Sustainable Urban and Regional Planning, Minor

**PROGRAM OFFERINGS AT GRAND VALLEY**

The Department of Geography and Sustainable Planning offers a minor in sustainable urban and regional planning, which focuses on strategies, best practices, and skills required for sustainable area development, smart and green infrastructure, and sustainable integration of social, environmental, and economic priorities in planning.  Students learn to improve regions while achieving key sustainability goals.

**COURSEWORK**

The minor requires completion of 24 credits, including:

* GPY 111 Cities, Towns, and Villages (3cr.)
* GPY/PA 209 Intro to Urban and Regional Planning (3cr.)
* GPY 414 Land Use Planning (3cr.)
  + Prerequisite: GPY 111 and GPY 209

Select five courses or 15 credits of the following (may require junior standing):

* GPY 307-Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (3cr.)
* PA 307- Local Politics and Administration (3cr.)
* GPY/ENS/PA 312 Urban and Regional Environmental Planning (3cr.)
* GPY 314- Land use and Planning Law (3cr.)
* GPY/PA 316-Transportation Planning (3cr.)
* GPY/PA 324- Urbanization (3cr.)
* GPY/PA/MKT 365 GIS for Economic and Business Decision Making (3cr.)
* GPY 381/PA 380- Study Abroad (Summer II in Netherlands) (3cr.)
* GPY/ECO 385- GIS in Urban and Regional Analysis (3cr.)
* GPY/ENS/PA 410 Landscape Analysis and Green Infrastructure (3cr.)
* GPY/ENS 412-Global Climate and Environmental Change (3cr.)
* PA 495- Community Analysis (capstone) (Prerequisite: senior standing) (3cr.)
* GPY 496- Field Research Project (Prerequisite: senior standing) (3cr.)

**CAREER OPTIONS**

Concepts and skills in sustainable urban planning are applicable to a variety of specialties that include:

* Urban planning
* Regional planning
* Environmental planning
* Sustainability planning
* Smart/green infrastructure
* Environmental design

**WHY STUDY SUSTAINABLE URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING AT GRAND VALLEY?**

* To demonstrate mastery of key principles of design and policy in the field of urban and regional planning, including the historical roots of those principles and strategies for their implementation.
* To understand the historical evolution of urban planning including key thinkers and planning paradigms.
* To master best practices in urban sustainable design.
* To develop competency in environmental, economic and social goals of sustainable planning.

**It is imperative to meet with your faculty advisor or an advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center early in your career.**

**The CLAS Academic Advising Center is located in C-1-140 MAK, 616-331-8585.**

**Your academic advisor in the CLAS Academic Advising Center is Emily Davis (**[davisem1@gvsu.edu](mailto:davisem1@gvsu.edu)**).**

**Online at:** [**http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising**](http://www.gvsu.edu/clasadvising)

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