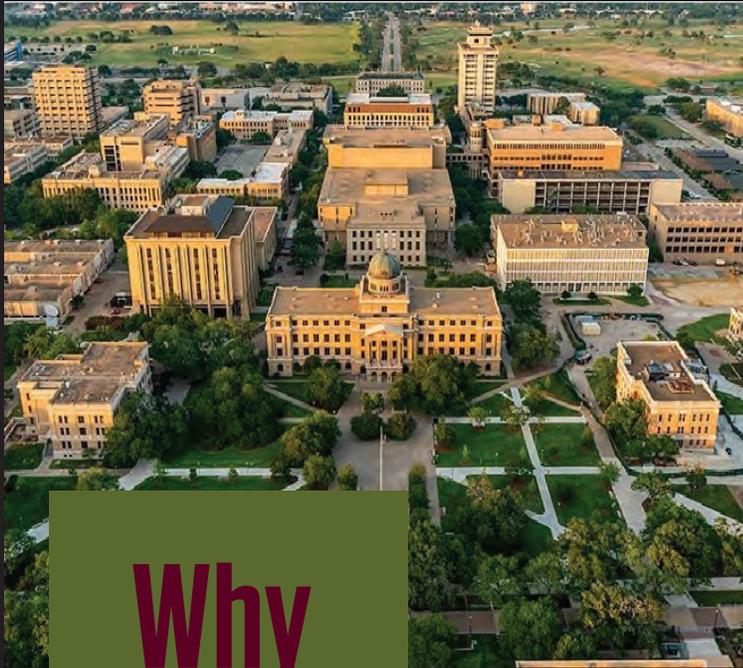


Texas A&M University

Ph.D. URBAN & REGIONAL SCIENCES

Aggie News



Why A&M?

Texas A&M opened its doors in 1876 as the state's first public institution of higher learning. Today, we stand as a research-intensive university dedicated to sending Aggie leaders out into the world prepared to take on the challenges of tomorrow. The doctoral program in urban and regional sciences (URSC) was established in 1971 and has graduated more than 70 students in the last 10 years.

Affordability

We're consistently recognized as a top value in higher education, based on our combination of academic quality and affordability.

Faculty

Our campus faculty include winners of the Nobel Prize, Wolf Prize, and National Medal of Science.

Texas A&M University is located in College Station, Texas. The city of College Station lies about 95 miles northwest of Houston, 105 miles northeast of Austin. Set deep in the heart of Central Texas, the region offers the modern amenities of a big city with a warm small-town charm, making this one of the friendliest places you'll ever visit.

Life on Campus

In 2020, the average student paid about \$10,400 for living expenses. Actual costs may vary by individual choices related to location and circumstances. Costs typically include rent, food, snacks, household supplies and utilities.

Diversity is a priority at Texas A&M, where our campus is welcoming, inclusive, and focuses on student engagement and learning. The URSC program welcomes students from all backgrounds and has a vibrant international community.

Texas A&M has one of the nation's largest campuses, but getting around is not a problem, thanks to our Aggie Spirit buses. A fleet of 80 university-owned buses that travel more than 1.8 million miles each year.



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Landscape Architecture
& Urban Planning





Program Introduction

The Urban & Regional Sciences (URSC) Ph.D. program is offered by the Department of Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning in the College of Architecture. The program was established in 1971 and continues to be one of the largest and among the leading planning doctoral programs in the nation.

It is a trans-disciplinary program emphasizing the interface of human systems with the natural and built environment. We have strong faculty and peer mentoring programs, and provide diverse training opportunities, covering research, teaching, leadership, and career development.

Our alumni network is extensive and diverse. They have assumed positions at universities, both as faculty and researchers in the US and beyond, while others are working for governmental agencies and other institutions.

Program Requirements

The URSC requires 64 credit hours, including 32 credits from the core curriculum, and 32 or more of electives. Time to degree is about four years.

