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Guidelines for Urban and Regional Studies and Planning

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1. Purpose.

The collection in Urban and Regional Studies and Planning supports teaching and research from the Bachelor's degree through the Ph.D. level. The student in the Bachelor of Science program is able to choose a concentration in Urban Planning and Policy or Regional Analysis and Development. The Department of Urban and Regional Studies and Planning offers three post-baccalaureate certificate programs:

- the Certificate in Urban Revitalization helps students learn techniques and the processes of city and neighborhood revitalization, including adaptive reuse of buildings, historic preservation, real estate market analysis and the role of private-public partnerships in financing development projects;
- the Certificate in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) helps students gain specialized training in operations and techniques related to the creation, analysis, modeling, visualization, interpretation and management of geographic information;
- the Certificate in Sustainability Planning helps students acquire analytical and professional skills to identify and address barriers to sustainability, and to develop plans and policies for more sustainable lifestyles, systems and institutions.

The Master of Urban and Regional Planning offers three concentrations: housing and community development, environmental planning, and metropolitan planning.

A cooperative arrangement with the T.C. Williams Law School of the University of Richmond makes it possible for students to receive a law degree (J.D.) and a Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree (M.U.R.P.) in four years rather than five.



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The purpose of the program is to integrate the two professional curricula and to provide the expertise necessary to apply legal analytical skills and planning methods analysis to urban and regional policy issues and problems. The M.U.R.P. program is fully accredited by the Planning Accreditation Board (PAB).

The Wilder School also offers a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration with a concentration in Urban and Regional Policy. The Urban and Regional Policy Concentration is intended for those students whose public policy interests involve issues of particular relevance to cities and/or metropolitan regions. Students receiving the Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration with a Concentration in Urban and Regional Policy will typically pursue careers as teachers and researchers in institutions of higher education or as policy analysts in public, local, state, or federal levels.

2. General Collection Guidelines.

A. Language.

English is the primary language of the collection.

B. Chronology.

Emphasis is on contemporary trends and issues.

C. Geography.

Emphasis is on the United States but international resources are also collected.

D. Publication Date.

Primary emphasis is on current aspects of urban studies. Some retrospective purchasing takes place to fill in gaps and replace missing items.

E. Treatment of Subject.

Professional and scholarly works that support the curriculum are acquired broadly. Upper division and graduate texts are acquired selectively. Popular and lower division textbooks are not generally acquired.

F. Types of Materials and Formats.

Periodicals and monographs are the principal format. Also included are dictionaries, encyclopedias, handbooks, conference proceedings, government documents, databases, streaming media and GIS datasets.

3. Area Resources.

There are no local resources in this subject area that impinge upon collection decisions.

4. Related Subject Policy Statements.

See Business, Government Documents, Political Science, and Public Administration policies.

5. Subjects and Collecting Levels.

Resources in Urban and Regional Planning relating to the areas of study in the department are collected at a research level (4). These areas cover Development Planning, Legal and Legislative Foundations of Planning, Community Socioeconomic Analysis, GIS, Community Revitalization, Environmental Planning, Land Use Planning, Regional Policy and Planning, Transportation, Sustainable Planning and Development, Urban Economic Development Policy, and Real Estate Development.