their City Design Practice for the New York City office. I serve as project manager for urban design and planning projects throughout the region, including development master plans, transit-oriented development (TOD) plans, station area plans, adaptive reuse plans, and major transportation infrastructure projects. Central to my role is business development, marketing, and strategic planning for the City Design Practice in the New York metropolitan area. The Bloustein School allowed me to refine my interests in urban design and transportation planning, and provided important practical and academic knowledge needed to thrive in private consulting. This has enabled me to work on and influence high-profile and meaningful projects that will have a major impact on cities and regions across the country. The Bloustein School provides a robust planning curriculum that prepares students for life as a professional, while also making sure to provide the academic foundation necessary to succeed in a highly intellectual and competitive field."



**Ai Yamanaka, MCRP '16**  
**Senior Policy Analyst,**  
**Port Authority of New York & New Jersey**

"I work with the Port Authority's Aviation Department in the Business Planning and Policy group, assisting with the department's performance metrics and moving forward its business analytics. The Port Authority airport system, which includes John F. Kennedy International, LaGuardia, and Newark Liberty International Airports, carries over 130 million passengers annually and contributes \$85 billion to the regional economy. I am both humbled and excited to be a part of an agency that has such wide-ranging impacts in the region and throughout the world. The Bloustein School provided me the technical foundation for the day-to-day skills I use in this position through statistical courses such as *Discrete Choice*, design courses such as *Graphical Communications*, and policy courses such as *Cost-Benefit Analysis*. Just as importantly, Bloustein provided me with an extensive professional network with alumni in nearly every local public sector transportation agency as well as numerous private sector connections."

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