The balance between urban development and open space is carefully planned in San Luis Obispo.
City and Regional Planning Department
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Welcome to the City & Regional Planning (CRP) program at Cal Poly! CRP is an integral part of the nationally recognized College of Architecture and Environmental Design. The program began in 1968 and has nearly 1,000 graduates (Bachelors and Masters level). The program evolved in the College where the planning laboratory (studio) has been the core of the curriculum. We are proud of the program's strengths in land use planning, environmental planning, urban design, and community sustainability.

Students often use the phrase “get an education, get a job, make a difference” when talking about being at Cal Poly. Students take at least one internship in a planning public agency, private firm, or non-profit organization. This gives all students real-world experience, and many times a head start on getting a job in the field after graduation. Students get to work with a faculty that has an excellent balance of professional experience and academic preparation; and more importantly are exceptional instructors. Our faculty (regular and adjunct) are involved in environmental planning, urban design, plan implementation, geographic information systems, sustainable development, low-cost housing, legal aspects of land use controls, citizen participation, and planning in developing countries.

The award winning CRP Department is recognized locally and nationally for its educational excellence. In 2000, the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) chose the community planning studio course project “Atascadero Colony in the 21st Century” to be the recipient of the national AICP Student Project Award for “best applying the planning process.” Also in 2000, the American Planning Association chose a Cal Poly CRP student to receive the Outstanding Planning Award for Distinguished Leadership by a student planner. This award was based on work related to sustainable planning and advocacy and for local efforts to improve the environment.

Cal Poly’s College of Architecture and Environmental Design (CAED) is committed to being the premier college of the design and building industry in the United States. The five disciplines--City and Regional Planning, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Architectural Engineering, and Construction Management--are a unique combination of environmental design fields. The organization of the CAED reflects the logical affinity among these fields. The CAED offers excellent opportunities to integrate computer technology into coursework.

San Luis Obispo is a pleasant, progressive city of about 43,000 on California’s Central Coast, midway between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The city and university share a neighborly, small-campus, small-town feeling and one of the finest natural environments anywhere. Sparkling-clear air and a climate that’s temperate year-round blend with majestic peaks, quiet valleys, and the nearby ocean to create an exhilarating environment that is ideal for learning and growing.
Description

The Master of City and Regional Planning degree program (MCRP) is professionally oriented and is open to students with high standards of academic achievement who wish to pursue careers in city and regional planning. It is structured to prepare graduates with competence to function in a general context of planning, as well as in a particular area of emphasis. The MCRP core courses cover planning theory, methods, law, formulation and implementation of plans and policies.

Two principal areas of study are emphasized: urban land planning, focused on comprehensive physical planning and urban design; and environmental planning, focused on natural systems and development impacts. In addition, skills building in all aspects of planning communications (visual, verbal, written) is stressed. The City and Regional Planning Department jointly offers the MCRP degree with the Master of Science in Engineering with a specialization in transportation planning.

The master's program is structured to meet the needs of those who have earned baccalaureate degrees in a variety of disciplines including, but not limited to, economics, geography, architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering, political science, environmental or urban studies, natural resources management, and ecology. The program is six quarters (two years) in duration and consists of 72 approved units (not including courses necessary to compensate for deficiencies). Because of the sequencing of courses, students admitted to the program are generally expected to begin their studies in the fall quarter. Students with prerequisite coursework deficiencies and those with backgrounds allowing waivers of selected first-year core courses may be admitted in other quarters. The degree culminates in a thesis (CRP 599) or professional project (CRP 596), or synthesis course (CRP 597) and comprehensive exam.
The MCRP program offers students an opportunity to develop close working relationships with the planning faculty. Self-directed study, tailored to the student's interests and needs, is also encouraged.

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<td><strong>First Year</strong> ..............................................................................................................................</td>
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<td>CRP 552 Community Planning Laboratory (4)</td>
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<td><strong>Second Year</strong> ............................................................................................................................</td>
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<td>CRP 409 Planning Internship (2)</td>
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<td>CRP 420 Land Use Law (4)</td>
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<td>CRP 530 Planning Agency Management (3)</td>
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<td>CRP 554 Regional Planning and Analysis (4)</td>
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<td>CRP 597 Policy, Planning, and Management (4) and comprehensive exam <em>or</em> CRP 596 Prof Project (4) <em>or</em> CRP 599 Thesis/Project (6)</td>
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<td><strong>Environmental Planning</strong> ..............................................................................................................</td>
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<td><strong>Adviser approved electives</strong> ......................................................................................................... 7/5</td>
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<td><strong>Total Quarter Units</strong> ...................................................................................................................... 72</td>
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Students must choose either the Environmental Planning or the Urban Land Planning emphasis area before enrolling for the first-year Spring Quarter. In addition, students may select an additional “option” area in Transportation Policy and Planning or Sustainable Environments.

Environmental Planning
In the Environmental Planning emphasis, students focus on the management of human impacts on the natural environment. Students are required to take:
- CRP 545 Environmental Planning, Policies, and Principles (4 units), and
- 2 advisor approved environmental planning electives (7 units)

Urban Land Planning
In the Urban Land Planning emphasis, students focus on planning the built/physical environment of urban places. Students are required to take:
- CRP 548 Principles of City Design (3 units), and
- CRP 520 Feasibility Studies in Planning (4 units), and
- 1 advisor approved urban land planning elective (4 units)

Transportation Policy & Planning
In the Transportation Policy and Planning option, students specialize in the movement of people and goods in cities and regions. Students may add the Transportation option to their program by taking two classes:
- CRP 435: Transportation Theory (4 units),
  and either,
- CE 523: Transportation Systems Planning (4 units), or
- CE 528: Transportation Analysis (4 units).
The CE classes are offered by the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department and require one quarter of calculus as a prerequisite. Students choosing the Transportation Option are asked to focus on the transportation segment of the client oriented project for CRP 552: Community Planning Laboratory.

