

Honors in the Major

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Urban and Regional Planning

Urban Design

- **Overview**

The Honors in the Major Program will provide exceptional FAU students the opportunity to achieve academic excellence, develop skills, and gain deeper knowledge of the major field beyond the level of standard course work by completing honors-level enrichment in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design.

Students pursuing Honors designation in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design are required to meet the eligibility and admission requirements. Each student's Honors program of study will include at least six credit hours in Honors course work in upper-level planning/ urban design courses. Three credit hours will be achieved through an honors compact with the mentoring faculty in a regularly taught course where the student will have the opportunity to participate in honors-level enrichment activities, prepare for individual research, and demonstrate academic excellence. Students must complete the Honors Compact Proposal and Approval Form and submit it *to the department chair (or the director of the honors program to which the course will be applied) no later than the "last day to drop/add courses without consequences" of the term in which the Honors Compact will be completed.* The guidelines for completing an honors compact and the form can be found at [http://www.fau.edu/honorsboca/Honors Compact Guidelines and Form.php](http://www.fau.edu/honorsboca/Honors%20Compact%20Guidelines%20and%20Form.php). In addition, the students seeking Honors designation are required to successfully complete the requirements for URP4978 Honors Planning Project. Planning Project (URP 4979) is already a required course in both the Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning and the Bachelor of Urban Design programs, and therefore no additional credit hours for the Honors designation will be required. In case the student fails to complete the URP4978 Honors Planning Project with a grade of B or higher, the credits earned may count towards her/ his Bachelor's degree without the Honors designation as long as the student meets the requirements for a successful completion of capstone course in BURP or BUD.

A student who successfully completes the Honors designation in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design will receive the degree with Departmental Honors, to be noted on the student's transcript along with the title of the Honors Planning Project. The Honors Planning Project will be preserved in a separate collection in the FAU Wimberly Library. The student will receive a cord at Commencement to indicate achievement of Departmental Honors.

- **Requirements for Eligibility and Admission to the Honors in the Major in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design:**

- Completed at least 5 upper-level (4000) courses in BURP or BUD
- Cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.3 in core courses
- Cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 overall

- limited to 20% of students with the Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design major
- Formal application form must be submitted after completion of 90 credit hours no later than 3 weeks prior to the beginning of the semester for which students seek to enroll in the Honors in the Major Program
- The application package should include:
 - application form to be signed by the mentoring faculty
 - unofficial transcript
 - resume
 - personal statement
 - a letter of support by the mentoring faculty
- **Requirements to maintain Eligibility to the Honors in the Major in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design**
 - Maintain good academic and ethical standing
 - Maintain cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.3 in core courses
 - Maintain cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.0 overall
 - In the beginning semester, complete at least one **honors compact** in upper-level planning/ urban design courses with a grade of B or higher to prepare for independent research and honors-level enrichment
 - Complete URP4978 *Honors Planning Project* with a grade of B or higher
 - If any of the above standards for maintaining eligibility in the program are not met, the student will be advised accordingly on how to undertake remedial actions.
 - Students will not be allowed to continue in the major honors program for:
 - Violation of the Code of Academic Integrity
 - Any grade of less than C in core courses and less than B in the Honors course and Honors compact
- **Honors Thesis Research in the Honors in the Major in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design**
 - Complete URP4978 *Honors Planning Project* (3 credits) with a grade of B or higher

- The honors thesis will be supervised by a thesis committee of at least two faculty with a terminal degree in the discipline and affiliation with the School of Urban and Regional Planning.
- The committee will review the thesis and if the student's work is judged to meet the standards for an honors thesis, the student will be allowed to proceed with the oral defense
- If the committee determines that the student's work on the thesis does not meet the minimal standard required for successful completion of an honors level course, the following steps will be undertaken:
 - The faculty supervisor will discuss with the student the specific nature of the issues that need to be addressed.
 - The committee will request that the student make substantive changes to the thesis within a specified period of time (typically prior to the graduation date).
- If the requirements are still not met, the student will receive a grade for the course that will count towards her/his degree in Urban and Regional Planning or Urban Design but will not receive the Honors Designation as long as the student meets the requirements for a successful completion of capstone course in BURP or BUD.
- Students will be encouraged to seek topics that can be incorporated in service learning, interdisciplinary research & inquiry, creativity, civic engagement and collaboration with SE FL communities
- Students will be encouraged to seek opportunities for publication/ presentation such as participation in the *Undergraduate Research Symposium*, *Distinction through Discovery* competitions, *FAU Undergraduate Research Journal*, and National Collegiate Honors Society conference among others.

Approved by:	Date:
Department Chair: <u>Steven C. Boneman</u>	<u>8/24/2015</u>
College Curriculum Chair: <u>Bruce J. Anderson</u>	<u>8/24/2015</u>
College Dean: <u>[Signature]</u>	
UUPC Chair: _____	
Undergraduate Studies Dean: _____	
UFS President: _____	
Provost: _____	