The MEPD Program 3
MLA Curriculum 4
Sample Program of Study 4
Specializations 5
Admissions 7
Financial Aid & Study Abroad 8
Differential Tuition 9
Contact 10
The Master of Environmental Planning and Design (MEPD) program in the College of Environment and Design at the University of Georgia is a professional graduate program with an emphasis on a studio based integrative planning process grounded in environmental and ecological principles. The purpose is to improve the lives of people and eco-system health in regions and urban centers, incorporating cultural, historic and design elements, while engaging community process to identify and plan for long range city and regional future goals.

A degree in the MEPD program prepares students for professional careers working in public planning agencies, private firms with city and regional planning departments as a professional planner or in non-profit agencies. The program also offers preparation for future doctoral work in city and regional planning. We welcome students from a wide variety of undergraduate degree programs who are interested in working with local communities, civic leaders, public agencies and design teams to engage in a democratic planning process.

Situated in the College of Environment and Design, which houses well established and highly rated graduate programs in landscape architecture and historic preservation, the MEPD program offers wide ranging opportunities for collaborative efforts and program concentrations. In addition, students can take course work throughout the University of Georgia in fields such as geography, real estate, anthropology, sociology and ecology to widen their knowledge base and operate within an interdisciplinary framework.

City and regional planners need a broad understanding in areas such as ecology, historic resources, sociology, anthropology, economics and design, as well as a skill set including information gathering, data analysis and plan making.

Related Web Sites:

http://www.ced.uga.edu/mepd
The MEPD program is a two-year graduate program. The first year is focused on acquiring basic knowledge and understanding of the history, theory and practice of planning, ecology, GIS, research skills and community engagement. The studio sequence in the first year provides a workshop setting where students apply the information they are learning to a community-based project.

In the second year, the students are involved in a third neighborhood-based planning studio, as well as in shaping their master thesis or final internship practicum. They can focus their concentration on the existing ecological or cultural resource planning offers, or work with their advisor to shape a program tailored to their individual interests and career goals.

Requirements for the MEPD degree include satisfactory completion of all coursework, and an approved master thesis or practicum with an applied research paper. The 58 hours of the program are divided into core curriculum (37 hours), thesis or practicum (9 hours), and coursework in an area of emphasis chosen by the student (12 hours).

### Sample Program of Study

| Year 1 | Fall | » PLAN 6520: Environmental Planning Studio 1  
» LAND 6210: Representation  
» LAND 6910: GIS and LAB  
» LAND 6310: Landscape Ecology  
» EDES 6650: City Planning |
| Spring | » PLAN 6540: Environmental Planning Studio 2  
» LAND 6900: Research Strategies  
» EDES 6640: History & Theory of American Urban Planning  
» HIPR 6200: Preservation Law  
» EDES 6540: Ideas of Community |
| Year 2 | Fall | » PLAN 6560: Environmental Planning Studio 3  
» PLAN 6124: Ethics, Justice and Professional Practice  
» Specialization Elective 1 (see pgs. 5-6)  
» Specialization Elective 2 (see pgs. 5-6)  
» Specialization Elective 3 (see pags. 5-6) |
| Spring | » PLAN 7300: Thesis or PLAN: Practicum  
» Specialization Elective 4 (see pgs. 5-6) |

Prerequisite: Intro to Statistics — prior to enrolling or during the first year
### Environmental Planning & Design

- Field Studies in Env. Planning & Design (PLAN 6810)
- Special Studies (PLAN 6910)
- Internship PLAN 6700 (in Environmental Studies)
- Intro to Historic Preservation (HIPR 4000/6000)
- Preservation Planning Studio (HIPR 6950)
- Contemporary Preservation Perspectives/Study Travel Trip (HIPR 6800)
- Design in Historic Preservation (HIPR 6660)
- Community Charrette (HIPR 4680/6680)
- Environmental Design Theory (LAND 6090)
- Environment and Behavior (LAND 6660)
- Evolution of American Architecture (LAND 6620)
- History & Theory of 20th Cen. Architecture (EDES 6630)
- History of the Built Environment (LAND 6550/6560)
- Evolution of the American Landscape (EDES 6510)
- Land Development Studio (LAND 6150)
- Landscapes (LAND 6010)
- Community and Place (LAND 6040)
- Field Study in Contemporary Landscape Architecture (LAND 4800/6800)
- Design and Meaning (LAND 7050)
- Environmental Planning Studio 1 (PLAN 7453) (New)
- Sociopolitical Ecology (SOCI 6450)
- Principles of Conservation Ecology & Sustainable Development I (ECOL 6080)
- Principles of Conservation Ecology & Sustainable Development II (ECOL 6140)
- Nature and Sustainability (LAND 6030)
- Ecological Biogeography (GEOG/BTNY 4220/6220)
- Sustainable Building Design (LAND 4660/6660)