Sustainable Environments
In the Sustainable Environments option, students specialize in the integration and application of environmental, social, and economic knowledge to human and natural systems. Students may add the Sustainable Environments option to their program by taking two classes:
- EDES 406 Sustainable Environments (4 units), and
- EDES 408 Implementing Sustainable Principles (3 units)
Advising Track (5+1) MCRP for BLA or BArch Students

Architecture and Landscape Architecture students at Cal Poly may request permission to enroll in MCRP courses during their fourth and fifth year of undergraduate study. The first 20 units of MCRP classes, to be finished at the end of the Summer Quarter of the student’s last undergraduate year, will be credited towards upper-division electives. These units will be double counted, meaning that students will get credit toward both their undergraduate and graduate degrees. Students will formally enter the MCRP program after they have completed their undergraduate degree. Please contact the CRP Department for additional information.

Joint MCRP/MS Engineering with Specialization in Transportation Planning

The MCRP/MS Engineering with Specialization in Transportation Planning degree is a joint interdisciplinary program between the College of Engineering and the College of Architecture and Environmental Design. Participation in the program requires enrollment in both Colleges. Participants successfully completing the program will be awarded both the MCRP and the MS in Engineering, each with a Specialization in Transportation Planning.

The major objectives of this joint program are:
(a) To provide an interdisciplinary graduate program which combines elements of transportation planning with city and regional planning to address a need for professionals who have a command of both the technology of transportation planning and the place of transportation within the urban environment. The required master's thesis/project is intended to allow the students a period of directed study that will allow them to integrate their work and to apply this to special areas of their choosing.
(b) To provide planners with courses essential to understanding the technologies of transportation planning.
(c) To provide engineers with a broad background in urban studies and a knowledge of contemporary environmental issues.
(d) To take advantage of the backgrounds of program participants. The graduate students of both sponsoring departments include both mature professionals returning for advanced degrees and recent graduates with a diversity of specializations.

Prerequisites
Applicants must have satisfactorily completed courses that cover the following or equivalent subject areas:
- CE 221 Fundamentals of Transportation Engineering
- CE 381 Geotechnical Engineering or GEOL 201 Physical Geology
- CSC 231 Fortran for Engineering Students
- ECON 201 Survey of Economics
ENGL 148 Reason, Argumentation & Technical Writing  
MATH 143 Calculus  
PHYS 131 General Physics  
SCOM 101 Public Speaking  
STAT 321 Probability and Statistics for Engineers and Scientists  

Curriculum  
Core Courses .......................................................... 66  
CE 523 Transportation Systems Planning (4)  
CE 528 Transportation Analysis or  
   CE 525 Airport Planning and Design (4)  
CE 591 Graduate Seminar (1)  
CE 599 (2,2,5) or CRP 599 Thesis (6)  
CRP 409 Planning Internship (2)  
CRP 420 Land Use Law (4)  
CRP 435 Transportation Theory (3)  
CRP 501 Foundations of Cities and Planning (4)  
CRP 510 Planning Theory (4)  
CRP 513 Planning Research Methods (4)  
CRP 515 Presentation and Communication Techniques for Planners (3)  
CRP 516 Quantitative Methods in Planning (4)  
CRP 518 Policy Analysis for Planners(4)  
CRP 525 Plan Implementation (4)  
CRP 530 Planning Agency Management (3)  
CRP 552 Urban Planning Laboratory (4)  
CRP 553 Project Planning Laboratory (4)  
CSC, MATH, STAT or other approved quantitative methods course (3)  

Emphasis Area (select one of the following) .......... 10  
Urban Land Planning Emphasis  
CRP 520 Feasibility Studies in Planning (4)  
CRP 548 Principles of City Design (3)  
Urban Land Planning electives (3)  
Regional and Environmental Planning Emphasis  
CRP 404 Environmental Law (3) or Env elective  
Regional and Environmental Planning electives (7)  

Approved CE/ENVE electives: ....................... 14  
Electives may include: CE 421, 422, 424, 522, 525, 528, 529, 573, 574, ENVE 411, 465  

TOTAL UNITS.........................................................90
**Core Courses**

**CRP 501 Foundations of Cities and Planning (4)**
Origins and evolutionary stages of settlement patterns and the use of land and natural environment. Changing spatial structure in the development of cities and regions. Beginnings and the historical development of the planning profession. 4 lectures.

**CRP 510 Planning Theory (4)**

**CRP 513 Planning Research Methods (4)**
Application of research design to planning issues. Comparison of case study, comparative and problem-solving methods. Primary and secondary data sources, including field survey techniques. 3 seminars, 1 supervision. Prerequisite: STAT 221 or equivalent, or consent of instructor.

**CRP 514 Computer Applications for MCRP (2)**
Microcomputer applications used by planners. Focus on planners' adaptations of spreadsheets, statistical applications, data base systems, graphic presentation. Miscellaneous course fee required—see Class Schedule. 2 laboratories.

**CRP 515 Planning Presentation and Communication Techniques (3)**
Basic techniques used in effective planning presentations. Introduction to various drawing media and delineation techniques for planners, three-dimensional visualization, graphic skills. Integration of visual and electronic media in presentations. Miscellaneous course fee required—see Class Schedule. 3 laboratories.

**CRP 516 Quantitative Methods in Planning (4)**
Problem recognition, data selection, analysis and synthesis with applications of system design, statistical techniques and symbolic modeling to urban design and regional growth and development policies. Miscellaneous course fee required—see Class Schedule. 3 seminars, 1 laboratory.

**CRP 518 Public Policy Analysis (4) (Also listed as POLS 518)**
Analysis of the social, economic, environmental, political contexts of public policy decisions. Public policy issues and use of concepts and tools related to monitoring and assessment. 3 lectures, 1 research paper. Prerequisite: CRP 501, POLS 360 or consent of instructor.
CRP 525  Plan Implementation (4)
Theory and practice of plan implementation. Regulatory and non-regulatory frameworks for plan implementation. Growth management, development regulation, capital improvement programs, redevelopment. 4 seminars. Prerequisite: CRP 510 or consent of instructor.

CRP 530  Planning Agency Management (3)
Preparation for mid-level and higher positions in public planning agencies and private firms. Applications of organization theory to planning agencies and firms. Work programs, staff development, budgets, contracting, proposal preparation, conflict management. Relationships with other agencies and firms, clients, public and media. 3 seminars. Prerequisite: CRP 501, CRP 510 or consent of instructor.

CRP 545  Environmental Planning, Policies and Principles (4)
Environmental planning as a field of inquiry and action. Review and application of policies and techniques used in environmental planning, including analysis of environmental programs and processes within the land use planning context. 3 seminars, 1 laboratory.

