International Planning Concentration
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Fall 2016 – Spring 2017

This concentration within the MUP program is intended to provide a solid professional and academic preparation in international planning. The concentration responds to three global concerns. The first is the increasing prominence of urbanization as a major political, economic and social force in world affairs. As of 2010, for the first time in our species’ history, more than half of the world’s population now lives in cities. This fundamental change in the pattern of global human settlement raises unprecedented challenges for the planning, design and management of cities and their hinterlands. The second motivating concern is the rapid growth of cities in the developing world, where most growth in the planet’s urban population is now taking place. Finally, the concentration reflects the recognition that planners can draw profound lessons from a comparative perspective on urban phenomena, drawing across experiences in different countries and diverse urban environments.

Within the concentration, students can focus broadly on international planning or concentrate on a number of subthemes that speak to pressing problems related to different developmental conditions. The latter topics might include informality, poverty, service scarcities (especially in transportation, housing, water, and health services), social exclusion, and governance, including the potential for participatory planning. Students are encouraged to focus their interests on a single country in a particular region (such as Latin America, South Asia, the Middle East, or Africa, to name just a few). To successfully satisfy the concentration requirements, students must complete 12 units from the list of preapproved courses provided below or from other courses that have been selected by the student and approved by the concentration advisor. Students intending to undertake the concentration in international planning should begin to map out courses early in their program to be sure that they are able to take advantage of courses offered in only one term or in alternate years.

As Harvard and other local universities offer a wide variety of courses relevant to international planning, the list below is not exhaustive. If students would like to include alternative courses to satisfy the 12 unit concentration requirement, they should speak early on with Michael Hooper or Diane Davis to ensure that the courses are suitable. Participation in some of the courses listed below may require permission from their instructors, and it is the student’s responsibility to contact such instructors to ascertain whether admission is possible. For course offerings in other schools at Harvard or at other universities, it is recommended that students approach the instructor early to ensure it is possible to take the course. Students are advised to review the course pages of the respective schools and departments to be sure that no changes to listings have taken place.

Please note that course offerings often change, and new courses may be offered while these recommended courses may not be offered each year. This memo is subject to change depending on the availability of courses. Other courses may be approved with the permission of one of the Concentration Advisors.

Updated: August 3, 2016
Recommended basic courses:
The following courses are recommended to those interested in the concentration. They are introductory level courses that give a good overview of the topics and subject matter covered in more depth by other courses in the concentration:
GSD 5319 Urbanization and International Development
GSD 5502 Urban Governance and the Politics of Planning in the Developing World

Approved courses include:

Fall
At the Graduate School of Design:
GSD 3348 The Idea of Environment
GSD 3360 Architecture of Peace
GSD 4329 Urbanization in the East Asian Region
GSD 4369 Architecture, Urbanism, and National Identity in Muslim Geographies
GSD 5210 Cities by Design I
GSD 5466 The Spatial Politics of Land
GSD 9127 Real Estate and City Making in China
GSD 5502 Urban Governance and the Politics of Planning in the Developing World*

*Only if not taken to satisfy a methods or other requirement

At the Kennedy School of Government:
HKS IGA - 422 Global Food Politics and Policy
HKS MLD-102 Getting Things Done: Management in a Development Context
HKS PED-130 Why are So Many Countries Poor, Volatile and Unequal?
HKS PED-338 Contemporary Developing Countries: Entrepreneurial Solutions to Intractable Social and Economic Problems
HKS PED-375 The Informal Economy: Is Formalization Really The Answer?
HKS IGA-523 Innovation for Global Development

At the School of Public Health:
HSPH GHP 244 Health Sector Reform: A Worldwide Perspective
HSPH GHP 272 Foundations of Global Health and Population
HSPH GHP 288 Issues in Health and Human Rights

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At the Faculty of Arts and Sciences:
FAS ECON 2326 Economic Development: Theory and Evidence Rodrik
FAS GOV 2131 Comparative Politics of Latin America Domínguez, Levitsky
FAS GOV 2148 Civil Society, West and East Pharr, Ekiert

At MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology):
MIT 11.463J Structuring Low Income Housing Projects in Developing Countries Goethert
MIT 11.466J Technology, Globalization, and Sustainable Development Ashford
MIT 11.701 Introduction to International Development Rajagopal

Spring
(Note that Spring course listings will be updated once the catalog is completed)

At the Graduate School of Design:
GSD 3336 Design Anthropology: Objects, Landscapes, Cities Doherty, Caton
GSD 4344 Modern Architecture and Urbanism in China Rowe
GSD 5211 Cities by Design II Various
GSD 5290 The Space of Conflict Potvin
GSD 5337 Housing and Urbanization in Global Cities von Hoffman, Schmidt
GSD 5347 International Urbanization and Development Balakrishnan
GSD 5365 Small Cities and Towns in Metropolitan Regions Rowe
GSD 5366 Global Perspectives on Shelter Insecurity and Displacement Hooper

At the Kennedy School of Government:
HKS IGA-103 Global Governance Ruggie
HKS IGA-436 Water Resources Development and Management: Technology, Economics, Institutions Strzepek
HKS IGA - 662 The Political Economy of Europe Integration In Crisis Tsoukalis
HKS PED-209 Management, Finance & Regulation of Public Infrastructure in Developing Countries Lee
HKS PED-308 Social Institutions and Economic Development Woolcock
HKS DPI-401 Institutions and Development Sheely
HKS DPI-450 The Political Economy of Transition in China Saich
HKS DPI-460 Latin American Politics and Policymaking Garay
At the School of Public Health:

HSPH GHP 214 Health, Human Rights and International Systems
Marks
HSPH GHP 269 Applied Politics and Economics I: Political Economy of International Health
Reich
HSPH GHP 527 Political Economy and Ethics of Health System Reform
Bossert, Hsiao
HSPH GHP 217 The Human Consequences of Structural Violence in Latin America
Aguayo, Leaning

At the Faculty of Arts and Sciences:

FAS GOV 1207 Comparative Politics of the Middle East
Mohseni
FAS (African and African American Studies 174) The African City
Blier
FAS (East Asian Studies 121) Global Cities in East Asia
Dillon

At MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology):

MIT 11.005 Introduction to International Development
del Campo
MIT 11.355 International Housing Economics and Finance
Saiz
MIT 11.444J The New Global Practitioner
Goethert
MIT 11.474J Disseminating Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Innovations for the Common Good
Murcott
MIT 11.479J Water and Sanitation Infrastructure in Developing Countries
Murcott
MIT 11.484 Project Appraisal in Developing Countries
Kim
MIT 11.487 Urban Public Finance in Developing Countries
Hong
MIT 11.526J Comparative Land Use and Transportation Planning
Zegras

Not Currently Offered

GSD 4405 Staging the City: Urban Form and Public Life in Istanbul
Bozdogan
GSD 5340 Community Action Planning: Principles and Practices
Hamdi
GSD 5361 Deciding Interventions in Urban Development: A Practical Guide to Strategic Design
Hamdi
GSD 5433 Modern Housing and Urban Districts: Concepts, Cases and Comparisons
Rowe
MIT 11.488 Urban Development in Conflict Cities: Planning Challenges and Policy Innovations
Samper

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