The Bachelor of Science in Urban Planning (B.S.P.) introduces students to the diversity of the planning profession. It provides an understanding of the broader purpose of planning, while presenting an opportunity to focus on practice and application.

Two studio classes provide students an opportunity to work on real-world planning projects in the Phoenix area, learning practical skills such as creating land use plans, developing plans for housing, transportation systems, parks and new areas, revitalizing old and marginalized neighborhoods, and analyzing data to address specific spatial problems. Core required methods courses provide training in planning analysis and presentation of information. Planning methods provide tools for planning research and include such methods as GIS and surveys, population projections, socioeconomic analysis, visualization and modeling. They provide the basis for municipal planning and review processes, and the skills needed to prepare environmental impact statements and city plans. Classes provide theoretical and historical perspectives and prepare students for entry-level positions in planning in the private and public sectors. Specialization areas provide avenues for students to focus their elective courses in areas that include: local neighborhoods, public participation, housing, environmental quality, hazardous waste, contemporary legal issues, and preservation planning.

The B.S.P. program offers students solid training in the planning profession and the opportunity to focus on urban, regional and environmental problem solving. While studies relate to the Phoenix metropolitan area, they have a strong theoretical and practical grounding enabling students to practice planning throughout the United States. The B.S.P. provides a broad and scholarly perspective which makes it an excellent foundation for graduate work.

Careers in Planning

Urban and regional planners do many types of jobs and are involved in almost any kind of government or private activity which seeks to affect the future or respond to community change. The majority of planners work in traditional planning areas such as land use, environmental protection, economic development, transportation, community design, housing, and social planning. Other planners work in less traditional areas, often with people from other disciplines, in areas such as healthy communities, smart growth, energy development or school planning.

For more information about careers in planning, see a write-up by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. http://www.acsp.org

For more information on the major and related certificates and programs, please see: http://geoplan.asu.edu/bsp

Come visit Planning faculty in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning on the fifth floor of Coor or contact Honors Advisor David Pijawka at pijawka@asu.edu.
Opportunities and Activities in Planning

Honors Classes and Contracts
Most planning courses are open to Honors Contracts, allowing honors planning majors a great deal of flexibility in selecting courses for their program of study. An Honors section of the required Sustainable Cities (PUP 190) course is offered regularly. In addition, honors students in their senior year are welcome to take graduate seminars that qualify for honors. Most important, planning students in the Honors program have opportunities to research and write an Honors thesis in their senior year. Planning faculty are supportive of this and ready to provide assistance and serve on Honors thesis committees.

ASU Student Planning Association (ASPA)
The ASU Student Planning Association is a student-created and student-led group that furthers ASU planning students' educational goals and enhances their experience through events, advocacy, the distribution of information, and encouragement of an environment where students can easily share resources. Its events include software seminars, professional office field trips, and information sessions on topics such as internships, scholarships, and other school programs. For more information, see http://geoplan.asu.edu/aspa.

Internships
We encourage all planning students to seek out internships. They provide a valuable opportunity to see how planning works in real-world settings. Our undergraduate planning students have done internships in city planning departments, state and local agencies, private firms and nonprofit organizations, and have participated in projects dealing with community participation, zoning, urban development, transportation, and environmental and recreational planning. (For general information go to http://geoplan.asu.edu/jobs, and for current internship opportunities, http://geoplan.asu.edu/joblist).

Formal Lectures and Informal Talks
The school hosts a colloquium series in which scholars from around the USA and world visit our school and give talks on their research. These colloquia are often followed by visits to local watering holes so you can get a chance to socialize with both faculty and visitors. (For more information go to http://geoplan.asu.edu/events.) In addition, the seminars, information sessions and field trips organized by the ASPA provide valuable opportunities to interact with professionals and graduate students in an informal, casual setting.

Scholarships
The school supports students in seeking national scholarships available for planners through the American Planning Association, Lambda Alpha International's Land Economics Foundation, and other opportunities. Scholarships are also available from local organizations such as the Women's Transportation Seminar; and through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. For links to information about all these scholarships, see http://geoplan.asu.edu/undergrad-funding.

Great Advising
We are very proud of the time we take to help our planning majors. Dr. Duncan Shaeffer (shaeffer@asu.edu) and Tricia Strickland (patricia.strickland@asu.edu) work together to advise all planning majors. Dr. David Pijawka (pjawka@asu.edu) heads the Honors College Planning Faculty program and will assist Honors students in finding advisors for Honors theses.
Honors Advising Timeline

FRESHMAN AND SOPHOMORE YEAR ADVISING
This is the time when you will be fulfilling your general studies requirements. When you have identified planning as your major, we strongly encourage you to meet with the Faculty Honors Advisor David Pijawka, making an appointment via e-mail: pijawka@asu.edu. Professor Pijawka will direct you to the undergraduate planning advisors, who are experts on courses and opportunities within the major. Dr. Pijawka will help you find a faculty mentor who matches your interests. Pijawka will also explain to you the Honors Thesis process and provide examples of past theses and future opportunities in your area of interest.

FIFTH SEMESTER
Honors students get “priority registration” if they go through the mandatory fifth semester advising with the Barrett Honors College. At this time, we also require that you meet with Honors Advisor David Pijawka to go over the upper division planning courses and how best to plan those to work towards an honors thesis.