CRP 548  Principles of City Design (3)
Introduction to the philosophy and theory particular to city design. Exploration of evaluation criteria and critical analysis of the human environment related to physical design requirements. Spatial and form relationships, scale, human activities, concept formation, visual organization of the city, landscaping and architecture. 3 seminars.

CRP 552  Community Planning Laboratory (4)

CRP 553  Project Planning Laboratory (4)
Project-scale planning problems. Arranging structures, circulation systems, utilities and plant material on natural and urban sites to support human activity while minimizing disruption to natural systems. Includes planned unit developments, waterfronts, hillsides, campuses and commercial centers. Field trips. Miscellaneous course fee required–see Class Schedule. 4 laboratories. Prerequisite: CRP 515, CRP 548.

CRP 554  Regional Planning and Analysis (4)
Application of planning theory and methods to regional problems and issues. Research, analysis, synthesis and implementation practice. Interrelationships between natural, economic and political regions, technology, resource use. Field trips. Individual, team and interdisciplinary approaches. Miscellaneous course fee required–see Class Schedule. 3 seminars, 1 laboratory. Prerequisite: CRP 501.
CRP 596  Professional Project (4)
Completion of professional project based on a real world planning task or carefully constructed simulation. Requires demonstration of planning judgment and competence through application of a defined and rigorous planning approach. Can be taken in lieu of a thesis. Prerequisite: CRP 553, advancement to candidacy, and consent of department head.

CRP 597  Policy, Planning and Management (4)
This course provides a synthesis of the M.C.R.P. program. Expansion and integration of material on planning principles, practice, theory and quantitative methods. 4 seminars. Prerequisite: CRP 409, CRP 420, CRP 510, CRP 516, CRP 518, CRP 525, CRP 530, CRP 552, CRP 554 and advancement to candidacy.

CRP 599  Thesis/Project (6)
Individual research under the general supervision of the faculty, leading to a graduate thesis or project of suitable quality. Prerequisite: CRP 513, CRP 514, advancement to candidacy, consent of department head.

CRP 409  Planning Internship (2–4) (CR/NC)
Work experience as a supervised employee in a planning or related agency or firm. Prior contract specifying the product of internship required between student, agency and faculty. Thirty hours work experience per unit of credit. Total credit limited to 4 units. Credit/No Credit grading. Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

CRP 420  Land Use Law (4)
Public controls protecting natural environmental systems. Land use and environmental controls. Review of control mechanisms. State and federal legislation. Legal implications of controls, public planning and policy issues. 4 lectures.

Elective Courses (Graduate and Available Undergraduate)
In addition to the courses listed below, MCRP students may take other courses in the University subject to MCRP Program Director approval.

CRP 500  Individual Study (2–3)
Independent research, studies, or surveys of selected subjects. Total credit limited to 9 units. Prerequisite: Graduate standing with minimum of 12 core units.

CRP 505  Principles of Regional Planning (4)
History, development and major philosophical approaches of regions and regional planning, both in urban-centered and resource-based regions. Effects of relaxing natural, economic and infrastructure limiting factors on growth and development of regions. Normative hierarchical emphasis of contemporary regional planning compared to emerging paradigms that alter the regional/local planning relationship. 4 seminars
CRP 520  Feasibility Studies in Planning (4)
Fundamental analysis for assessing feasibility of public and private development projects. Principles and techniques for analyzing markets and assessing cash flow for individual projects. Economic, fiscal and tax impacts as factors determining public participation in private projects. 4 seminars. Prerequisite: CRP 501 or consent of instructor.

CRP 402  History of Urban Design in North America (4)
Cultural dimensions and political factors in the organization and design of early and contemporary cities in Western regions of the US and Mexico. Special emphasis given to the contributions of the Spanish, and the indigenous people of the Americas (Mayas, Toltecs, Aztecs, Native Americans) on the form and use of settlement patterns. Impact of major ethnic and cultural groups on the design of contemporary cities. 4 lectures.

CRP 404  Environmental Law (3) (Also listed as FNR 404)
Analysis and critique of the law governing use and protection of natural resources with focus on the legal institutions entrusted with the public duty of protecting the environment. 3 lectures.

CRP 408  Water Resource Law and Policy (3) [Also listed as FNR 408]
Detailed examinations of the various legal systems of water use, regulation and management in California and the United States. Discussion of the key concepts and principles of state, federal and interstate water quantity and quality control; focusing on issues and problems, why conflicts occur and how solutions evolve. 3 lectures.

CRP 427  Local Economic Development Planning (3)
Processes, skills and approaches for planning local economic development. Theoretical principles and assumptions underlying local economic development programs. Alternative strategies and analytical techniques for planning and implementing economic development. 3 seminars.

CRP 435  Transportation Theory, Policy, and Practice (3)
The nature and structure of transportation planning, including the circulation element of the General Plan. Transportation planning theory, methods and tools related to systematic analysis of city and regional transportation problems including environmental impact assessment. Application of techniques for assessing transportation systems, gravity models, route selections, land use models and relationship to transportation. 3 seminars.

CRP 436  Collaborative Planning (4)
Focus on processes and skills of citizen participation and consensus building. Application of mediation and negotiation techniques. Use of collaboration in forming visions of the future and reaching agreements among multiple interests. Use of group process skills to establish effective communication and agreements. Organizing and operating public meetings. 3 lectures, 1 laboratory.
CRP 438 Pollution Prevention and Control (4)
Interdisciplinary exploration of policy and planning associated with pollution prevention and control, including institutional, legal, economic, political, social, and technology-related aspects. Includes hands-on activity in small groups. 3 lectures, 1 activity.

CRP 442 Housing and Planning Seminar (3)
Analysis of housing issues, policies and programs from a planning perspective, including the economic underpinnings of land markets and housing markets, housing plans, finance, public programs, affordable housing. 3 seminars.

CRP 444 Infrastructure and Planning Management (4)
Basic infrastructure systems necessary to support urban development. Basic components of systems and how they are planned, financed and managed. 4 seminars.

CRP 446 Development Review and Entitlement (4)
Application of zoning regulations, subdivision ordinances, design standards, building codes, exactions, fees, and related requirements within the development review process leading to land use entitlement. Land development is evaluated from permit application submittal to condition compliance during the plan check, construction, and operational phases of a project. 3 lectures, 1 activity.

