

DEPARTMENT OF EARTH AND ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES

DISCOVER

URBAN AND REGIONAL

PLANNING

A NEW DEGREE IN A DEPARTMENT STEEPED IN HISTORY

URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM

PLAN
OF
EDMONTON
SETTLEMENT
N. . . I.

Scale 20 Chains to 1 Inch

EXPLANATION OF COLORS

- Green, Green Prairie and Woods, Dotted green, Water
- Blue
- Arches, Yellow with small strokes of black, Hills or Slopes, Elevation or Gray Shade
- Blue (Burnt Woods), Brown, Sellers Improvements, Pink



MSc IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

The **MSc in Urban and Regional Planning** is a course-based, professional degree providing advanced study of contemporary urban issues through research, study, and experiential learning modes.

The program is administered by the **Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences** in the Faculty of Science, with deep roots in environmental science, climate change, community planning, and northern studies. Students have numerous opportunities for cross-disciplinary research, particularly with topics in human geography, and environmental earth sciences.

Students have access to top researchers in numerous areas including sustainable community development, livable communities, northern ecosystems management, and impacts of land use/land cover change. The ability to draw on this expertise, along with access to laboratory, studio, and field research facilities such as the geographic information systems lab, planning studio space, and the digital imaging facility allows our students and faculty to excel in a collaborative and supportive learning environment.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Experiential learning in the way of internships, the planning studio, and research projects keep our students connected to the community. Our strong relationship with both government and industry also allows us to bring professional planners into the classroom as teaching associates, through our **Practicing Professionals Initiative**.

BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES



The Urban and Regional Planning Program strives to inspire and challenge both our undergraduate and graduate students to work with the local communities and stakeholders and apply their collective knowledge and skills in creating more vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive communities. We welcome everyone's thoughts, ideas and imaginations to be a part of this endeavor. We look forward to welcoming students and trust that our journey together will be filled with new discoveries, perspectives, and friendships.—**Sandeep Agrawal, Professor and Director of the Planning Program.**



WHAT SETS US APART

A focus on resilient planning and attention to issues related to climate change, resource dependency, economic change, winter cities, and northern towns makes our degree unique to Canada. In an era where climate and economic changes result in mass migration and increased urbanization, we have a responsibility to build resilient cities and communities.

The need to develop a critical understanding of environmental and economic processes in planning for growing regions and large and small towns becomes an integral thread throughout the degree.

The MSc in Urban and Regional Planning is offered in two streams to cater to a growing market of diverse professionals.

TWO YEAR REGULAR STREAM:

Designed for applicants with degrees other than planning and limited or no experience as a professional planner.

ONE YEAR ACCELERATED STREAM:

Designed for planning professionals looking to further their career. Applicants admitted to the accelerated stream will join year two of the program.

FOR PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS VISIT PLANNING.EAS.UALBERTA.CA

FUNDING

Financial assistance is available on a competitive basis in the form of academic assistantships, awards, and scholarships.

OTHER PROGRAMS IN PLANNING

DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN PLANNING

For students interested in a doctoral program, we offer a PhD in Earth and Atmospheric Sciences with Specialization in Urban and Regional Planning

In May 2016, a wildfire swept through **Fort McMurray, Alberta** triggering the largest wildfire evacuation in Alberta history. **Photo credit: John Ulan**

OPPORTUNITIES IN PLANNING

PhD candidate **Lynne Mbajjorgu's research** will investigate if and how local zoning bylaws, as well as municipal development plans, changed after natural disasters in Alberta. She is also the instructor for one of the university's newest courses, "*Oil & Building Resilient Communities*", a six-week course engaging students in discussions about building resilient communities in the context of Alberta's oil and gas sector.



RESEARCH AREAS

Our research areas span numerous aspects of urban planning including:

- Effects of human rights, multiculturalism, ethnicity and religion on urban structure and public policies, regional planning, land use and urban design and international development.—Sandeep Agrawal
- Local government decision dynamics around carbon management, and local government climate adaptation planning.—Jeff Birchall
- Environmental justice, environmental assessment, and sustainability.—Leith Deacon
- Transportation policy, land use planning, international development, and urban design.—Manish Shirgaokar
- Economic implications of environmental degradation and restoration of environmental amenities.—Amrita Singh
- Commercial development/redevelopment as public amenity, urban decay and revitalization, urban infill and densification rural water supply.—Robert Summers
- Evolution and innovation in governance; spatial, environmental and development policy.—Kristof Van Assche
- Planning and Healthcare, seniors and the built environment.—Kyle Whitfield

UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES IN PLANNING

Opportunities to study planning at the undergraduate level are available through the **Faculty of Arts** and **the Faculty of Science**.

The **BA with a Major in Planning** covers issues such as sustainability, economic development, urban design, and social concerns in planning, while the **BSc Specialization in Planning** focuses on the natural science elements of planning, including environmental management and the use of geographic information sciences.

Work experience opportunities as well as hands-on learning through field schools and studio projects are available for both degrees.

“WE WANT TO BUILD FORWARD-THINKING, SAFER, AND HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES IN ADVANCE OF NATURAL DISASTERS.”—LYNNE MBAJIORGU

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CONTACT

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
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