### Design and Health

- Gardens as Nurturing Environments (LAND 6080)
- Water Pollution and Human Health (EHSC 6610)
- Ecology and Evolution of Human Disease (ANTH 6590)
- Planning and Design Issues in Health (PLAN 6890)
- Environmental Health quality (EHSC 6080)
- Environment and Health (ANTH 6540)

### Community Development and Cultural Resource Planning

- Field Studies in Env. Planning & Design (PLAN 6810)
- Special Studies (PLAN 6910)
- Cultural Resources (HIPR 6100)
- Evolution of the American Landscape (EDES 6510)
- Internship PLAN 6700 (in Community Development)
- Housing Policy (HACE 6310)
- Gender and Geography (GEOG 4680/6680)
- Introduction to Historic Preservation (HIPR 4000/6000)
- Preservation Perspectives (HIPR 6025)
- Rural Preservation (HIPR 6460)
- Preservation Planning Studio (HIPR 6950)
- Design in Historic Preservation (HIPR 6660)
- Contemporary Preservation Perspectives/Study Travel Trip (HIPR 6800)
- Design Guidelines (HIPR 6600)
- Community Charrette (HIPR 4680/6680)
- Evolution of American Architecture (LAND 6620)
- History & Theory of 20th Cen. Architecture (EDES 6630)
- Theory & Management of Nonprofit Orgs (MNPO 7123)
- Managing Volunteers in Public & Nonprofit sectors (PADP 7900)
- Social Change (SOCI 6090)
- Sociology of Development (SOCI 6160)
- Sociology of Race and Ethnicity (SOCI 6370)
### Food Systems Planning

- Field Studies in Env. Planning & Design (PLAN 6810)
- Special Studies (PLAN 6910)
- Internship PLAN 6700 (in Food Systems)
- Community Charrette (HIPR 4680/6680)
- Agribusiness & Nat. Resource Law (AAEC 4050/6050)
- Rural Economic Dev. & Growth (AAEC 4710/6710)
- Env. Law & Gov. Regulation (AAEC 4930/6930)
- Agricultural Programs and Policy (AAEC 8210)
- Env. Policy & Management (ECOL(AAEC) 8700)
- Agricultural Ethics (EETH(AESC) 4190/6190)
- Issues in Contemporary Agriculture (ALDR 4600/6600)
- Agricultural Anthropology (ANTH 4060/6060)
- Agro-Ecology (CRSS(HORT) 4400/6400)
- Ecol. of Food, Diet, & Nutrition (ANTH4580/6580-4580L/6580L)
- Pedology (CRSS(GEOL) 4540/6540-4540L/6540L)
- GIS for Env. Planning (ECOL 6130)
- Perspectives on Conservation Ecol. & Sustainable Dev. (ECOL 8400)
- Principles of Agroforestry/Agroecology (ECOL 8440)
- Culture of Foods & Nutrition (FDNS 4630/6630)
- GIS Applications in Ag. (GEOG(CRSS) 4375/6375)
- The Industrial Agro-Food System and Its Alternatives (GEOG 4860/6860)
- Athens Urban Food Collective (AUFC) Service Learning (GEOG 4890/6890)
- Food and Power in American History (HIST 4020/6020)

### Certificate Programs

- Certificate in Historic Preservation 18 hours
- Environmental Ethics Certificate 18 hours
- Conservation & Sustainability Certificate 20 hours
- Certificate in Historic Landscapes (pending) 18 hours
- Geographic Information System Certificate 17 hours
The Master of Environmental Planning & Design program admits only 15-20 students each year. Applicants are required to have an undergraduate degree. Students from all undergraduate disciplines are encouraged to discuss their potential for success in the MEPD program with the program director. An interview is strongly recommended so that applicants may meet the director, the faculty, and other students. Accomodations at the Georgia Center are available at a discount for prospective grad students.