CRP 447 Design Regulations (4) [Also listed as ARCH 447]
Practical application of fundamental zoning, subdivision, design/development standards, and building codes in the design review process, either in the form of a proposed development project or preparation of ordinances, codes, standards, and/or guidelines to apply to a project. 3 lectures, 1 activity.

CRP 457 Planning Information Systems (3)
Computer based systems to manage information pertinent to planning. Approaches to systematic data acquisition, processing and maintenance. Potential of data base systems for information gathering and analysis. Miscellaneous course fee required—see Class Schedule. 2 seminars, 1 laboratory.

CRP 483 Special Studies in City and Regional Planning (1-12)
Study of special issues and problems through field research and other forms of investigation and involvement in an off-campus setting. Requirements determined prior to individual project through contractual arrangement between student and department. Departmental Off-Campus Study Program guidelines apply. Class Schedule will list topic selected.

EDES 406 Sustainable Environments (4)
Collaboration of interdisciplinary faculty and guest speakers/panelists. Introduction, illustration and analysis of concepts and principles for sustainability to be used in all aspects of environmental design. Integration and application of knowledge of human and natural systems with environmental, social and economic concerns, from a global-to-local perspective. 4 lectures
EDES 408 Implementing Sustainable Principles (3)
A primarily project-based course, intended to aid students who wish to collaborate with the purpose of implementing sustainability principles by developing tools, process or designs, for community-based projects and proposals at various scales of planning, architecture and design of the human environment to address social, environmental and economic issues. 3 lectures.

EDES 410 Advanced Implementation of Sustainable Principles (4)
Advanced continuation of community-based projects defined and initiated in EDES 408. Ongoing projects, individual and group, address variable scales of planning, architecture, and environmental design, with required completion at the end of the course. 2 seminars, 2 supervision. Prerequisite: EDES 408.

EDES 420 Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse in the Built Environment (4)
Historic preservation, restoration, and rehabilitation issues in the built environment. Focus on the process and issues of preserving cultural heritage through preserving environmental artifacts (i.e., structure and landscape). The importance of preserving historical districts, buildings and landscapes as well as techniques for accomplishing preservation goals within the existing regulatory environments. Total credit limited to 8 units. 2 lectures, 2 seminars.
Graduation Requirements

The following is a summary of the most critical Cal Poly graduation requirements. Students should examine the *Graduate Programs* section of the *Cal Poly Catalog* for additional requirements and details of the subjects below.

**Graduation Requirement in Writing Proficiency**

All students must demonstrate competency in writing skills as a requirement for graduation. Graduate students must attempt to meet the Graduation Writing Requirement (GWR) in the first quarter of residence using one of the options listed below. Each student should review his or her curricular requirements to determine which option is appropriate. If Option 3 is used, students must begin graduate coursework within seven years from the date the GWR was satisfied or the student will be required to fulfill the requirement using one of the other options. The requirement must be met before the student can be advanced to candidacy.

Students may meet the graduation writing requirement through one of the following options:

1. Pass the Writing Proficiency Examination.
2. Pass an approved upper-division course with a grade of C or better AND receive certification of proficiency in writing based on a 500-word in-class essay. The upper-division courses approved for GWR credit are listed in the *Class Schedule*.
3. Document that the GWR was met as part of an undergraduate program of study at Cal Poly within seven years of matriculation as a graduate student.

The Graduation Writing Requirement may be waived, at the discretion of campus authorities, in the following circumstances:

1. The requirement was satisfied by the student as an undergraduate on one of the CSU campuses and no more than seven (7) years have elapsed before entering the graduate program at Cal Poly. Documentation to support this waiver option must include date of satisfaction.
2. An equivalent upper-division, graduation writing requirement was satisfied at another 4-year college or university. Official, dated documentation must be provided (i.e., transcripts, catalog description, etc.). Again, no more than seven (7) years may elapse between meeting the requirement and beginning graduate study.
3. The student has earned an advanced degree at least equivalent to the Master’s. Supporting documentation must be presented.

Graduate students who wish to waive the GWR should present documentation to the Writing Skills Office (Bldg.10, Rm. 130, 756-2067) in their first quarter of residence.
Formal Study Plan (FSP)

The student must make an appointment with the MCRP Program Director before the 12th unit of work is completed to develop a formal program of study for the master's degree. A formal study plan is an agreement between the student and the college on the specific coursework to be completed in order to fulfill the requirements for the master's degree. A copy of the study plan must be submitted to the Graduate Programs Office for review and final approval.

Culminating Experience

Students are required to complete a “culminating experience” which may be a comprehensive exam, a master’s thesis, or a professional project. In this, the student must demonstrate mastery of the field of city and regional planning.

Comprehensive Exam
Students who select the comprehensive exam option must register for CRP 597 in the Spring Quarter of their final year. The Comprehensive Exam has four questions that require researched and in-depth responses. Students are given four days to complete the “take-home” exam. Assessment is completed through one of five notations: Pass with Distinction; Pass; Oral Exam; Remedial Assignment; or, Fail.

Master’s Thesis
Students who select the master’s thesis option must register for CRP 599 during the quarter they intend to complete the thesis. The master’s thesis is a scholarly research paper which thoroughly investigates the selected subject, based upon the published theoretical and empirical literature and then extended further by the writer to reach general conclusion or broad synthesis. The thesis is conducted under the direction of a three-member thesis committee.

Professional Project
Students who select the professional project option must register for CRP 596 during the quarter they intend to complete the project. The professional project is an applied research paper that culminates in a professional report to a specific agency or organization. The project is conducted under the direction of a three-member project committee.
Internships and Employment

Students are required to complete an internship (CRP 409) as preparation for professional practice. Faculty and staff assist in internship and job placement and the numerous alumni of Cal Poly’s MCRP program regularly contact us looking for quality students. Students often find that internships evolve into full-time professional positions upon graduation.

