

Urban and Regional Planning Program

Henson School of Science and Technology

TRACKS

- Land Use Planning
- Environmental Planning

Why Specialize in Urban and Regional Planning (URPL)?

Planners use their expertise to find creative ways to resolve urban and regional problems, establish sustainable communities, and improve the quality of life. They help communities develop their visions of the future and formulate plans that respond to community needs and aspirations, conserve natural resources, improve public services and facilities, and manage urban development. Planners are specialized in land use, environmental planning, economic development, transportation planning or community development. Obtaining a planning degree enables you to be involved in public and private activities that shape the future of our communities and states.

About the Program

The program prepares students to compete for professional planning jobs in the private and public sectors, and to pursue graduate education. The interdisciplinary orientation of the URPL Program provides students with an in-depth understanding of complex urban and regional issues, as well as knowledge of related fields. The core coursework provides students with a solid foundation in planning principles, models and techniques that professional planners use to serve their communities and create sustainable development. Students then follow one of the two planning tracks and complete the additional requirements.

Land Use Planning Track: Focuses on applied planning tools and innovative approaches to use the land efficiently, manage future growth and create livable communities.



Environmental Planning Track:

Integrates conservation and resource management with physical processes in the environment to promote sustainable development.

It is recommended that majors in the URPL Program also obtain a minor in one of the following disciplines: conflict analysis and dispute resolution, environmental studies, economics, GIS, political science, or sociology.

Planning Research, Internships and Clubs

Students work with faculty on planning research projects to address urban and environmental challenges. They are involved in community projects to resolve real urban problems. Also, many students participate in planning internships to gain professional experiences in the field.

Students participate in the Smart Growth Club activities that seek to raise community awareness of environmental problems and to promote Smart Growth policies.

Career Opportunities

Our alumni are employed in federal, state and local governments, and work with private and nonprofit organizations. A significant portion of our alumni have attended graduate schools. Planners with bachelor's degrees can qualify for positions of junior planners.

Some examples of recent employers:

- Carroll County Department of Planning
- Cecil County Planning and Zoning Division
- Department of Industry and Employment Projections (DIEP), Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Harford County Department of Planning and Zoning
- National Association of Conservation Districts
- Plano Coudon Construction
- Somerset County Planning and Zoning Department
- Sussex County Planning and Zoning Office, DE
- Talbot County Planning and Zoning Department
- Town of Ocean City Planning and Community Development
- Town of Easton, Planning and Zoning Department
- Wicomico County Department of Planning, Zoning and Community Development



“By far the greatest and most admirable form of wisdom is that needed to plan and beautify cities and human communities.”

– Socrates

CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the Urban and Regional Planning Program, please contact: Dr. Amal K. Ali:
410-543-6457
akali@salisbury.edu
www.salisbury.edu/urpl_major

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