



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

**BARBARA JORDAN
MICKEY LELAND**
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The Department of Urban Planning & Environmental Policy

Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy Program

MISSION & GOAL

The UPEP Doctoral Program trains students to be academics, professional planners, environmental policy and community development specialists prepared to help solve the pressing urban and environmental problems of our city, the region, the nation, and the world. Our program is designed to foster competencies necessary for the critical examination of the nature of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy.

Offered by an interdisciplinary faculty, the program emphasizes preparation in research methods, spatial and regional analysis, development theory, historical processes, analytic and policy formulation skills, and the critical appraisal of alternative causes of change.

CONTACT US

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ADMISSIONS

To undertake work leading to the Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy (MUPEP) degree, students must be accepted by the Texas Southern University Graduate School and must have a Master's degree in an appropriate field or a related field.

A complete application package for the Doctoral Program of UPEP will contain:

- A departmental application supplement
- GPA of 3.2 or more in the Master's coursework.
- GRE general test scores
- A score of at least 550 on the paper-based test, 213 on the computer-based test, or 79 on the internet-based test of the TOEFL if the applicant is an international student.
- Three letters of recommendation letters that attest to the student's success as a graduate student and their professional capacity. At least two letters should be from faculty.
- A well-crafted, typed statement of purpose describing why you want to obtain a PhD (250-500 words), your specific research interests within the field of urban planning and environmental policy (500-750 words), why the UPEP Doctoral Program is appropriate for you (250-500 words), and other relevant information (250-500 words).
- A résumé
- A writing sample
- Personal meeting with the Program Coordinator.

Fall Application Deadline: February 15th

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of fifty-four (54) semester credit hours, comprising of:

- Twenty-one (21) credit hours of core courses
- Twelve (12) credit hours in specialization courses
- Nine (9) credit hours in electives
- Twelve (12) credit hours for dissertation research

Students with a Master's degree in planning may apply up to 24 credit hours of Master's coursework towards earning the PhD Degree. To graduate, students must successfully appear in a Qualifying Examination, a Comprehensive Examination and satisfactorily complete and defend a dissertation proposal and research.

CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

Planning Theory Requirements

UPEP 900 Advanced Planning Theory and Practice
UPEP 901 Advanced Urban Theory

Methods and Planning Requirements

UPEP 902 Advanced Planning Analysis (I)
UPEP 903 Advanced Planning Analysis (II)

Environmental Policy Requirements

UPEP 904: Environmental Planning and Policy
UPEP 905: Environmental Planning and Natural Resources Management
UPEP 906 Air Environmental Monitoring and Analysis

Elective Courses

UPEP 907: Environmental Legislation and Policy
UPEP 908: Pollution Control
UPEP 909: Population and Development Planning
UPEP 910 - Comprehensive Planning and Growth Management
UPEP 941: Research Colloquium
UPEP 942: Dissertation

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Dr. Lalita Sen
Professor, UPEP
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