How to use the map

This map is designed to give you information about your chosen major that will help keep you on track for graduation within 4 years. The introductory sections will help orient you to the “big picture” ideas like the topics and areas of interest inside your major, the kinds of courses you will take, university policies including admissions, and other general topics. The chart on the second page will help you to develop a productive plan to make the most of your 4 years at East Carolina University and prepare yourself for the job market after graduation.

Remember, it is important that you diversify your experiences, both for success in your degree program and for success outside of school. While coursework is important, it should not be your only focus. The chart below will show you how to incorporate other kinds of experiences that will expand your knowledge of your chosen field and make you a more desirable job candidate. The map is only a guideline. Remember to speak with your advisor often to learn about new opportunities, clarify concerns, and develop a plan that is right for you.

Questions?

East Carolina University offers an array of support to help you grow and learn from your first day of orientation until your graduation. New Student Orientation, Pirate to Pirate Mentoring, the University Writing Center, and the Career Center are only a few of the services and centers available to assist you throughout your time on campus.

ABOUT THE CONCENTRATION

Planning involves working to improve the welfare of people and their communities by creating more convenient, equitable, healthy, efficient, and attractive place for present and future generations. Planners help government officials, business leaders, and citizens create communities that offer better choices of where and how people work and live. It’s a collaborative, dynamic field that offers the chance to make a difference in the communities you care about, helping communities meet the challenges of growth and change. Planning is a highly collaborative field that encompasses many interesting topics. The majority of planners work in traditional planning areas such as community development, land use, transportation planning, environmental/coastal/natural resources planning, economic development, urban design, housing, historic preservation and community activism.

DEGREE OPTIONS

With the Community and Planning degree, there are two areas of emphasis: Community Planning & Development and Coastal Planning & Development. You will need to complete:

- Total of 120 semester hours
- 40 semester hours of general education requirements
- 33 semester hours of core courses
- 9 semester hours of your choice of emphasis
- 6 semester hours of electives
- Semester hours vary depending on minor

Instead of a minor, you also have the option to choose two concentration areas:

- Coastal resources
- Community health
- Environmental resources
- Geographic information
- International development
- Recreation
- Rural development
- Public administration
- Urban studies

THOMAS HARRIOT COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Community and Regional Planning
**2019-2020 Community and Regional Planning MAJOR MAP**

### DEGREE INFORMATION

#### THE COURSES YOU NEED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST YEAR</th>
<th>SECOND YEAR</th>
<th>THIRD YEAR</th>
<th>FOURTH YEAR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Begin taking general education requirements such as 2 social science courses, 2 sciences with 1 lab, ENGL 1100, HLTH 1000 and MATH 1065/1050. Register for PLAN 2030.</td>
<td>Continue with general education requirements by taking ENGL 2201, 2 humanities/arts courses, and KINE 1000. Register for PLAN 3030 &amp; COMM 2410/2020 in the fall and MATH 2283/2228 or GEOG 2400 in the spring. Also begin a minor or concentration.</td>
<td>Register for PLAN 2410, 3020, 3021 and 4003 in the fall. In the spring, register for PLAN 3022, 3031 and 3032. Continue with a planning emphasis course and 2 more minor or concentration area classes.</td>
<td>Complete core courses with PLAN 4096 in the fall and PLAN 4099 in the spring. Complete planning emphasis classes, minor courses and electives.</td>
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#### GAIN RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Meet with Career Services often to work on your post-graduation plans. Investigate job-related skills and identify gaps in your résumé so you can address them early. Use the Occupational Outlook Handbook, USAJobs.gov, and/or other resources available through Career Services to identify common skills in your career field.
- Join student or national organizations which include Student Planners Action Network (SPAN) at ECU and American Planning Association (APA). Participate in SPAN activities and events actively. Take on a leadership position in SPAN. Visit Orgsync for more options.
- Being internationally aware and culturally competent is increasingly important. Think about ways you could build these skills, which may include foreign language or Global Understanding courses. Consider taking PLAN 2030: Global Cities to learn about urbanization process.
- Integrate internationally-oriented classes into your electives and consider a minor or second major in an international field or foreign language. Consider a Summer or semester-long study abroad program. Planning program also offers a summer study abroad in Seoul, South Korea. Apply for study abroad scholarships in the early Fall.
- Employ your major and career options in consultation with your advisor. By the end of your second year you should have developed plans to complete specific internships, develop the experience necessary for the kind of employment you want, or begin to identify potential graduate schools.
- Explore your major and career options by taking interviews and networking opportunities. Keep up with the department social calendar to attend events such as the NC-APA Education Outreach Committee.
- Send your résumé to the Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement to explore local opportunities. Also consider contacting community partners using the Orgsync directory. To build your professional network, attend various conferences and workshops offered by North Carolina chapter of the American Planning Association (NC-APA).
- Internships, part-time jobs, student leadership positions, and volunteer or community engagement activities can help you build your résumé and give you valuable experience. Consult with the internship coordinator in the Planning program for potential internship opportunities.
- Make the most of your return from your study abroad or internship program by becoming more active in your student organizations. Work with the Office of Global Affairs and the Career Center to learn how to leverage your study abroad experience to improve your job placement possibilities.
- Consider study abroad.
- Connect with the Career Center to learn more about the AICP Candidate Pilot Program in the fall, and register for the AICP Certification Exam in June in the spring.
- Take on a leadership position in one of your globally-oriented student organizations. Complete your program by incorporating more internationally-focused courses.

