

URBAN PLANNING is . . .

A FIELD OF STUDY and a PROFESSION

- Urban planning focuses on policies and designs that make cities (or places of any size) –more *sustainable*, including land uses that protect or restore the environment, policies that will revitalize downtowns, and measures that will ensure a sense of belonging for all groups from the community.
- Students may apply what they learn in urban planning in three main areas of employment:
 - 1) in the **private sector** as developers, property managers, realtors or entrepreneurs;
 - 2) in the **non-profit** arena, as housing advocates, coordinators of watershed protection, promoters of parks and more; and
 - 3) in **government** as municipal or regional officials, or as employees of such federal agencies as the EPA, HUD or the Dept. of Transportation.



GPY 310---LAND USE PLANNING

MW 3:00- 4:15 p.m.

This course offers students an opportunity to explore in more depth the forces that determine the fate of our landscapes, following up on the themes introduced in GPY 209, including a closer look (and practice writing) the two main tools documents used to shape land use for the future—the comprehensive plan and the zoning ordinance. The planning subjects of special emphasis this semester will be **historic preservation, parks, and mixed income housing**.

Courses for Winter '16



GPY 316-TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

Thurs. 6:00-8:50pm

- This course examines the full range of transportation modes –from bicycles to high-speed rail and the implications of choosing different modes in different places. Students will also consider what street and transit plans offer the best future for West Michigan and elsewhere.
- Students will have the opportunity to network and learn from local, state, and federal transportation planning professionals.
- Ultimately, students will also explore the political and technical solutions to the transport-related problems of congestion, development, safety, and social equity.



GPY 209---INTRODUCTION TO CITY AND REGIONAL PLANNING

TTh 11: 30-12:45, Eberhard Center 716

- This course introduces students to elements of urban form that play a crucial role in successful urban design –from local pocket parks to regional commercial centers. It also provides students with a foundation in the history of planning in the U.S. and key ideas/thinkers in the field. Students acquire a vocabulary in zoning and master planning and examine such sub-fields as housing and environmental planning.