The Three Milestones are:

- Preliminary exam (years 2-3)
- Proposal defense (year 3)
- Dissertation defense (year 4)

The curriculum includes a teaching requirement.

Student Support

The majority of students in the program receive financial aid through assistantships and fellowships.

Students get the opportunity to work closely with their faculty advisors on research and teaching. Many students also travel to conferences to present their research.

Emphasis Areas

Environmental Hazards

How do people recognize, plan for, respond to, and recover from environmental hazards that threaten life, health, and property?

Transportation

How can we develop transportation policies and processes that will serve communities now and in the future?

Health and Well-being

How do the places where we live, work, and play influence our health and well-being?

Sustainability

How do we ensure that current conditions and future urbanization are sustainable and produce viable and equitable results in human and ecological communities?

Housing and Community Development

What role do community members have in shaping the built environment and making social change?



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

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People in the Program



Former Students



Chandler Ian Wilkins

Research Interests: Neighborhood quality, low-income housing, displacement, and post-disaster recovery

"I chose the URSC program because of the overwhelming academic and professional support I received from the faculty and staff. My mentors provided me with the tools necessary to excel in the program and beyond. I am grateful for the lessons, experiences, and opportunities I have gained while in this program."



Marccus Hendricks

Assistant Professor, University of Maryland
 "My favorite part of the program is the team-oriented collegiality, intentionality, thought, and care that goes into executing the program and making it what it is. The interdisciplinary nature and training that I received while a part of the program set me up for success as an interdisciplinary scholar at the nexus of planning, engineering, and public health."



Madison Metsker-Galarza

Research Interests: Public engagement, communication, town and gown relationships

"The URSC program gave me the ability to take classes non-traditionally which meant at a slower pace and in a different order. This includes giving me the freedom to diversify my academic portfolio by taking classes outside of URSC that challenge how I typically think professionally and academically."



Maria Watson

Assistant Professor, University of Florida
 "My favorite parts about the URSC program are the culture and people in the department. I am so grateful for the friendships I made with the other Ph.D. students and for all the amazing faculty that helped me at Texas A&M."



Mason Alexander

Research Interests: Equitable housing, neighborhood revitalization, community empowerment, disaster

"Being a part of the URSC program has helped me gain not only experience in academia, but also practice. I have been able to work on consulting research projects and connect with community partners. The network I have been exposed to during my time here is invaluable."



Edna Ledesma

Assistant Professor, University of Wisconsin Madison

Research Interests: city design, planning, public spaces, markets, hybrid space, incrementalism and human geography

"One of the best things about the URSC program is its strong research culture amongst faculty and students. Throughout my time as a PhD student, I was able to explore different methods for conducting research. Having freedom to explore was critical to finding my voice as a researcher."

Current Students



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Landscape Architecture & Urban Planning



Pathways Program

Urban Analytics &
Big Data
Computing for
Resilience

Resilience for
Healthy
Communities

Cultural Resilience

Equitable
Resilience

Disaster and
Climate Change
Resilience

Resilience through
Green
Infrastructure

“Empowering Smart and Resilient Communities”

Program Benefits

We invite Hispanic, Black, and Indigenous students who are interested in resilience research to take part in a novel Ph.D. preparation program.

Through a workshop at Texas A&M University, students will engage with renowned faculty on resilience topics, gain professional development and research skills, receive mentorship, and complete a research conference presentation.

Students who complete the program will be eligible to compete for a 4-year paid fellowship for Ph.D. study at Texas A&M University.

Eligibility

- Have or will receive a Bachelor or Masters degree by 2024
- Open to a variety of majors who are interested in advanced education in urban and regional sciences, planning, or landscape architecture
- Interest in research and careers in the above themes

Application Process

Application:

- Description of educational and career goals
- Names of two faculty references

Deadline:

May 31, 2022

Virtual Information Session:

5pm CST/6pm EST
February 21, 2022
February 28, 2022
March 1, 2022



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Landscape Architecture
& Urban Planning

www.arch.tamu.edu/laup/pathways-program

