

Department of Urban Studies and Planning
Wayne State University
Public Information, Academic Year 2014-15

This report includes program assessment information related to three programs in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning:

- Master of Urban Planning (MUP)
- Graduate Certificate in Economic Development (GCED)
- BA in Urban Studies

For more information about any program in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning, its learning outcomes, their assessment, or findings, please write DUSP@wayne.edu or call 313-577-2701.

Master of Urban Planning

The first section relates to the **Master of Urban Planning (MUP)** at Wayne State University. It is being provided to inform the public on key indicators related to the degree program. It also satisfies Standard 7.D of the Accreditation Standards (2012) developed by the Planning Accreditation Board. (Updated, April 13, 2015)

1. Student Achievement in MUP Program.

Our 2014 Exit Survey of graduates, n=19, shows that nearly four out of five (79%) are satisfied or highly satisfied with the training they received in the program. Responses related to preparedness in specific categories indicate that our students are well-equipped in a variety of planning competencies, with especially high rates of self-reported preparedness in ethics of professional practice, citizen participation and public involvement, and equity and social justice.

The 2014 Exit Survey is being modified to ask for satisfaction in each of the three concentrations in the program and includes other improvements, and will be implemented in the revised format, during the Winter 2015 term. Preparedness questions will also reflect all PAB-identified competencies in planning knowledge, skills, and values.

Similarly, of the 52 alumni who responded to the 2012 MUP alumni survey sent to all those who graduated between 2006 and 2011 (response rate=73 percent), 80 percent are satisfied or highly satisfied with their experience in Wayne State's Urban Planning program. Finally, in a small-sample survey (n=7), employers of our graduates have identified the following strengths among WSU MUP graduates: familiarity with Detroit, broad understanding of planning field, good grasp of political climate and real-world planning issues, stronger in planning content than graduates from other universities, and an increase in overall quality over the years.

2. Tuition and fees (full time, one year, in-state), Academic Year 2014-15

Tuition calculation based on taking **8.0** credit hour(s)

Itemized Tuition and Fees

Resident Graduate School per CREDIT HOUR RATE: \$571.90

Student Service per Credit Hour Fee: \$43.50
 Registration Fee: \$266.10
 Fitness Center Maintenance Fee: \$25.00

Tuition	\$571.90 x 8.0 credits =	\$4,575.20
Student Service per Credit Hour Fee	\$43.50 x 8.0 credits =	\$348.00
Registration Fee:		\$266.10
Fitness Center Maintenance Fee:		\$25.00
Total Estimated Cost		\$5,214.30

Note: The total estimated cost amount does not include all fees, (i.e., late registration, course fees, lab fees, or optional fees). To calculate tuition using other parameters, browse: <http://apps.reg.wayne.edu/tuition/calculate>.

3. Student retention and graduation rates

3.a. Degrees awarded 2011-2014

MUP degrees awarded in Academic Year 2013-14 (Sept. 1, 2013-August 31, 2014)	23
MUP degrees awarded in Academic Year 2012-13	13
MUP degrees awarded in Academic Year 2011-12	14
Total MUP degrees, 2011-2014	50
BA in Urban Studies degrees awarded in Academic Year 2013-14 (this number includes one Urban Studies Honors degree)	23
BA in Urban Studies degrees awarded in Academic Year 2012-13 (includes 1 Urban Studies Honors degree)	17
BA in Urban Studies degrees awarded in Academic Year 2011-12	16
Total BA in Urban Studies degrees, 2011-2014	56

3.b. Graduation Rates

Academic year	Semester	Number enrolled	1 yr. Retention rate	Graduated within 4 years	4 year graduation rate	Graduated within 5 years	5 year graduation rate
2009-10	F2009 W2010	19 10	14/29 (48%)	5	17%	7	24%
2010-11	F2010 W2011	17 7	17/24 (71%)	8	33%	8	33%
2011-12	F2011 W2012	27 3	20/30 (67%)	13	43%	13	43%
2012-13	F2012 W2013	14 4	11/18 (61%)				
2013-14	F2013 W2014	19 6	19/25 (76%)				

For students who first enrolled in the MUP Program Fall 2009 through Fall 2012, the overall graduation rate is 34 percent, with an average time to completion of just over 3 years.

Note: Graduation rates include in the denominator international exchange students who may take classes for one or two semesters (more recently to study Detroit) but do not intend to pursue a degree, as well as students who sign up for classes their first semester but fail to attend, or attend but leave after the first semester for financial reasons, inability to satisfy the criteria of a qualified admit, or other reasons.

4. American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) exam

From reports obtained from the AICP, five WSU students who graduated with their MUP degree since January 2009 took the AICP exam. Four passed, constituting a pass-rate of 80 percent. No WSU MUP graduate was reported to have taken the exam since November 2010.

The majority of our MUP graduates find planning employment in public, private, and non-profit sector positions for which AICP is not a required credential. However, 11 out of 19 students (58 percent) who completed the 2014 Exit Survey intend to take the AICP exam. Seventeen percent of alumni survey respondents in 2012 who answered this question reported that they have achieved AICP certification since their graduation from the MUP program.

