

POLICY, PLANNING & LAW CONCENTRATION

Description: The *Policy, Planning & Law* Concentration is geared toward students who are interested in learning about local, national and international regulations and programs designed to conserve the natural environment, to ensure that cities and neighborhoods are built in sustainable ways, and to protect vulnerable groups from bearing the brunt of environmental hazards.

Questions: What role or roles should local, state, and federal governments play in safeguarding natural resources, limiting pollution, or creating more sustainable communities? How can we measure or otherwise account for the negative impacts and cost of environmental degradation in policy design and evaluation? What theoretical frameworks provide the best basis for justifying environmental protection in environmental law and policy? What strategies can be used to engage communities in environmental planning?

Skills: Social science and environmental research methods, mapping and data presentation, argumentative thinking and writing, data analysis, GIS, remote sensing.

Relevant fields/careers:

- Environmental consulting and advocacy
- Government
- Law
- City, regional and environmental planning