

Accelerated Master of Urban Planning/BA in Environmental Studies

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The Accelerated Master of Urban Planning/B.A. in Environmental Studies is designed for students who have a passion for sustaining both our natural and built environments. It allows well-qualified students to earn a bachelor's and a master's degree in five years, rather than the six years it would take to earn each degree separately. This program combines in-depth training in environmental studies and analysis with a professional degree in urban planning. Graduates are prepared for careers in environmental planning in the public, private and not-for profit sectors.

Only current KU undergraduate students are eligible to apply to the Accelerated Master of Urban Planning/B.A. in Environmental Studies. If you are not a current undergraduate student at KU, please review the admission requirements for the Master of Urban Planning.

Careful course selection and steady progression through the undergraduate career is necessary to ensure all requirements for both degrees may be completed within the 5-year time frame. All prospective students should discuss their interest with the undergraduate advisor for Environmental Studies and the Urban Planning Program director as soon as possible. A meeting with the Urban Planning Program director should take place no later than the student's junior year to discuss possible admission to the accelerated master's program.

Prospective students are eligible to apply to the graduate program in spring semester of their junior year. The following requirements must be met by this time:

- On track to complete all requirements for a B.A. or B.G.S. degree in Environmental Studies from KU by the spring semester of the senior year

Applicants must complete an application for graduate study online (<https://gradapply.ku.edu/apply/>). The following information should be gathered in advance and uploaded with the application:

- Statement of interest that succinctly summarizes the students' interests, education, their long term career goals, and how the accelerated degree program will help them achieve those goals;
- A copy of the student's advising report
- The names of three persons qualified to comment on the applicant's academic abilities and probable success in graduate study. These individuals will be asked to provide a letter of recommendation. At least two should be faculty members who have had the student in class.

Upon review of the application for admission, the Urban Planning Program will notify the student of his or her eligibility to begin coursework in the

program. Final acceptance to the Master of Urban Planning graduate program will be contingent upon the following:

- Successful completion of all requirements for the bachelor's degree;
- Grades of B or above in all Urban Planning graduate-level coursework taken in year 4

Any student who does not meet this minimum grade requirement may continue in the program but must repeat any graduate course for which they did not earn a B or above. Students should still aim to complete all requirements by the end of year 5. Students may also elect to earn only the bachelor's degree and re-apply to the graduate program at a later time.

This accelerated masters program uses a carefully planned combination of prerequisite coursework, graduate-level courses taken for both undergraduate and graduate credit in Year 4, and graduate credit courses taken in Year 5. The student must be approved to begin coursework toward the master's prior to enrolling in any classes that are to count for both undergraduate and graduate credit.

Requirements for the Bachelor's Degree

Code	Title	Hours
Environmental Studies Introduction to Science and Culture		
Majors must complete the 3 classes that make up the Environmental Studies Global Sequence.		7
EVRN 140	Global Environment I: The Discovery of Environmental Change	
	or EVRN 144 Global Environment I: Discovery of Environmental Change, Honors	
EVRN 142	Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization	
	or EVRN 144 Global Environment II: The Ecology of Human Civilization, Honors	
EVRN 160	Environmental Solutions	
Statistics. Satisfied by one of the following:		3
MATH 365	Elementary Statistics	
GEOG 316	Methods of Analyzing Geographical Data	
BIOL 370	Introduction to Biostatistics	
Environmental Humanities and Arts. Satisfied by one of the following:		3
EVRN 306	Global Environmental Literature	
EVRN 330	Sculpture Intercepting the Waste Stream	
EVRN 332	Environmental Law	
EVRN 347	Environmental History of North America	
EVRN 362	Art and Ecology: Inhabiting the Ecosphere	
EVRN 375	Radical Environmentalism in the United States	
EVRN 377	Resilient and Resistant Futures: Global Perspectives in Climate Change Literature	
EVRN 563	U.S. Environmental Thought in the 20th Century	
EVRN 630	Sculpture Intercepting the Waste Stream	
EVRN 662	Art and Ecology: Inhabiting the Ecosphere	
Environmental Social Science and Policy. Satisfied by one of the following:		3
EVRN 320	Environmental Policy Analysis	
EVRN 371	Environmental Geopolitics	
EVRN 384	Environment, Power, and Justice	

