City and Regional Planning (CTRP)

Course information contained within the Bulletin is accurate at the time of publication in June 2026 but is subject to change. For the most up-to-date course information, please refer to the Course Catalog.

CTRP 0807. People, Places, and Environment. 3 Credit Hours.
Have you ever thought about the relationship people have to their place - home, neighborhood, town, or city? How about to the environment? Have you ever thought about how people have shaped the places of our everyday lives - suburban housing developments, shopping malls, and small towns? And, have you ever thought about what will happen in the future to the Earth's natural resources - the air, water, and land - as we continue to build and expand? Explore these kinds of questions through readings, lectures, video presentations, and group discussions. Challenge your mind - and imagination - and open up new avenues of discovery. NOTE: This course fulfills the U.S. Society (GU) requirement for students under GenEd and American Culture (AC) for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for CTRP 0807 if they have successfully completed CTRP 1007, CRP 1007 or CRP C061.

Course Attributes: GU, SE, SF, SP

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 0821. Digital Mapping: From Mercator to Mashups. 4 Credit Hours.
Almost all of us interact with digital maps regularly for finding directions and the locations of services, like the nearest coffee shop. Yet for most, the inner workings of digital maps remain a mystery. This course provides an in-depth exploration of how digital maps work - what technologies support location tracking, where do the mapped data come from, and how digital maps are used to analyze geographic problems in urban and environmental planning and policy, health, and business. Along the way, you will develop quantitative literacy by learning how to acquire spatial data, make digital maps, and critically evaluate mapping applications. NOTE: This course fulfills the Quantitative Literacy (GQ) requirement for students under GenEd and a Quantitative Reasoning (QA or QB) requirement for students under Core. Students cannot receive credit for CTRP 0821 if they have successfully completed CRP 0821, GUS 0821 or GUS 0921.

Course Attributes: GQ, SI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 1001. Freshman Seminar/Discovery Series. 1 Credit Hour.
Introduces first-year students to the purpose of higher education and the skills needed to use information technology and academic resources successfully in college and the workplace. Focuses on topics useful to college students, including time management, teamwork, study skills, and academic and career planning.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 1017. City Planning Principles and Practice. 3 Credit Hours.
Theory and practice of urban planning in the United States. Discussion of planning policy, methodology, and implementation in such areas as land use, housing, environment, economic development, and transportation. Particular emphasis is given to the ways in which values and ethics inform the planning process, as well as how societal changes are affecting our land use options. Note: Prior to fall 2017, the course title was "Introduction to Community and Regional Planning."

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 2114. Urban Form and Design. 3 Credit Hours.
Basic design principles, techniques, and practices of sustainable urban form and design. The topics for most readings, projects, and guest lectures are people oriented and examine the many elements that contribute to the aesthetic and human quality of communities of all sizes. Through poster presentations, field visits, and other assignments, students analyze the nature of public spaces, streets and boulevards, landscaping, water, materials, light, scale, mass, and time. Explores the roles of unity, harmony, symbolism, and cultural values. Course readings have both historical and current references. Students participate in real-world urban design projects, visual design analyses, and presentations in a studio setting.

Course Attributes: CEC, SI, SS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 2166. Land Use Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
At the heart and soul of community and regional planning is land use. How we use land and the institutional and legal basis by which we establish and implement land use goals are key elements in how our communities and regions are shaped. This course examines the foundations of land use planning, which begins with an understanding of attitudinal, value, and ethical perspectives of how land resources are used. The range of land use implementation approaches - regulatory, fiscal, incentives, and public investment - are also evaluated. The course additionally discusses the importance of ecological planning and design as prospects for contemporary land use planning to create sustainable communities and regions. NOTE: This course is not open to students who have taken Geography and Urban Studies 4015 (0215).

Course Attributes: SE, SI, SP, SS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 2213. Environmental Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
A comprehensive overview of physical and environmental systems, including land, air, and water, and how planning can be conducted to protect such systems. Topics include environmental assessments and impact statements, storm water and floodplain management, water conservation, protection of open spaces and water supplies, waste management, and air pollution control.

Course Attributes: SE, SF

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 2251. Sustainable Food Systems Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
Planners are paying attention to the notion of food system planning: farm land preservation and environmental stewardship; economic development including distribution, processing, employment and globalization; and food security, involving access to affordable, healthy foods. There are also issues of public health, food cultures, consumer spending patterns, and education. This course explores all of these concerns. Guest speakers and field trips provide a focus on regionally based food systems initiatives. Course readings and lectures address work that is underway elsewhere in North America. Students develop an appreciation for the ways in which a food systems perspective can enrich community planning efforts and create more sustainable and vital places in which to live and flourish.

Course Attributes: CEC, SE, SF, SP, SS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 2524. Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems (GIS). 3 Credit Hours.
Basic principles and techniques of GIS, a computer-based system that uses spatial (geographic) data to analyze and solve real-world issues. Lab exercises, exams, and projects emphasize spatial data collection, entry, storage, analysis, and output using ArcGIS, the most widely used desktop GIS software. Students are expected to create maps, following basic cartographic rules and techniques, and to understand basic spatial data analysis techniques, including spatial query, geo-processing, and surface analysis. NOTE: This course is not open to students who have taken Geography and Urban Studies 3062 (0262). This course is the prerequisite for Advanced GIS (CTRP 5525) for all students (both undergraduate and graduate).

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3155. Ecological Planning and Development. 3 Credit Hours.
The fundamentals of the ecological planning method developed by landscape architect and regional planner, Ian McHarg, establish a basis to plan and develop both individual projects and entire communities that can be enduring (sustainable). Students examine both theory and practice in the relationship between ecological planning and actual development. Case studies, field trips, and guest presenters will highlight specific examples of the successful implementation of ecological planning by the private development sector.

