

## Department Meeting

February 20, 2018  
Noon – 1:00 Gould 100

### Agenda items

12:00 — 12:05	<b>Approval of minutes</b>	Campbell
12:05 — 1:10	<b>MUP Core Discussion</b>	Curriculum Committee
1:10 — 1:20	<b>Student Award Nomination Discussion</b>	Campbell/Siembor

**Present:** Christopher Campbell, Larissa Maziak, Marty Curry, Diana Siembor, Sofia Dermisi, Dan Abramson, Christine Bae, Bob Mugerauer, Qing Shen Rachel Berney, Manish Chalana, David Blum, Bob Freitag, Himanshu Grover

#### Approval of Feb 6

Note: Qing Shen needs to be added as present at the Feb 6 Meeting

Bob M. Moves, Seconded

6 yes, 1 abstain, 0 No

#### Reminders!!

Faculty/ Professional Council Dinner **March 8 6:30** at John Owen's home

MUP Open House will be held **March 29-30**. Evening event on March 29 and faculty introduction on March 30

Race and Equity trainings during regularly scheduled faculty meetings **March 6 and April 10**

## MUP Core Discussion

### Goals

- Provide room for 1 elective per quarter in the first year (to increase flexibility; allow students to “sample” specializations earlier; allow students to follow own interests earlier).
- Strengthen methods training throughout curriculum:
- Bring Hist/theory forward as conceptual foundation for the degree.
- Require race and social justice in core.
- Reduce content overlap within core.
- Preparation for moving to a more cluster-based curriculum.

### Conditions

- Imagine “ideal” core.
- Do not worry too much about what is being taught now.
- Listen to feedback from students (and professionals).
- This is a two-year process

## UDP Draft Core Sequence, 2/20/2018

### Year 1 - Autumn

History/Theory (504) [3]  
GIS (505) [3]  
Intro Methods (510/520) [4]

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Elective [3]

RSJ (598) [1] 1<sup>st</sup> year  
Pro Practice (480) [1] 1<sup>st</sup> year

### Year 2 – Autumn

Econ/D’ment (561/566) [3]

### Year 1 - Winter

Comp Plan (501/510) [3]  
Studio Prep (506) [3]  
Comm & Analysis (503) [3]

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Elective [3]

### Year 2 – Winter

Ethics/Practice (564) [3]  
(APA COE, leadership, pre req Pro Prac & RSJ)

### Year 1 - Spring

Law (508) [3]  
UDP Studio(507) [3]  
Term Proj/Res. Design (512) [3]

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Elective [3]

## Goals

1. Provide room for 1 elective per quarter in the first year (increases flexibility; allows students to “sample” specializations earlier; allows students to follow own interests earlier).
2. Strengthen methods training throughout curriculum:  
Solution:
  - A) Add new “methods overview” course early in curriculum.
  - B) Requirement for second methods course in quant or qualitative taken later in program (allows students to follow methods most relevant to their work)?
  - C) Move thesis intro to end of 1<sup>st</sup> year to allow summer to start work.
3. Bring Hist/theory forward as conceptual foundation for the degree.  
Solution: Add to autumn quarter of 1<sup>st</sup> year.
4. Require race and social justice  
Solution: 1 credit sometime during first year. (Can be taken more than once).
5. Reduce overlap within core.

## Discussion

Can you clarify which existing core courses has been removed or reduced?

Urban Form & Survey of Urban Planning

When looking at 510/520...are these meant to be joined??

We would remove the stats portion of 520 and it would be a more Intro methods to quantitative, , qualitative and mixed method....

Other schools have typically 1 if not 2 methods courses

Should we have a full quarter of statistics? Is this really needed or should it be something students would be required to have had OR they could take online?

At Berkeley, they moved from one stand-alone quantitative course and one stand-alone qualitative course to an overview of both and students could take additional methods...

Does Berkeley *require* additional methods? No, it's an elective that's geared toward your specialization

The Intro methods course would not include statistics?? This would be damaging...

Could we actually provide a stats refresher course? Could we include in 564?

What would be included in this new methods course?

Historically, students were complaining of too much focus on stats

The new methods course would include the following:

Research

Research design

Qualitative surveys

What quantitative methods are out there?

How data is interpreted

Over all...How do we as planners take in data what kind of data do we need and what do we do with it?

Ethics as well??

Could we have a planning in the profession course??

Practice first, ethics second...

Here's what planning is...additionally go over what is on the AICP exam

Student flow??

Our students backgrounds are so varied...it's important to include history. And also in some sense Who's who?

It's common when Bob gets the students for his history course, they often ask why they didn't get this in the first place.

The intro class...we're not talking about high theory rather big overriding ideas.

You can look back though history to find theory...

In addition to the tools...you need the theory.

In Blum's course...he does talk about "what is planning" and including guest speakers that are planners.

Can we make Blum's course "required" that they take this in their first year?

Is there still a conversation about Urban Form? There may be an misconception about what urban form is to the department and it is more analytical over design...it's more to do with GIS

There ought to be ways to integrate the software tools with Urban Form...

Folding urban form into history and theory is too much.

Pro practice would be covering what survey covered....

This is "method" heavy...

Concern is that we need to have Urban Form in the core and early on..

Would you feel more comfortable if Urban Form replaced GIS??

Should GIS be advanced elective

Currently, GIS is pretty much functioning as a core...we just tried putting it in as a core but we could have it as their elective.

How can we look at how GIS is applied when we are instructing? Is there a different way to instruct so students know how to implement their use of it in the field?

There is emerging consensus for this new model but there is also great divergence. Moving forward, there is a lot of work. Can the committee survey 10 other planning programs and classify their "pots" by Quant, Qual, Method and detach our own interest? Once this has been done, present those numbers?

MIPM is looking at requiring basic GIS skills before they graduate...Maybe they can pick up those skills in the summer? Could we do this for the MUP program?

There are a number of online programs where students could learn GIS...however, students end up spending a lot more time trying to figure out how they will implement those skills for planners specifically..

Urban Form questions...

Students complained that it was heavy on GIS skills, so we created an Intro to GIS course and then that course became more popular. Can you do Urban Form concurrently with GIS or would it be better to offer later.

I think Urban Form should be offered in the first quarter...

Would Urban form be core...and GIS elective...that's how it currently is

503 can be taught with either basic GIS use or really none at all

If we need a substantial flow of statistics...when would we start? Doesn't have to be first quarter but should be offered concurrently with GIS and or Methods...

Is there a way to bring forward some of the statistical concepts into GIS or Intro to Methods?

What are basic Stat that needs to be included? Mean, Median, scores...gives them a good base for GIS

What is the elective in the first quarter?? Will students be wise enough to choose a “good” elective? Our current system, there’s no elective offered until spring...We could pull it back until winter? Could we offer a “selective” over elective?

One thing we could consider...having them in 4 classes per quarter over 5??

URBDP 500 ( Survey of Planning) isn’t currently offered in the new model but that was a good way to show students the different options they have for specializations...

It would be great to see an History theory over a planning survey...

Other schools offer a onetime workshop going over the different specializations...

There are certain parts of this curriculum plan that we need help with. Please reach out or come to the next meeting.

In spring quarter, we will have a more complete plan for curriculum changes.

Can we bring in Don Miller or Fritz Wagner to give input from other planning degrees they’ve seen over the years?

### **Student Awards**

We’d like to have a more open student award process and how they get nominated. If you’re interested in awards come talk to Diana or me.