Recent Job & Internship Placement
- Americorps
- California Coastal Commission
- California Department of Transportation
- Calthorpe Associates
- Charles Schwab & Co.
- Community Development Commissions
- Camp, Dresser, & McKee
- Charles Schwab & Co.
- Chispa
- City of Burbank
- City of Cesky Krumlov (Czech Republic)
- City of Georgetown (TX)
- City of Guadalupe
- City of Laguna Niguel
- City of Los Angeles
- City of Morro Bay
- City of Petaluma
- City of Sacramento
- City of San Francisco
- City of San Jose
- City of San Luis Obispo
- City of San Mateo
- City of Sonoma
- Contra Costa County
- Crawford, Multari & Clark Associates
- Crosby Mead Benton & Assoc.
- Ecology & Environment, Inc.
- Greenberg Farrow Architects
- Kern Council of Governments
- KTGY Group
- Local Government Commission
- Monterey County
- Pacific Municipal Consultants
- Palm Beach County
- Parsons Brinkerhoff
- Peck / Jones Construction
- RRM Design Group
- Robert Bein William Frost Consulting
- San Diego County
- San Joaquin Council of Governments
- San Mateo County
- San Luis Obispo County
- San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
- Santa Clara County
- Santa Barbara County
- The Planning Center
- U.S. Peace Corps
- W-2 Transportation Engineers

Job Titles of Recent Graduates
- Assistant Planner
- Associate Planner
- Cartographer
- Coastal Program Analyst
- Code Compliance Planner
- Community Development Coordinator
- Development Specialist
- Environmental Management Consultant
- Environmental Planner
- Financial Counselor
- GIS Analyst
- Land Use Coordinator
- Planner/Environmental Analyst
- Redevelopment Planner
- Regional Planner
- Research Specialist
- Resource Protection Specialist I
- Transportation Planner
- Transportation Systems Analyst
- U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer
- Urban Planner/Designer
Permanent Faculty

**Michael R. Boswell;** Assistant Professor; BA (1989), MSP (1991), Ph.D. in Urban and Regional Planning, Florida State University (2000). Environmental and natural resources planning, sustainable development, planning theory, natural hazards policy, and public participation in planning.

Dr. Boswell joined the City and Regional Planning Department in 1998. Courses include public policy analysis, regional and environmental planning, planning theory, and collaborative planning. He previously taught courses on planning methods and natural resource planning in the Department of Urban & Regional Planning at Florida State University where he received the university-wide Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award in 1994. Dr. Boswell’s dissertation analyzes the role of planning in the restoration of the Everglades ecosystem in south Florida.

Dr. Boswell’s professional experience includes work as a planner for Brevard County, Florida; the Florida Department of Environmental protection; and the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council. He recently developed a quantitative method for estimating public costs of hurricanes that is published in the journal Environmental Management. Currently, he is researching the use of adaptive-management planning for regional ecosystems and serves on the City of San Luis Obispo’s Planning Commission.

**W. David Conn;** Professor; Vice Provost for Academic Programs and Undergraduate Education; BA (1968), M.A. Worcester College, Oxford University (1972); D.Phil., Linacre College, Oxford University (1973). Environmental policy and planning.

Dr. Conn taught and conducted research in environmental policy and planning at UCLA and Virginia Tech before joining Cal Poly in January 1999. With more than thirty years of experience focused primarily in the fields of pollution prevention and pollution control, he has served as a consultant to federal, state, and local agencies, and has published widely in such journals as the Journal of the American Planning Association, Resources Policy, Journal of Environmental Systems, The Environmental Professional, Journal of Resource Management and Technology, Resources, Conservation, and Recycling, Policy Studies Journal, and Risk Analysis. He currently chairs the Doctoral Committee of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning (ACSP) and co-chairs the Planning Education Track for the 2003 ACSP-AESOP International Joint Congress in Belgium. As a Vice Provost at Cal Poly, he has broad responsibility for curricular development and review, and for promoting student academic success.

**Linda C. Dalton;** Executive Vice Provost and Chief Planning Officer; AB, Radcliffe College/Harvard University (1967); MUP, University of Washington (1974); Ph.D., University of Washington (1978). Member APA, AICP and SCUP. Planning theory, plan implementation, planning practice, planning education.
Dr. Dalton joined the City and Regional Planning faculty in 1983, was granted tenure in 1986, and was Department Head from 1989 to 1995. Prior to moving from Seattle, where she earned her Ph.D. at the University of Washington, Dr. Dalton served as chair of the Seattle City Planning Commission and Task Force on Downtown Seattle. At Cal Poly Dr. Dalton has served on the Academic Senate, Long-Range Planning Committee, and various university planning committees. Nationally, she served on the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB), which is jointly sponsored by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning, the American Institute of Certified Planners, and the American Planning Association and continues to participate in accreditation site visits. Dr. Dalton is a member of the California Planning Roundtable and a former member and president of the California Planning Foundation. In her Vice Provost position at Cal Poly, she coordinates university-wide strategic planning. She has recently directed a major revision of the campus master plan, based on the University’s academic mission and demand for enrollment growth.

Dr. Dalton has published her research findings in the Journal of Planning Education and Research, the Journal of the American Planning Association, California Planner, the Journal of Architectural and Planning Research, and Public Administrative Review. Her work received the Best Article Award in 1994 and 2001 from the Journal of the American Planning Association, and Honorable Mention, Chester Rapkin Award in 1990, for best article published by the Journal of Planning Education and Research. She is co-editor (with Charles Hoch and Frank So) of the third edition of The Practice of Local Government Planning (published by the International City Management Association, 2000).

The California Chapter of the American Planning Association selected Dr. Dalton for its Distinguished Leadership/Professional Planner Award in 2000.


Dr. Day joined the City and Regional Planning faculty in 1993 and was granted tenure in 1997. Dr. Day worked as an urban planner for New York state, served on a district planning council in St. Paul, Minnesota, and taught urban politics and policy at several small liberal arts colleges prior to returning to school for degrees in architecture/urban design and joining the faculty at Cal Poly. Dr. Day has published her research findings, in the area of urban design as it relates to issues of people and place, in the Journal of Architecture and Planning Research, Environment and Behavior, Journal of Planning Education and Research and Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design. She served as a member of the City of San Luis Obispo’s Architectural Review Commission from 1994 through 1998.

**Vicente del Rio;** Associate Professor; architect and urbanist (Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, 1978), graduate degree in urban and regional planning (State University of Rio de Janeiro, 1979), Master in Urban Design (Oxford Polytechnic, 1981), Doctor in Architecture and Urbanism (State University of São Paulo, 1991), post-doctorate at the University of Cincinnati
Urban and participatory design, environment-behavior studies, waterfront development, urban revitalization, and third-world urbanization.