EVRN 385	Environmental Social Problems	
EVRN 386	Sociology of Global Food	
EVRN 528	Environmental Justice and Public Policy	
EVRN 537	Water Resource Sustainability	
EVRN 542	Ethnobotany	
EVRN 543	Natural Hazards and Environmental Risks	

Environmental Studies Core Knowledge and Skills

Majors must complete each of the following:

EVRN 336	Ethics, Ideas and Nature	3
EVRN 460	Field Ecology	3

Capstone satisfied by one of the following

EVRN 491	Capstone Internship	3
EVRN 615	Capstone Project	3
EVRN 624 & EVRN 625	Independent Study and Honors Research in Environmental Studies	6

Environmental Studies Required Electives/Options

UBPL 725	Environmental Planning Techniques	3
UBPL 736	Planning Law and Institutions	3

Choose two of the following: 6

UBPL 720	Sustainable Land Use Policy and Planning	
UBPL 710	Housing Policy and Planning	
UBPL 750	Transportation Policy and Planning	

Students should seek guidance from their advisor and refer to the degree plan for the specific enrollment sequence.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and grade-point average minimum standards:

Major Hours
Satisfied by 40 hours of major courses.

Major Hours in Residence
Satisfied by a minimum of 15 hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours
Satisfied by a minimum of 30 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Graduation GPA
Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/>).

Requirements for the Master's Degree

The M.U.P degree consists of core courses, specialization courses, elective courses, courses and a Master's degree final exam. While completing the following degree requirements, students are expected to understand and follow Office Graduate Studies policies relevant to their student status and academic standing. During the Senior Year (Year 4), the student must take the following Urban Planning graduate coursework, in addition to the Major Requirements noted above:

Code	Title	Hours
UBPL 705	Urban Economic Theory and Analysis	3
UBPL 741	Foundations of Compassionate Critical Thinking	3
UBPL 742	Applied Data and Spatial Analysis	3
UBPL 785	History and Theory of Planning	3

In Year 5, after the conferral of the undergraduate degree, the student will complete a total of 24 post-baccalaureate graduate credit hours, consisting of the following:

Code	Title	Hours
UBPL 730	City and County Planning	3
UBPL 735	Site Planning and Design	3
UBPL 763	Politics and Public Management	3
UBPL 777	Equity, Justice, and American Cities	3
UBPL 780	Climate Change and Hazards Planning	3
UBPL Elective or Specialization Courses - Any UBPL class outside the student's specialization can be taken as an elective. Graduate level classes taken outside of Urban Planning require Director of Graduate Studies approval.		9

M.U.P. Electives:

Elective coursework can be selected from the department's graduate course offerings focusing in the areas of housing, transportation, or sustainable land use. Additional detail of elective course and completion options can be found on the MUP Degree Requirements page (<https://catalog.ku.edu/public-affairs-administration/mup/#degreerequirementstext>). Students are encouraged to consult the UBPL Program Director when choosing elective courses.

M.U.P. Final Exam

Students in the accelerated masters must successfully pass a comprehensive exam. The examination provides a learning experience that encourages the student to synthesize the knowledge gained through course work and tests the student's competence as a generalist/specialist planner. The examination consists of the student preparing a written response to a scenario or case study in which one is asked to synthesize knowledge gained in one's course work and apply it within a particular context. No academic credit is given for the examination. Two Urban Planning faculty members assess and grade the exam with Honors, Pass, or Retake. Up to two retake attempts are permitted. The department will determine an appropriate minimum interval between exam attempts.

