Environmental Services

Method II: course work and research
Two letters of reference.
Statement of interest.

Method III: course work only. Most students
Numeracy skills and the ability to solve basic math problems using algebra and

Land Use & Real Estate
4 year Bachelor or Honours degree.
Application due:
Grade requirements:

What is the community like?
At Queen’s, graduate students from all disciplines

What about FEES?
There is no guaranteed funding for MPL students. However, students may apply for Teaching
Assistant and Research Assistant positions in the Department of Geography and Planning.

Most students also undertake a paid professional internship in the summer between first and
second year. Many students typically receive Queen’s Graduate Awards, based on class standing. For more
information, see the School of Graduate Studies’ information on awards and scholarships.

Why GRADUATE STUDIES in URBAN PLANNING?
The School of Urban & Regional Planning (SURP) in the Queen’s Department of Geography and
Planning emphasizes excellence in teaching, with high faculty-student engagement and courses that capitalize on the considerable
planning experience of our energetic faculty.

This is a professional education program that also has a significant research component. It
is officially recognized by the Canadian Institute of Planners as a key stage toward earning the
Registered Professional Planners designation.

Why QUEEN’S?
Your instructors will be a team of exceptional professors. The core faculty combine years of
professional experience with strong research skills and a passion for promoting learning.
Their books are used as core texts in planning courses across Canada and several have
been honoured with university teaching and professional service awards.

School of Graduate Studies
Create an impact
www.queensu.ca/sgs

PROGRAM STRUCTURE
There are three methods of completion for the Master’s of Urban and Regional Planning:

Method I: course work and thesis.
Method II: course work and research report.
Method III: course work only. Most students also complete a paid summer internship.

Areas of SPECIALIZATION
• Environmental Services
• Health & Social Planning
• Land Use & Real Estate

Supervisors are matched late in the first year, based upon the final topic of the student’s report or thesis proposal and the availability and research skills of the particular faculty
members. Most students preparing a thesis or Master’s research report find a research
supervisor from among the regular or adjunct faculty of the School.

Over the past five years, more than 90% of our students have obtained paid professional
internships during the summer term in the middle of the MPL program. And over 90% of
our graduates have obtained planning-related employment within six months of graduation.
About half of SURP graduates work in the public sector, with policy agencies at the federal
and provincial levels or as planners at local and regional governments.

Why do I need to know to APPLY?

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS
• 4 year Bachelor or Honours degree.
• Grade requirements: minimum upper second class standing (B+ average), with
  preference for those with a first class standing (A-average) in the final 2 years of
  undergraduate study.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
• Statement of interest.
• Two letters of reference.
• Numeracy skills and the ability to solve basic math problems using algebra and
  geometry.
• If English is not a native language, prospective students must meet the English
  language proficiency requirements in writing, speaking, reading, and listening. The
  School of Urban and Regional Planning requires the following minimum scores: (1)
  TOEFL (paper-based): 600 (2) TOEFL iBT: Writing (25/30); Speaking (25/30); Reading
  (25/30); Listening (25/30), for a total of 100/120 (applicants must have the minimum
  score in each test as well as the minimum overall score); (2) IELTS: 7.0 (academic
  module overall band score and a 7.0 for each test band); or (4) PTE Academics: 65.

KEY DATES & DEADLINES
• Application due: January 31 (Domestic & International students), which must include
  all supporting documents. However, late applications from domestic students may be
  considered on a rolling basis until all spots are filled.
• Notification of acceptance: Typically 6 weeks after the application is received.

Before you start your application, please review the Graduate studies application process.

Where can I get help?
Queen’s provides you with a broad range of support services from your first point of contact
with the university through to graduation.

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### TERMS 1 AND 2

- Start with key priorities like developing your relationship with your advisor, preparing your Plan of Study, and doing your required coursework.
- Identify a research topic and supervisor (Term 2), if student is undertaking report or thesis option.
- Apply for Exchange Programs and International Experience Awards (Term 2).

### SUMMER

- Literature review and start research proposal.
- Complete a paid professional internship related to planning.
- Find your way through the academic process with help from departmental and Expanding Horizons professional development workshops, the department Grad Chair and the SGS Habitat.

### TERMS 4 AND 5

- Update your Plan of Study.
- Complete your research proposal (Term 4).
- Possible international exchange (Term 5).
- Complete your coursework, Master's Report or Thesis.

### WHAT WILL I LEARN?

A professional degree in Urban Regional Planning can equip you with valuable and versatile skills, such as:

- **Knowledge and technical skills:**
  - Human Settlements
  - History and Principles of Planning
  - Government and Law
  - Issues in Planning and Policy-Making
  - Processes of Planning and Policy-Making
  - Plan and Policy Implementation

- **Critical Thinking:**
  - Quantitative and qualitative analysis
  - Identifying patterns, trends
  - Thinking at various geographic scales
  - Designing scenarios and plans

- **Social Interaction and Leadership:**
  - Mediation, facilitation, negotiation, and conflict resolution
  - Inclusion of diverse people and values
  - Team-work and team-building
  - Relations to bosses, officials and the public

- **Communication:**
  - Written, oral, graphic communication
  - Information technology (GIS, CAD)

- **Professionalism:**
  - Managing complexity, uncertainty and change, learning from practice, and handling ethical dilemmas

### WHERE CAN I GO?

A Master's degree in Urban Regional Planning can take your career in many directions. Our students are equipped with a strong foundation for careers such as:

- City planner
- Community development officer
- Conflict resolution mediator or negotiator
- Doctoral studies
- Economics development officer
- Environmental planner
- Geographic Information System planner
- Health planner
- Heritage coordinator
- Industrial planner
- Land use planner
- Municipal, recreation, or park planner
- Planning director or consultant
- Policy or real estate analyst
- Regional planner
- Resource development officer
- Social planner
- Transportation planner
- Urban designer

Taking time to explore career options, build experience, and network can help you have a smooth transition to the world of work after graduation.

Visit careers.queensu.ca/gradmaps for the online version with links!