SENIOR ADVISING
By your senior year, you should have formed a committee of a Chair and a Second Reader in planning or other discipline. If you have not found a suitable thesis advisor, don’t panic. Just be sure to see Honors Advisor David Pijawka to find the best match with your interests. We require that you submit an Honors Thesis Prospectus to the Honors Advisor the semester by October 31st for a defense in the following spring semester or by March 31 for a defense the following fall. The prospectus may, of course, be submitted earlier than these dates. The prospectus will provide full contact information for the student, the topic and a working title, list the committee Chair and Second Reader, and indicate the month of the planned defense. The 1-page plan should be co-signed by the student and the committee Chair.

Note: This list is meant to supplement the advising activities of the Barrett Honors College. Always follow the guidelines for the Honors College first.
Guidelines for Honors Theses in the Planning Major

1. These instructions provide general guidelines. They are to be used in conjunction with the Honors College requirements for theses. If there are conflicts in theses requirements, those of the Honors College take precedence.

2. Students must be Planning Majors (B.S.P.).

3. The honors thesis can be used as a substitute for the senior studio. However, the expectations for the thesis are higher, and the student is expected to start the thesis at least the semester before the studio.

4. The committee is typically composed of two readers’ both full-time faculty. At least one member should be tenured or tenure-track faculty. A third reader may be selected by the Honors student to serve on the thesis committee.

5. The student is responsible for formulating the thesis topic, for requesting faculty to serve on the committee, to submit the necessary forms to the Honors College, and to inform the Chair of the committee of all Honors College requirements and deadlines. The bottom line is that Honors College requirements are your responsibility.

6. An Honors Thesis Prospectus should be submitted to the Honors Advisor by October 31st for a defense in the following spring semester or by March 31 for a defense the following fall. Please be aware that the Thesis Prospectus is due in the Barrett Honors College earlier than these deadlines. The Prospectus will provide full contact information for the student, the topic and a working title, list the committee chair and second reader, and indicate the month of the planned defense. The 1-page plan should be co-signed by the student and the committee Chair.

7. Multidisciplinary honors theses are encouraged. If your committee’s first reader is in planning, these guidelines will take precedence over guidelines from a different department.
Planning Faculty and their Interests

The Planning faculty have diverse areas of expertise and interests and can mentor honors students interested in these areas.

Luc Anselin - Regents’ Professor and Walter Isard Chair
Expertise: Spatial data analysis and geographic information science, with applications in regional economics, environmental economics, real estate economics as well as in epidemiology, criminology and political science.

Katherine Crewe - Associate Professor
Expertise: Planning practice and transportation, historic preservation, citizen participation, gender studies and planning, physical planning/urban design, international urban design.

Aaron Golub - Assistant Professor
Expertise: Urban transportation policy, social equity and environmental impacts of transportation, public transportation planning, transportation in developing countries, informal transportation providers, the history of transportation in the United States.

Nabil Kamel - Assistant Professor
Expertise: Urbanization theories and processes, environmental justice and the city, sustainable urban design and planning, infrastructure planning, international development planning, planning for post-disaster recovery.

Jason Kelley - Lecturer
Expertise: Urban transportation planning, environmental justice, sustainable urban planning and design.

Joochul Kim - Associate Professor
Expertise: Community planning, economic development planning, housing and international planning.
Planning Faculty and their Interests

**Francisco Lara-Valencia - Affiliate Faculty (Assistant Professor)**
Expertise: Southwest borderlands development planning, economic development planning, urban health disparities, environmental vulnerability.

**Elizabeth Mack - Assistant Professor**
Expertise: Technological and human capital aspects of economic development, green development, input-output modeling, spatial econometrics, crime analysis.

**Kevin E. McHugh - Associate Professor**
Expertise: Social and cultural geography, place and mobilities, geographical thought and theory, spatiality of aging, cinematic geographies.

**Alan Murray - Professor**
Expertise: Geographic information science; urban, regional and natural resource planning; applications of quantitative methods; location modeling; spatial decision support systems.

**Deirdre Pfeiffer - Assistant Professor**
Expertise: Housing & community development, the relationship between urban growth and racial equity, foreclosure crisis, rethinking urban sprawl, qualitative research methods, public participation in planning.

**Rhonda Phillips - Affiliate Faculty (Professor)**
Expertise: Community and economic development, community indicator systems and quality of life, community well-being, sustainability, cultural/arts and tourism development approaches.
Planning Faculty and their Interests

David Pijawka - Professor
Expertise: Sustainable planning and design, socio-economic assessments, disaster management and recovery planning, perception and behavior studies, institutional design.

Sergio J. Rey - Professor
Expertise: Open source geocomputation, spatial econometrics, spatial data analysis, economic geography, integrated multiregional modeling, regional science.

Jay Stein - Professor of Practice
Expertise: Health and the built environment, growth management, economic development planning, child-friendly cities and sustainability.

Emily Talen - Professor
Expertise: Urban form, sustainable cities, new urbanism.

Douglas Webster - Professor
Expertise: Sustainable development, urban competitiveness, China and Southeast Asian urbanization, city building, environmental quality, fiscal sustainability, governance sustainability, livelihood sustainability.

Elizabeth A. Wentz - Associate Professor and Associate Director for Geography
Expertise: Community and economic development, community indicator systems and quality of life, community well-being, sustainability, cultural/arts and tourism development approaches.