Before joining the City and Regional Planning Department in September 2001, Dr. del Rio was professor of architecture and urbanism at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro - Brazil since 1979, where he was vice-director and graduate coordinator. He was Senior International Fellow at the Center for Metropolitan Planning, Johns Hopkins University (1984), and Visiting Scholar at the Center for Urban Design, University of Cincinnati (1992/3). He has guest-lectured on several occasions in the United States, England, Spain, Portugal, Mexico, Argentina, and Brazil.

Dr. del Rio worked at the state agency for metropolitan planning and at the municipal department for urbanism in Rio de Janeiro; and as a private consultant he coordinated several urban design and new communities projects in Brazil. In 1984, as visiting urban designer at the City of Baltimore, he was responsible for the urban design project for Fells Point waterfront. He has published more than fifty titles in Brazil and abroad, in journals such as Urban Design and Preservation Quarterly, Journal of Architectural and Planning Research, Traditional Dwellings and Settlements Review, and Cities. In Brazil he authored and edited four books - including the best seller Introduction to Urban Design in the Planning Process - and the proceedings of an international seminar on psychology and the design of the built-environment.

D.Gregg Doyle:  Assistant Professor, AB, Social Science, UC Berkeley (1989); MURP, Urban Design & Planning, University of Washington (1994); Ph.D., Urban Planning, UCLA, (pending). Member AICP.

Mr. Doyle joined the CRP faculty in 2002, coming from UCLA, where he taught in Environmental Studies, Urban Planning, and Women's Studies. His interests span housing, community development, equity, physical planning, and transportation behavior. Mr. Doyle’s professional experience includes housing and code development work with the City of Seattle, commute trip reduction with Washington State Dept. of Transportation, non-profit housing development with HomeSight Community Development Corporation, and neighborhood and community plans with various other private and non-profit firms in diverse areas.

David T. Dubbink;  Professor, BFA, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (1960); MCP, University of California, Berkeley (1965); Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles (1983). Member APA, AICP, and the Association of Environmental Professionals. Regional and environmental planning.

Dr. Dubbink, who joined the City and Regional Planning faculty in 1989 and was granted tenure in 1995, previously served as agency director and planner for several of California’s resource planning agencies. In addition to his role in the CRP Department, Dr. Dubbink also manages a specialized consulting practice in noise assessment, especially for transportation-related sound such as airports and highways. The technology he has developed simulates the level and quality of sound generated by different sources, as heard in varying settings (e.g. indoors vs. outdoors) and distances from sources. He was recipient of the 1993 California Chapter of the American Planning Association award for the innovative use of technology. Dr. Dubbink’s clients include: the Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Army, U.S. Air Force, Transport Canada, and the National Environmental Office of Germany. He has also been involved in analyzing regional
growth issues and initiatives in San Luis Obispo County.

**Zeljka Pavlovich Howard;** Diploma Engineer Architect, University of Belgrade, Yugoslavia (1964); M. Sc. Urban and Regional Planning, Florida State University (1972). Member APA. Community planning, urban design, history of urbanization, graphic communication.

Mrs. Howard joined the City and Regional Planning Department faculty as a full-time lecturer in 1986 after 15 years of working as a planner and architect in both public and private sectors. She teaches courses in community planning, urban design, the history of urban form, and the fundamentals of planning, design, and graphic communication. Mrs. Howard also teaches interdisciplinary courses in planning and urban design and has taught courses in site analysis and design in the Landscape Architecture Department. She serves as Chairman of the Scholarships and Awards Committee of the College of Architecture and Environmental Design as well as the City and Regional Planning Department.

Mrs. Howard’s professional experience includes comprehensive and community planning, strategic planning, downtown design, waterfront development, land use planning, housing need analysis, urban design and site development studies, general plan implementation, urban design guidelines, and community involvement programming. Mrs. Howard has guest-lectured at the University of Belgrade and in several cities in Yugoslavia and Bosnia. Several student projects developed under her leadership received awards from the American Planning Association as well as a national award from the American Institute of Certified Planners for the “best student project”. Her teaching and research interests include cooperative approach to community planning and design, changes in the urban centers of the countries in transition, and the effect of globalization on the form and function of cities. Mrs. Howard is a member of the City of San Luis Obispo’s Architectural Review Commission.

**Richard W. Lee;** Assistant Professor, BA in History, Carlton College (1978); MSc, MCP, Ph.D., University of California at Berkeley (1984, 1986, 1995). Transportation planning, planning methods, regional planning.

Dr. Lee joined the City and Regional Planning faculty in 1999. His teaching and research interests center on the integration of transport and land use planning at the neighborhood, city and regional scales. Dr. Lee’s most recent research examines comprehensive plans and indicators as tools for effecting sustainable transportation. He has also done extensive research on land use and transport issues at urban-rural fringe in both the United States and New Zealand. Other teaching and research interests include planning methods, planning theory, planning history, and new towns. He has published his research in *Planning, Transport Policy, Transportation Research Record* and *Urban Policy and Research*.

Dr. Lee served as a Senior Lecturer at Massey University in New Zealand from 1995-1998, where he helped launch that country’s first graduate transportation planning program. He has also taught at UCLA and the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. From 1984 to 1994 he worked as a transportation planning consultant throughout California. As a consultant, he has developed many local and regional transport plans, ranging from regional modeling studies to city bicycle plans to corporate Transportation System Management plans. He is a member of the
Institute of Transportation Engineers, the Chartered Institute of Transport, and the American Institute of Certified Planners. Dr. Lee is also a Research Associate with the International Institute for the Study of Surface Transportation Policy at San Jose State University.

**William J. Siembieda**; Professor and Department Head; BA (1965) and MCRP (1967), University of California-Berkeley; MPA, California State University-San Diego (1970); Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles (1990). Member AICP, APA and ULI. Land use planning feasibility and international planning, especially housing and land use policy in Latin America.

