

ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN & PLANNING FACTS

community design, environmental affairs, real estate or related fields; in local or state government; and in development corporations, historic preservation societies, and public housing agencies. According to the U.S. Department of Labor in 2007, entry-level environmental design practitioners with a bachelor's degree and no experience could start at \$28,677 to \$35,567 per year, depending on their collegiate records. Beginning salaries were slightly higher in selected areas of the country where the prevailing local pay was higher. In 2008, the U.S. Department of Labor projects employment to increase in urban planning and design by 15% between 2006-2016.

POST-BACCALAUREATE STUDIES

60 % of environmental design graduates pursue graduate study upon completing their pre-professional baccalaureate degree and are prepared for graduate study in fields such as urban and regional planning, architecture and landscape architecture, environmental management, geographic information systems, real estate development, public policy administration, educational administration, and law. *Information gathered from graduates indicate 1/3 of environmental design alumni continue their post-baccalaureate studies at the University at Buffalo.* The median annual earnings for individuals with a master's in urban planning was \$56,630 in May 2006.

Post-baccalaureate options at UB include the professional Master of Urban Planning or the professional Master of Architecture. Additional programs include a dual Master of Architecture plus Master of Urban Planning (M.Arch. + M.U.P.) offered with the Department of Architecture, and a dual Master of Urban Planning plus Juris Doctor offered (M.U.P. + J.D.) with the Law School.



UB Minors that Complement Environmental Design:

- African American Studies
- American Studies
- Architecture
- Art History
- Computer Science
- Economics
- Environmental Studies
- Geography
- Geographic Information Systems
- Geological Sciences
- History
- Media Study
- Political Science
- Sociology
- Studio Art

For additional information on Environmental Design programs, visit <<http://undergrad-catalog.buffalo.edu/academicprograms/env.shtml>> .

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**SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
University at Buffalo** *The State University of New York*

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Environmental design applies knowledge of social and behavioral science to plan and design community environments that affect, and are affected by, human behavior. Environmental design addresses the arrangement, appearance and functionality of towns and cities including the spaces used freely on a day-to-day basis by the general public. This encompasses streets and parks together with public infrastructure and privately owned places. In addition, environmental design is concerned with the way these places are experienced and used, as well as other aesthetic elements that contribute to the quality of community environments.

While concerned about humanity's use, misuse, and abuse of the natural environment, environmental design practitioners are also concerned with the planned environment which humans build - the "artificial" or designed physical environment - and its ability to meet community needs. More subtly, environmental design includes issues from our economic, physical, political, and social environments. The purpose of environmental design is to gain a better understanding community environments and then apply that knowledge to plan and

design improved surroundings. In addition, environmental design develops long- and short-term plans and designs to use land for the growth and revitalization of urban, suburban, and rural communities, while helping local officials make decisions concerning social, economic, physical, and environmental issues.



Environmental design offers a pre-professional program of study grounded in the multidisciplinary traditions of the liberal arts and distinguished by active intervention in community and regional environments.

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Environmental Design Bachelor of Arts

- Minimum GPA of 2.45 overall.
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 in PD 120 and PD 212.
- Completion of Library Skills General Education.
- Minimum completion of 24 credit hours.
- Competitive admission on a space-available basis; ideal applicants will have a minimum UB GPA of 2.5.
- 06/01 for Fall admission; 11/01 for Spring admission.

Environmental Design Minor

- Minimum GPA of 2.0.
- Minimum "B-" in PD 120 or PD 212.

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CAREER INFORMATION

As local governments employ the majority of entry-level environmental design graduates, they may be referred to as assistant planners, intern planners, community development specialists, or environmental analysts. Environmental design practitioners promote the best use of a community's land and resources for residential, commercial, institutional, and recreational purposes. Before preparing plans for communities, planners and designers report on the current use of land for residential, business, and community purposes. Their reports include information on the location and capacity of streets, highways, airports, schools, libraries, and cultural and recreational sites. Environmental design practitioners provide data on the industries within the community, the characteristics of the population, land-use issues created by population movements, employment, and economic trends.

Using this information, plans and designs are developed for the layout of land-uses for buildings, public transportation, developing resources, and protecting ecologically sensitive regions. They may formulate plans relating to the construction of new school buildings, college campuses, public housing, or other kinds of infrastructure. Some are involved in environmental planning issues ranging from pollution control to wetland preservation and forest conservation. Others are involved in landscape planning through the development of urban park systems and greenways.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

33 % of environmental design graduates go on to find related employment after graduation. Graduates of the pre-professional undergraduate environmental design program have preparation for entry-level employment in urban affairs,