Course Attributes: SE, SF, SP

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3255. Sustainability in Suburban Communities. 3 Credit Hours.
The physical forms of suburban communities and the social and economic patterns that shape residents' lives make achieving sustainability in suburbia challenging and problematic. Distances between homes, businesses, and worksites are long, transportation choices are few, infrastructure needs are extensive and costly, and impacts on ecological systems can be severe. Many argue that higher-density, urban living holds our best promise for an environmentally sustainable future in the United States, but half of all Americans live in suburbia and finding sustainable solutions for them and their communities must be part of the solution. Lectures, readings, and discussions in this course address sustainability in suburban communities by covering the history of the American suburb and processes of suburbanization; architecture and housing; landscape and community design; transportation and infrastructure; built and natural environments and ecological systems; and planning, administration, and regionalism.

Course Attributes: SE, SF, SP, SS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3256. Sustainable Community Design and Development. 3 Credit Hours.
Introduces students to the concept of sustainable development and how it has been applied to the design and development of communities. Beginning with an examination of the historical evolution of the concept of sustainable development, students then review the discourse of theory and practice of sustainable development at local, regional, and global levels. Review of case studies to understand how to evaluate the level of sustainable development principles being incorporated into planning practice.

Class Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Classes: Junior 60 to 89 Credits, Senior 90 to 119 Credits, Senior/Fifth Year 120+ Credits.

Course Attributes: SF, SP, SS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3555. Internet and Digital Technologies for Community Engagement. 3 Credit Hours.
Emerging technologies are directly influencing the planning and management of our urban areas in very profound and pervasive ways. Planning and related professionals increasingly are adopting new technologies to develop plans, communicate ideas and concepts, and engage citizens in the decision-making process. The course introduces many fundamental technology concepts including: e-Planning and e-Government; Cybercities; e-Commerce & Economic Development; Web 1.0, 2.0, 3.x, Web Conferencing Tools; Online Project Collaboration Methods; IT Project Management; Section 508 Accessibility; Planning in Virtual Worlds; Municipal Wireless Networks & Public Spaces; and Digital Divide. Through a series of labs and assignments, students gain hands-on experience with each of these technologies.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3655. Transportation Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
Presents an overview of the history of transportation in the United States and the fundamentals of present day transportation planning and policies. Explores the influences of urban form on: modal choice; accessibility and mobility of various population subsets (such as the economically- and physically-disadvantaged); regional and local travel demand; and the operational efficiency of transit, highways, bicycle, pedestrian and other modes of transportation. Covers the impact of transportation investments on land use and regional population growth, and on environmental, community, and economic sustainability. Introduces students to currently used transportation planning methodologies, legal requirements, and decision-making processes. By studying actual transportation projects, students develop a plan for an assigned project.

Course Attributes: SE, SI, SP, SS

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3755. Introduction to Emergency Management Planning. 3 Credit Hours.
Provides a fundamental understanding of the emergency planning process, the phases of emergency management, and the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved. Students work in a classroom environment, interacting with others on various assignments, projects and presentations.

Course Attributes: SI

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

CTRP 3860. Topics in Community & Regional Planning. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Variable offerings from semester to semester of selected topics not part of the regular listing of courses. The topic can be in an area of specialization of a faculty member or an examination of a current development in the field. NOTE: Students may obtain a description of the current version at the department office and in the schedule of classes. This course may be repeated for credit.

Course Attributes: SF

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CTRP 3870. Special Topics. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Variable offerings from semester to semester of selected topics not part of the regular listing of courses. The topic can be in an area of specialization of a faculty member or an examination of a current development in the field. NOTE: Students may obtain a description of the current version at the department office and in the schedule of classes. This course may be repeated for credit.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CTRP 3882. Independent Study. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Explorative study or research not met in any established course. Initiated by the student, the project must be sponsored by a faculty member with an approved agreement outlining the content and requirements, including readings, meetings, and papers. NOTE: Students must have the agreement of a faculty sponsor and must submit a formal proposal to this faculty member and Department before registering for the course. A maximum of 3 s.h. of Community and Regional Planning directed reading/study or independent study may be used as elective credit toward the Community and Regional Planning major.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CTRP 3883. Directed Reading/Study. 1 to 3 Credit Hour.
Advanced reading/study tutorial arranged between the student and a faculty member. Requirements are jointly determined relative to the specific focus of the course and may include literature review; preparation of journals, bibliographies and/or paper(s); and participation in regularly scheduled discussions. The level of work required is equivalent to a traditional course. Writing skills are evaluated for the final grade. Students are expected to demonstrate personal initiative in framing and meeting course requirements. NOTE: A maximum of 3 s.h. of Community and Regional Planning directed reading/study or independent study may be used as elective credit toward the Community and Regional Planning major.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

CTRP 3889. Planning Studio. 3 Credit Hours.
A culminating experience for undergraduates that demonstrates their abilities to resolve real-life problems. Working in small teams, students integrate and apply the previous years of educational experience to a community planning problem: analysis of the problem, data collection, communication of goals and objectives, formulation of a solution, and implementation. NOTE: Studio topics vary. This course may be repeated for credit.

Field of Study Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Majors: Community and Regional Plannin.
Class Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Classes: Junior 60 to 89 Credits, Senior 90 to 119 Credits, Senior/Fifth Year 120+ Credits.
Degree Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Degrees: Bachelor of Science.

Repeatability: This course may be repeated for additional credit.

Pre-requisites: Minimum grade of D- in (CRP 2513 or CDEV 2596) and (CTRP 2524 or CRP 2524)