Dr. Siembieda joined the City and Regional Planning Department in 1997 as tenured professor and Department Head. He came to Cal Poly from the University of New Mexico where he was Professor of Planning and Director of the Center for Research and Development in the School of Architecture and Planning. He has held regular academic posts at the University of California, San Diego and Tuskegee Institute, Alabama; and Visiting Professorships at MIT and the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. Siembieda is an internationally experienced land use planner and a nationally recognized planning educator. He understands the land development process from the public and private viewpoints and has special expertise in designing solutions to complex planning problems. His professional experience includes planning studies for cities and towns in the American Southwest, large-scale land planning in California, Texas and New Mexico; and master planning in Texas, Arizona and New Mexico. Dr. Siembieda is an editorial Board Member of the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, and the *Carta Economica Regional*, Guadalajara, Mexico. He has published his research findings in the *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, *Planning Magazine*, *Urban Law and Policy*, and the *Journal of Architectural Research*.

**Paul Wack**; Associate Professor, BA (1969), MA (1974), California State University, Northridge; MPA, University of Southern California (1976). Member AEP, APA, and AICP. General plan implementation, coastal planning, regional planning, environmental assessment, politics and planning, global environmental issues, sustainability, zoning.

Mr. Wack has nearly 25 years of teaching experience with the City and Regional Planning Department at Cal Poly and the Environmental Studies Program at the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB). He also has over 30 years of professional practice in both the private and public planning sectors. Mr. Wack’s experience includes: county planning, administration, consulting, education, and community service as a planning commissioner. Mr. Wack has received the California Chapter American Planning Association Donald G. Hagman Meritorious Award and UCSB Mortar Board Professor of the Year and UCSB Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher awards for his teaching. His consulting firm of Jacobson and Wack prepared the San Bernardino City Development Code which won a California Chapter and national American Planning Association Outstanding Planning Award. At Cal Poly Mr. Wack’s current research interests include sustainable communities, international green planning, agricultural land preservation, and innovative zoning applications.
Lecturers

Chris W. Clark; BA (1976), MA (1977), University of Oregon; JD, Franklin Pierce Law Center (1982). Member APA and AICP. Land use, environmental, and water law.

Mr. Clark has been teaching classes in environmental, planning, and water law through the City and Regional Planning Department since 1992. Prior to joining the planning consulting firm of Crawford Multari and Clark (as principal) in 1997, Mr. Clark worked for ten years with Fugro-McClelland, an international environmental consulting firm. He has extensive experience in land use regulation and environmental and community planning, and is licensed to practice law in California, Massachusetts, and the Federal District Court system. Mr. Clark recently co-authored a chapter entitled “Environmental Science for Lawyers” published in *Massachusetts Environmental Law*.

Paul C. Crawford; BSCRP, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (1971). Member APA and AICP. Planning administration and comprehensive planning.

Mr. Crawford has taught a variety of courses with the City and Regional Planning Program at Cal Poly since 1980. In 1990 Mr. Crawford and Michael Multari formed the planning consulting firm of Crawford Multari and Clark (CMC) after a ten-year tenure as Director of Planning and Building for San Luis Obispo County and Executive Director of the local council of governments. With CMC, Mr. Crawford has worked for a variety of California counties, cities, and special districts on comprehensive plans, zoning and subdivision ordinance updates, fiscal and transportation planning studies, specific plans, and planning agency automation. His research interests are in the drafting of land use regulations and developing computer applications for planning. Mr. Crawford was named honored alumnus for 1990 by the Cal Poly College of Architecture and Environmental Design and was elected to the California Planning Roundtable in 1993.


Mr. Jencks has been teaching at Cal Poly since 1997, and has been teaching environmental law through the City and Regional Planning Department and the Natural Resources Management Department since 2000. Mr. Jencks is a principal and founding member of Municipal Advocates Group, which provides legal counsel to cities and public entities throughout the State of California on a wide range of municipal, planning and environmental issues, as well as serving as city attorney for a number of cities, including the Central Coast cities of King City, Solvang and Pacific Grove.

Following a federal judicial clerkship with the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Mr. Jencks embarked on a career which has blended representation of public entities with teaching, writing, and trial and appellate practice. Mr. Jencks served as the articles editor and a founding member of the Ecology Law Quarterly, and as special counsel to the California Energy Commission.
Mr. Jencks has served in a variety of public positions, including as a member of a county board of supervisors, a county housing authority, a regional air quality control board, and a regional council of governments. Mr. Jencks has been counsel in a number of reported decisions, including *Kokkonen v. Guardian Life*, 511 US 375 (1994); *ILWU et al. v. San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors* 116 Cal.App3d 265 (1981), and *State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission v. Pacific Gas & Electric*, 659 F.2d 903 (1981). Mr. Jencks is a member of the State Bar of California, of the Ninth and Sixth Federal Circuit Courts of Appeal, and of the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. Recent publications which Mr. Jencks has authored or co-authored have appeared in 88 Kentucky Law Journal 183 (2000), Tort Source, a publication of the tort insurance practice section of the American Bar Association (Fall 1999), Legal Assistant Today, and the Denning Law Journal (2000).

**Jeffrey Legato;** BSCR, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (1995). Member APA.

Mr. Legato began teaching classes on a part-time basis in the City and Regional Planning Department during the 2000-01 academic year. His course, Planning Information Systems, is open to both graduate and undergraduate students. Mr. Legato is the GIS and graphics coordinator for the planning consulting firm of Crawford Multari & Clark Associates, having joined them in 1994. His field of expertise results in him being involved in one way or another with nearly every project undertaken by the firm. Mr. Legato also serves as the firm’s website designer. Professional interests and pursuits include web design, alternative transportation and sociology.

**Michael Multari;** BA, Yale University (1976); MPA, Princeton University (1979). Member APA. Comprehensive planning, planning methods, fiscal planning.

Mr. Multari has taught on a part-time basis with the City and Regional Planning Program at Cal Poly since 1987. He is co-founder of the planning consulting firm of Crawford Multari and Clark (CMC) which specializes in assisting public agencies with land-use planning and related policy issues. Prior to establishing CMC, Mr. Multari served as Community Development Director for the City of San Luis Obispo as well as the City of Morro Bay. His work at CMC has focused on the preparation of community and subarea plans, redevelopment plans, housing plans, and fiscal analyses. He has worked on several affordable housing projects in his practice and as a member of the Board of Directors of People’s Self Help Housing Corporation, a non-profit which builds and manages low-income housing. Mr. Multari is also a frequent speaker at the League of California Cities and the American Planning Association. In 1990, he spoke before the League of California Cities on Planning Downtowns after the Earthquake in the wake of the Loma Prieta quake.

