

MUP Orientation

1. Introductions: Urban Planning Core Faculty

Urban Planning Core Faculty

- Alan Altshuler
- Eric Belsky
- Neil Brenner
- Diane Davis
- Ann Forsyth Jose Gomez-Ibanez
- Michael Hooper
- Jerold Kayden
- Judith Grant Long
- Alex Krieger

Urban Planning Core Faculty

- · Rahul Mehrotra
- Richard Peiser
- Joyce Rosenthal
- Peter Rowe
- · Hashim Sarkis
- · James Stockard
- + Other GSD faculty, adjuncts, cross-campus affiliates, and people who just offer good courses

questions—you can sign up for office hours with anyone

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1. Introductions: UPD Office Staff



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2. Logistics: Program Philosophy

Big idea: how to develop, preserve, and enhance a productive, sustainable, and equitable built environment

Focuses on how to understand, analyze, and influence the variety of forces - social, economic, political, legal, historical, ecological, cultural, and aesthetic, among others - shaping the built environment

Current emphases: Sustainability, global/international issues, social concerns, urban design

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- 2. Logistics: Basic Degree Requirements
- 1. Planning studios—first and second semester (16 units total)
- 2. Core courses-12 units *
- 3. Analytic methods requirement (4 units) * #
- 4. Economic methods requirement (4 units) * #
- 5. Implementation methods requirement (4 units) * # 6. Area of Concentration Requirement (12 units) ^
- 7. Final year options
 - Studio Options (8 or 16 units) ^
 - PLUS thesis (12 units) or electives ^
- 8. Additional electives adding to a total of 80 units ^

* Can waive with exam, # Alternatives offered courses by petition, ^ multiple options offered

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- 2. Logistics: Concentrations
- 1. Environmental Planning (Rosenthal and Forsyth)
- 2. History and Theory (Brenner)
- 3. Housing and Neighborhood Development (Belsky and Stockard)
- 4. International Planning (Hooper and Davis)
- 5. Real Estate and Urban Development (Kayden and Peiser)
- 6. Transportation and Infrastructure (Gomez-Ibanez and Long)
- Urban Design (Busquets and Krieger)
- Special concentration (needs approval of a faculty sponsor and MUP program director)

Current emphases overlap the concentrations: Sustainability, global/international issues, social concerns, urban design

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- 2. Logistics: Additional Issues
- GSD-wide rule that at least 50% of their courses in any one term must be GSD courses
 - Many cross-listed courses e.g. with KSG
 - Flexibility for those doing joint degrees, in their final semesters and well below the average
- Special rules for dual degrees (called "concurrent" when within GSD and "joint" when outside) with:
 - Landscape architecture
 - Architecture
 - Law
 - Public policy (and likely public administration)

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2. Logistics: Opportunities (selected)....

Experience/employment/content related

- Summer opportunities—Community Service Fellowships, funding from international studies programs
- 2. Winter externships
- Career Services: LinkedIn planning subgroup, career days and expos
- 4. "Labs": urban theory, social agency etc

Events and organizations

- 1. Planning conferences—subsidies for SNEAPA, National APA....
- 2. Special programs e.g. planning directors of major US cities (Oct 8)
- 3. Student clubs e.g. HUPO, in real estate, transportation, housing....
- 4. Departmental governance e.g. sit on committees

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2. Logistics: Getting Information and Advice

- 1. Who
 - Erica George (Program Coordinator) and Ann Forsyth (Program Director)
 - Student Services and Career Services (Room 422)
- Web sites
 - MUP: http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/#/academic-programs/urban-planning-design/mup/index.html
 - UPD Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/HarvardUPD
 - GSD LinkedIn planning subgroup: http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/#/gsd-resources/career-resource-library/linkedin.html
 - HUPO_http://www.harvardplanning.com/
 - annforsyth.net: http://annforsyth.net/ including office hours signup



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2. Logistics: Contacting Me

- Office hours—online sign up and 8+ hours per week during semester (M 3-5, W 3-5, F 12-2, S 2-4 (with extra hours at peak times). You can come in person, call, or Skype (if arranged in advance)
- Monthly meetings with cookies—program issues (likely 4th Mondays 5:30-6:30)
- Email—I respond fast! If it's a larger issue I may blog about it on Planetizen or add it to the UPD web site
- Emergencies—see Erica George
- Form signing—(a) come during office hours or (b) slide form under my door and email me
- Drop in—only during office hours

MUP Orientation 3. Upcoming Activities

- Aug 27-31: Orientation activities
- Sept 8: Reception at Faculty Club
- Sept 15: Tour of Boston
- Sept 20 or 21: Bus to SNEAPA in Hartford
- Oct 8: Big city planning directors
- Lots of other lectures and events...



MUP Orientation 4. Managing Time 1. Don't mistake inputs for outputs—avoid busy work but also do your share 2. Spend enough time, early on (people who stay up all night came to work at 10pm or started the whole project too late) 3. Track and balance your time—use a log, lists... 4. Plan out your semester and your days 5. Manage IT distractions 6. Figure out your own personal style and your body rhythms 7. Work with your motivations and goals 8. Know your tradeoffs--don't expect to do well in a class if you are focusing on other things 9. Just do it