Progression Requirements

Each student's progress will be monitored at various points during the program:

1. Upon pre-admission acceptance to the accelerated masters, the student will meet with the UBPL Chair to plan the final year of undergraduate courses, graduate UBPL courses to be taken for elective undergraduate credit, and to outline the schedule of courses.
2. In the final spring semester of undergraduate study (Year 4), the student will meet with the UBPL Chair to review the student's performance in UBPL courses. The student must earn a grade of "B" or better in these courses to be eligible for regular admission to the Master of Urban Planning degree.
3. Following completion and award of the undergraduate degree (end of Spring Semester Year 4), the admitted student will again meet with the UBPL Chair to review the course plan for the fifth year of study and update as needed. The student's performance in the graduate-level courses taken as an undergraduate will be evaluated. To continue in the track, students must earn a combined minimum GPA of 3.25 for these courses. At this time, the student will select a specialization area within the planning degree, and will meet with a faculty advisor who is overseeing that specialization to ensure the course plan is accurate.
4. For those students who do not meet the minimum GPA requirement of 3.25 in the first semester of Year 5 an alternative plan of study to address the student's deficiencies may be developed, at the

department's sole discretion. Students may also be dismissed from the program.

5. If the baccalaureate degree is not completed at the end of Year 4, the student will not be permitted to enroll in courses for graduate credit toward the MUP degree until the baccalaureate degree has been conferred.

Students should complete all requirements for the master's degree within one year of receiving the bachelor's degree. If unforeseen circumstances prevent the timely completion of the master's degree, the student must consult with their graduate advisor to develop an alternative plan for completion.

Freshman

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
ENGL 101 (Goal 2.1, BA Writing I)	3	ENGL 102 (Goal 2.1b, BA Writing II)	3
MATH 101 (Goal 1.2)	3	MATH 365, GEOG 316, or BIOL 370 (Major Req) ¹	3-4
1st Semester Language (BA 2nd language)	5	2nd Semester Language (BA 2nd language)	5
EVRN 140 or 144 (Goal 3N, BA Lab Req., Major req.)	3	EVRN 142 or 145 (Goal 3, Major Req.)	3
EVRN 160	1	Second area of Study /Elective/ Degree/Junior-Senior Hours	3
15		17-18	

Sophomore

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
EVRN 148	3	Goal 2.2	3
EVRN 103	3	Goal 4.1	3
3rd Semester Language (BA Second Language)	3	4th Semester Language (Major Req.)	3
UBPL 200 (Goal 1.1)	3	Goal 3H	3
Environmental Humanities and Arts (Major Requirement) ²	3	Environmental Social Science and Policy (Major Requirement) ²	3
15		15	

Junior

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
UBPL 425 (major req)	3	Goal 5	3
Goal 4.2 Global Awareness	3	UBPL 300	3

Elective/ Possible Minor Course	3 Elective/ Possible Minor Course	3
Elective/ Possible Minor Course	3 Elective/ Possible Minor Course	3
Elective/ Possible Minor Course	3 Elective/ Possible Minor Course	3
15		15

Senior

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours Summer	Hours
EVRN 460 (Major Req.)	3 EVRN 615 (Major Req.)	3 UBPL 780	3
UBPL 740 (new course)	3 UBPL 705	3	
UBPL 785	3 UBPL 736	3	
EVRN Undergrad Elective	3 UBPL 720	3	
EVRN Undergrad Elective	3		
15		12	3

Year 5

Fall	Hours Spring	Hours
UBPL 742	3 UBPL 763	3
UBPL 777	3 UBPL Elective or Specialization Course	3
UBPL Elective or Specialization Course	3 UBPL Elective or Specialization Course	3
UBPL Elective or Specialization Course	3 UBPL Elective or Specialization Course	3
12		12

Total Hours 146-147

¹ If MATH 365 is not selected, one of the electives in the plan must be switched to a BA Quantitative requirement.

² For courses that satisfy this requirement, see the Degree Requirements tab.