5. Employment of graduates in a professional planning or planning-related job

From our 2014 Exit Survey, 18 out of 19 respondents (95 percent) are employed in a part- or full-time position or are self-employed, with 16 in planning-related jobs. Seven graduates, or 38 percent, work for local, county or state government; 31 percent work for a private, for-profit employer; and 25 percent, for a non-profit agency.

In our 2012 Alumni Survey, more than 96% of recent graduates reported that they were employed at least part-time or on a contractual basis, and 75% were employed full-time—a noteworthy statistic given the dire state of Michigan's economy around the time of their graduation.

**Graduate Certificate in Economic Development
Assessment Report and Action Implementation, Academic Year 2014-15**

The Graduate Certificate in Economic Development is designed for students who wish to combine a graduate degree (Master's or Ph.D.) with a specialty in urban, regional and state economic development. It is awarded only in conjunction with the completion of a graduate degree or to those who already have such a degree. The graduate certificate in economic development is currently administered by the Department of Urban Studies and Planning in collaboration with the following graduate programs: Business Administration, Economics, Industrial Relations, Political Science, Public Administration, and Urban Planning.

Students are required to complete 12 credits (normally 4 courses) selected from 4 areas of competency: [1] Theory and Practice of Economic Development, [2] Economic Development Policy, Politics and Institutions, [3] Economics and Finance of Economic Development and [4] Economic Development Management and Analysis Techniques.

The only required course - Regional, State, and Urban Economic Development - is offered by faculty under the direction of the Department of Urban Studies and Planning), usually in tandem with the course being offered in the Master of Urban Planning program. This course is regularly scheduled in the winter semester, and usually taught by Professor Robin Boyle, except in 2015, when Adjunct Instructor Robert Heuton taught it.

Student Data and Achievement

In the two (calendar) years: 2014 -2105, five (5) students were enrolled in the Graduate Certificate.

In the four (calendar) years: 2012-2015, twelve (12) students completed all requirements for the Graduate Certificate. Exit surveys were not in place during this time.

Tuition and Fees

Academic Year 2014-15: Tuition calculation based on taking 12.0 credit hour(s); Itemized Tuition and Fees per CREDIT HOUR RATE: \$571.90
Student Service per Credit Hour Fee: \$43.50
Registration Fee: \$266.10
Fitness Center Maintenance Fee: \$25.00
Total Tuition \$571.90 x 12.0 credits = \$6,862.80;
Student Service per Credit Hour Fee \$43.50 x 12 credits = \$522.00; Registration Fee: \$266.10;
Fitness Center Maintenance Fee: \$25.00.

Total Estimated Cost=\$7676.00

Graduation Rates

n/a

Employment

Exit surveys were not in place during this time.

Action Steps - Academic Year 2015-16

(1) A GCED database will be established to better track student progress through the Certificate. This will be developed Winter 2016.

(2) A comprehensive Learning Outcomes Assessment tool will be devised and pilot tested before implementation. Based on the tracking system, above, on completion of the necessary 12 credits students will be required to complete a terminal report that will be used to assess competencies gained through the Certificate and accordingly determine their learning outcomes. A pilot will be implemented Winter 2016.

(3) An exit survey will be designed and implemented for each graduating cohort, beginning the end of Winter 2016.

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12-17-2015

Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies Program Assessment Report, Academic Year 2014-15

The Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies Program at Wayne State University recently completed its Program Assessment for 2014-15. The following section includes key findings and action plans.

The Urban Studies Program is a rigorous, cross-disciplinary course of study leading to a **Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies**. In the program, students gain in-depth understanding of:

- how cities and metro areas came to be;
- the physical forms urban areas take;
- social, political, and economic relationships in these areas;
- costs and benefits of urbanization;
- the role of planning and public policy in shaping the quality of life and opportunity for residents of metro areas.

Program Assessment

Two key sources were used to measure seven program learning outcomes: a) academic performance in the Capstone Research course, and b) responses to an exit survey. The former is a required course that majors usually take as their last in the program. The second is administered to all students at the end of the Capstone Research course.

Findings reported here are from Winter 2015 when the Capstone course was last offered. 100% of the students (n=12) were proficient in five of the seven learning outcomes (proficiency defined as earning a grade of B or higher on the related assignment), with 83% of the students proficient on the other two. The exit survey was completed by five out of the 12 students registered in the class. Nearly all reported being prepared or better on 16 of the 21 outcomes.

Student responses to open-ended questions in the Exit Survey and other forums seeking suggested program improvements during the academic year included the following:

- assistance with finding internships and/or requiring internships
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) as a required course
- more environmental and sustainability content in the curriculum
- better coordination of assigned texts across diverse courses, to avoid repetition
- more regular course offerings
- more public policy focus on urban issues and planning

Action Plan

The following actions have been identified for AY 2015-16, with implementation of some starting Winter 2016.

- Review learning outcomes and modify assessment methods, including strategies to improve the return rate of completed exit surveys.
- Modify Capstone course structure to incorporate research project implementation (ie, not just design), to better align with program learning outcomes.

- Develop high quality internships through community relationships; better integrate internship information in program advising.
- Develop and submit for college approvals, curriculum revisions, including GIS as a required course and a new course related to internships with the City of Detroit.
- Explore strategies to strengthen Urban Studies curriculum and program administration (including recruitment, retention, and graduation rate and times) in DUSP Strategic Planning undertaken in AY 2015-16.