All applicants are required to submit the following by **December 31**:

- Graduate school application and fee
- Letter of intent that outlines the reasons for the student’s interest in the program, the relevance of previous degrees and experience, and the applicant’s goals and ambitions
- Academic transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
- Three reference letters (electronic forms are available from the graduate school as part of the online application process)
- GRE scores no lower than 1000 total, with at least a 500 verbal score
- International students are required to submit TOEFL scores

Application forms, instructions, and fee payment are found at the Graduate School admissions website. As part of the online application, you will need to furnish complete address information for recommenders for three letters of recommendation. The reference forms are available online at the time you apply. The link for the form can be electronically sent to your recommender while completing the online application. Official transcripts from all institutions, and test scores are sent to the Graduate School Admissions Office: 320 E Clayton Street Suite 400; Athens, Georgia 30602-4401

The letter of intent should be sent directly to the College of Environment & Design attention:

Donna Gabriel  
MEPD Program  
609 Caldwell Hall  
College of Environment & Design  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602-1845

**Acceptance response required**: applicant must indicate acceptance of the admission offer in writing.

**Related Web Sites:**

http://www.uga.edu/gradschool  
http://www.georgiacenter.uga.edu
Scholarship Information

The College of Environment & Design provides a number of scholarships through the generosity of individuals, clubs and the College’s alumni association. These scholarships are granted on a basis of academic performance in the College, leadership, and need. The scholarships are awarded in April for the following academic year. Students will be notified through e-mail and advisement when applications are open.

Complete information regarding scholarships is available on the CED website.

Availability of specific scholarships and amounts vary from year to year.

Graduate Assistantships

University-wide research assistantships are awarded on a competitive basis of GRE scores and grade point averages. Within the College of Environment & Design, departmental research assistantships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement and job skills required.

Need-based Aid

Need-based financial aid, such as student loans, is available through the University’s Office of Student Financial Aid.

Office of Student Financial Aid
220 Academic Building
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602-6114
http://www.uga.edu/osfa
(706) 542-6147

Academic Common Market

The Academic Common Market is an agreement among southern states to share uncommon academic programs. Residents of participating states can arrange to pay in-state tuition for the College of Environment & Design’s graduate programs. To enroll, a student must obtain certification of residency from the Common Market coordinator in his or her home state.

Study Abroad

The College recognizes the importance of varied educational opportunities and regularly offers study abroad opportunities during Maymester. Historically, students have taken advantage of travel opportunities in Ghana, Costa Rica, Italy, and a European Garden Tour course. Travel opportunities vary yearly. Interested students should check with the Office of International Education.

Related Web Sites:

http://www.ced.uga.edu/index.php/student_resources/list/cat/scholarships/
http://www.uga.edu/oie/studyabroad.htm
http://www.uga.edu/osfa
Students at the College of Environment & Design pay a differential tuition fee in addition to the standard tuition, which assists the College in three ways:

◊ The fee keeps studio classes within the size designated by the LAAB — the group responsible for CED’s accreditation.

◊ The fee pays to keep hardware and software up to date, so that students will be familiar with the latest technologies when they graduate.

◊ The fee provides of spaces, desks, and other equipment up to professional standards.

Differential tuition is paid per credit on LAND, HIPR, EDES, and PLAN courses. The breakdown is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>In-state</th>
<th>Out-of-state</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergrad</td>
<td>$44/credit</td>
<td>$41/credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$528/full load</td>
<td>$487/full load</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>$50/credit</td>
<td>$43/credit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$596/full load</td>
<td>$515/full load</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We believe that the benefits from differential tuition have helped keep the College high in national rankings and prestige. Visit the bursar’s office website for full tuition and fee schedules.

**Related Web Sites:**

https://busfin1.busfin.uga.edu/bursar/schedule.cfm
Thank you for your interest in Georgia's Master of Environmental Planning & Design program. If you have any questions regarding the information in this handbook or the MEPD program, please address them to:

**MEPD Graduate Office**

104 Denmark Hall  
(706) 542-4720  
donnag@uga.edu

**Mailing Address:**

MEPD Program  
College of Environment and Design  
609 Caldwell Hall  
The University of Georgia  
Athens, Georgia 30602-1845  
Fax: (706) 542-4236