#### CONSIDER AN INTERNSHIP

- Volunteering for political, governmental, or social organizations is a great way to get experience in your field, build your résumé, test your interest in working with diverse populations, and develop your professional network. During your final year you should also participate in ECU’s Research and Creative Achievement Week.
- Submit a proposal to present a polished research paper/poster from one of your courses at the ECU Research and Creative Achievement Week.

#### THINK GLOBALLY

- Visit Career Services to learn about their resources. Check out the Bureau of Labor Statistics and Virtual Job Shadow. The national and state American Planning Association (APA) Career Centers to explore potential careers. Log in to ECU CareerNet to set up your profile, check out career events, and begin to explore potential employers and job opportunities.
- Visit Student Planners Action Network (SPAN) Career Development website. The national and state American Planning Association (APA) Career Centers to explore potential careers. Log in to ECU CareerNet to set up your profile, check out career events, and begin to explore potential employers and job opportunities.
- Meet with your Career Counselor to explore your goals and develop your résumé. Attend career fairs and other employer-related activities. Speak to your instructors about joining research projects and presenting work at local and national conferences.
- Meet with your Career Counselor to discuss postgraduate plans. If needed, research graduate schools and program requirements. Complete to attend career fairs and other employer-related career events.

#### APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS EACH YEAR

- Also begin a minor or concentration.
- Consider taking PLAN 2030: Global Cities to learn about urbanization process.
- Meet with your Career Counselor to explore your goals and develop your résumé. Attend career fairs and other employer-related activities. Speak to your instructors about joining research projects and presenting work at local and national conferences.
- Meet with your Career Counselor to discuss postgraduate plans. If needed, research graduate schools and program requirements. Complete to attend career fairs and other employer-related career events.
- Develop your LinkedIn profile. Meet with your Career Counselor to discuss postgraduate plans. If needed, research graduate schools and program requirements. Complete to attend career fairs and other employer-related career events.

#### CONSIDER STUDY ABROAD

- Volunteering for political, governmental, or social organizations is a great way to get experience in your field, build your résumé, test your interest in working with diverse populations, and develop your professional network. During your final year you should also participate in ECU’s Research and Creative Achievement Week.
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#### CAREER PREPAREDNESS

- Being internationally aware and culturally competent is increasingly important. Think about ways you could build these skills, which may include foreign language or Global Understanding courses. Consider taking PLAN 2030: Global Cities to learn about urbanization process.
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#### POST-GRAD OPTIONS

- Students who graduate with a degree in Community and Regional Planning have a variety of career options. Career paths in planning are very diverse. You may work in government from local, regional, state to federal, in non-profit organization, and the private sector.
- Some of these careers include:
  - Housing and community planner
  - GIS specialist
  - Land use planner
  - Environmental planner
  - Economic development planner
  - Transportation planner
  - Zoning administrator
  - Code enforcement officer
  - Urban designer
  - Design consultant
  - Land developer or realtor

Your planning degree will also help you find work in:
- Public and community health
- Historic preservation
- Coastal justice
- Public finance
- Public policy and management

#### VISIT US ONLINE

For more information and an interactive map PDF, visit: ecu.edu/URLTBD.