**Lisa Wise;** MCRP, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (2001). MSA, DePaul University, Chicago, IL (1990); BBA, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH (1987). Member APA and AEP. Regional planning and fiscal planning.
Ms. Wise began teaching classes on a part-time basis during the 2001-2002 academic year. In 2001, she joined the firm of Crawford, Multari and Clark, which specializes in assisting public agencies with land-use planning and related policy issues. While attending graduate classes at Cal Poly, Ms. Wise worked for the County of San Luis Obispo in the Housing and Economic Development Division and the California Governor’s Office of Planning and Research. From 1990 to 1999, she worked in Chicago and New York at Pricewaterhouse Coopers LLP, an international consulting firm providing financial services and management consulting.

Staff

Victoria A. Randall, Administrative Support Coordinator. Ms. Randall has been employed with Cal Poly since 1982, joining the City and Regional Planning Department in 1995. She is responsible for the administrative support of the department, dissemination of technical and procedural information to students, faculty, and the external community; and management of the department office and various program operations. She also assists the department head with personnel, budget and class scheduling processes and analyses. In addition to family and church activities, Ms. Randall’s personal interests include music, photography, reading, camping and chess.
Student and Professional Organizations

Students are encouraged to join two organizations when they enter the program. The Associated Students in Planning (ASP) is the CRP Department’s official student organization. ASP is governed and administered by students and engages in community service, professional development, and social activities. The American Planning Association (APA) is a non-profit public interest and research organization representing 30,000 practicing planners, officials, and citizens involved with urban and rural planning issues. Students are eligible for substantially reduced APA dues and receive Planning magazine.

E-mail

Students automatically receive two accounts at Cal Poly: (1) an email account on Cal Poly's OpenMail email server for students; and, (2) a Central UNIX account for a personal Web page, authentication when using the campus modem pool (called "Imagine"), and for UNIX class work. The CRP Department requires students to activate their accounts and either regularly access their Cal Poly email account or set the Cal Poly email account to forward to the account they regularly access (e.g., AOL, Hotmail, etc.).

Style Manual

The CRP Department requires that all assignments follow the APA style for manuscript preparation, editing, and citation. The APA style is documented in (available in El Corral Bookstore):


From the Campus Administrative Manual (§684.3):
Plagiarism is defined as the act of using the ideas or work of another person or persons as if they were one’s own without giving proper credit to the source. Such an act is not plagiarism if it is ascertained that the ideas were arrived at through independent reasoning or logic or where the thought or idea is common knowledge. Acknowledgement of an original author or source must be made through appropriate references; i.e., quotation marks, footnotes, or commentary. Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to, the following: the submission of a work, either in part or in whole, completed by another; failure to give credit for ideas, statements, facts or conclusions which rightfully belong to another; failure to use quotation marks when directly quoting from another, whether it be a paragraph, a sentence, or even part thereof; close and lengthy paraphrasing of another’s writing without credit or originality; use of another’s project or programs without or part thereof without giving credit.
We are pleased of your interest in our graduate program in City and Regional Planning. The following information concerns admission procedures for the Master of City and Regional Planning degree program. For information regarding financial aid, contact the Financial Aid Office at (805) 756-2927.

**Admission Deadlines**

For Fall Quarter:
- **March 1**  Deadline for consideration for CRP Department financial aid (see below)—all admission materials must be submitted.
- **July 1**  Final deadline—all admission materials must be received.

For Winter Quarter:
- **November 1**  Final deadline—all admission materials must be received.

**Admission Materials**

Please note that Cal Poly requires that you submit the following to the Admissions Office (http://www.calpoly.edu/~crp/admissionframe.html):

1. Completed CSU graduate application with application fee.
2. Two official (sealed) copies of the transcripts from each college and university you have attended.
3. A minimum TOEFL score of 550 for students whose bachelor's degree is from an institution where English is not the principal language of instruction. The TWE (Test of Written English) is required in conjunction with the TOEFL. Please contact TOEFL Services for testing dates and further information.

In addition, City and Regional Planning requires these items be sent directly to the City and Regional Planning Department (Attn: MCRP Program Assistant):

1. Graduate Record Examination scores (GRE scores are required only in cases of borderline grade point average);
2. Three letters of reference reflecting your motivation, maturity, and academic performance;
3. A paper, project, or other writing sample;
4. A brief statement (300 words) addressing your understanding of, and areas of interest in city and regional planning, from the perspective of your career and educational objectives;
5. Indication of how you will satisfy (or have satisfied) the prerequisite listed below.
Admission Criteria

Applicants for admission to the Master of City and Regional Planning Program are expected to:

1. Have earned a bachelor’s degree from an accredited university or college;
2. Have attained a grade point average of 3.0 in last 90 quarter (60 semester) units of undergraduate work;
3. In cases of borderline grade point average, provide the CRP Graduate Review Committee with results of the Graduate Record Examination Aptitude Test;
4. Give indications of motivation, maturity, and high standards of academic involvement through work and references (three letters required), and submit a project or paper demonstrating writing ability; and
5. Demonstrate your understanding of city and regional planning, areas of interest in city and regional planning, your career objectives, and your educational objectives, through the 300-word statement.

Applicants lacking prerequisites or other background requirements for classified standing may be admitted on a conditionally classified basis, depending on the results of an individual analysis of their application.

Prerequisites

Students entering the MCRP Program are required to bring with them a background in computers and computer applications equivalent to the Cal Poly course CSC 110 Computers and Computer Applications. This includes knowledge of Microsoft Windows, word processing, and spreadsheets.

In addition, it is strongly recommended that you read William Fulton’s Guide to California Planning, 2nd ed. (Solano Press Books 1999) prior to matriculation.

Departmental Financial Aid

Students who wish to be considered for financial aid administered by the CRP Department must complete their application by March 1 for the following Fall Quarter admission. In addition, they must complete an Application for Departmental Financial Aid available from the CRP Department. Department aid is usually in the form of Graduate Assistantships (GAs) that require either research or teaching assistance to faculty in the department. Departmental financial aid is awarded on the basis of academic credentials and demonstrated need.