

# SPECIAL STUDIES - URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

## URP 4905 EXPLORATION AND DIRECTED STUDY

**CREDITS:** Variable (1-3)

**TERM:** Offered every term

**INSTRUCTOR:** URP Faculty. Students are responsible for asking faculty members to supervise URP 4905 projects. The department does not assign supervisors to students, and cannot require faculty members to serve as supervisors of URP 4905 projects. Faculty members usually agree to direct URP 4905 projects only if the students who approach them have already taken upper-division courses from them.

**MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION:** To be arranged between faculty member and student.

**ATTENDANCE:** To be arranged between faculty member and student.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This is an elective, self-directed course for undergraduate URP minors and other undergraduate students with faculty approval who wish to investigate a specific area of urban and regional planning.

### **COURSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:**

The primary goal of the course is to provide students with research and/or design exploration of a specific topic of interest to the individual student under the advisement of an instructor who will monitor and critique the student's progress. The specific research goals will be different for each independent researcher and will be established by the student and the supervising instructor.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Design a plan for the investigation of an identified planning issue.
- Analyze and discuss the identified issue and the results of the project
- Synthesize concepts as they relate to the identified issue
- Critically evaluate new information
- Effectively communicate information through oral, written, and/or graphic reports
- Uphold standards of ethical practice and research

## UF POLICIES

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:** Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, [www.disability.ufl.edu](http://www.disability.ufl.edu)) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

**UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following pledge: *"We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Student Honor Code."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community. On all work submitted for credit at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *"On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."*

Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information, please read the [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code](#).

**MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FEE:** None

**TEXTBOOKS:** None (unless otherwise agreed upon by faculty member and student)

**COURSE EVALUATIONS:** Due to the nature of this course being independent work, there will be no course evaluations.

## HEALTH & WELLNESS RESOURCES

Resources available on-campus for students include the following:

- *U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [umatter.ufl.edu/](http://umatter.ufl.edu/) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit [counseling.ufl.edu/](http://counseling.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [shcc.ufl.edu/](http://shcc.ufl.edu/).

- *University Police Department:* Visit [police.ufl.edu/](http://police.ufl.edu/) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).

## GRADING

Information on current UF grading policies may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradingpolicies>

Grades are based on individual meeting participation, assignment completion, and the quality of work. In general:

An "A" grade in URP 4905 reflects not only mastery of the subject matter but also a high level of intellectual rigor, creativity, and professionalism in the execution of the project.

A "B" grade in URP 4905 acknowledges the student's solid performance and engagement with the project, but also suggests areas where they could strive for improvement and excellence in future endeavors.

A "C" grade in URP 4905 acknowledges the student's effort and engagement with the project, but also highlights areas where they could significantly improve to meet expectations and achieve better outcomes in future endeavors.