The Dual MCRP (Rutgers-Bloustein School) / MIP (NJIT) Degree Program

An important new step was taken in 2004 to expand educational opportunities in the urban planning field with the agreement between The Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers and the New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) to implement a dual Master of City and Regional Planning and Master in Infrastructure Planning degree program (MCRP/MIP). The Bloustein School’s planning program offers a broad array of courses in such areas as housing, transportation, community development, environment, urban and regional economics, and information technology, as well as concentrations in several specialized areas. The MCRP degree is fully accredited and widely recognized.

The 60-credit dual MCRP/MIP degree program can be completed in two years of full-time study. The total of 84 credits that would be required to obtain the two degrees separately (48 for MCRP and 36 for the MIP) is thus reduced by 24 credits, and the time from three to two years. The dual degree combines the complementary strengths of the two programs and provides a broad professional education ranging from city and regional policy planning to physical infrastructure planning and urban design. The program is intended to draw students from architecture, engineering and the social sciences.

Dual MCRP / MIP Degree Course of Study

A first of three full-time, 60 credit, four-semester study plans corresponds to the dual MCRP/MIP degree track. Suitable for students with little or no prior design experience, candidates place the two MIP studios in the second year, and allow physical planning and design-related courses to be taken beforehand.

SEMMESTER 1 (Fall)
UPPD 501 History and Theory of Planning (3)
UPPD 515 Methods of Planning Analysis I (3) (waiver available)
UPPD 591 Intro to GIS (3)
MIP 631 History & Theory of Infrastructure (3)
MIP 675 Elements of Infrastructure Planning (3)
A second option is the dual MIP/MCRP degree track. Suitable only for students with extensive design backgrounds, it allows MIP studios to be taken in the first year of the dual degree program. Full and part-time variations of both study plans can be arranged according to scheduling and course load needs.
SEMESTER 4 (Spring)
MIP 673 Infrastructure Planning Practicum (3)
UPPD 509 Urban Economics and Spatial Patterns (3)
UPPD 516 Methods of Planning Analysis II (3)
UPPD Elective (3)
UPPD 510 Elective (3) (planning studio required as elective)

A third option is the dual MIP/MCRP or MCRP/MIP separate years degree track. Suitable only for students with either extensive design or planning interests, the student takes the majority of infrastructure planning courses for two semesters, followed by planning courses for two semesters, or reversed. Full and part-time variations of both study plans can be arranged according to scheduling and course load needs.

SEMESTER 1 (Fall)
MIP 601 Interdiscipl. Infrastructure Studio I (6)
MIP 675 Elements of Infrastructure Planning (3)
MIP 631 History & Theory of Infrastructure (3)
UPPD or MIP Elective (3)

SEMESTER 2 (Spring)
MIP 602 Interdisciplinary Infrastructure Studio II (6)
MIP 674 Infrastructure and Architecture (3)
MIP 673 Infrastructure Planning Practicum (3)
UPPD or MIP Elective (3)

SEMESTER 3 (Fall)
UPPD 501 History and Theory of Planning (3)
UPPD 515 Methods of Planning Analysis I (3) (waiver available)
UPPD 591 Intro to GIS (3)
UPPD 618 Environ. Planning & Management (3)
UPPD 509 Urban Economics and Spatial Patterns (3)

SEMESTER 4 (Spring)
UPPD 516 Methods of Planning Analysis II (3)
UPPD 510 Elective (3) (planning studio required as elective)
UPPD 517 Planning Law (3)
UPPD 556 Urban Transportation Planning (3) (or equiv. trans. cse)

Please note: additional tracks are available and can be developed depending upon individual interests. Plans should be mapped out by academic advisors and approved by individual programs in advance. Courses could also be taken in summer reducing semester load.
Admission and Degree Requirements

Admission to the dual MCRP/MIP degree program is highly selective and requires simultaneous, separate applications to and acceptance by each school. A total of 60 credits must be completed in a minimum of two years of full-time study. Students may take up to 15 credits per semester, and may use the summers or additional part-time semesters to complete the required 60 credits. Part-time study plans are individually arranged to suit students’ particular circumstances.

For information, an application and consultation on the MCRP admission and financial support process, please contact Steve Weston, Assistant Dean for Student and Academic Services at (732) 932-5475 ext. 753 or sdweston@rutgers.edu.

For the MIP application and aid process, please contact Fred Little, Graduate Program and Admissions Coordinator for the New Jersey Institute of Technology at (973) 672-7576 or email mip@njit.edu.