Doctor of Sustainable Urbanism

The Doctor of Sustainable Urbanism (DrSU) is a post-professional, STEM-designated, applied research degree intended to prepare professionals and advanced urban design students for careers in multidisciplinary, evidence-based sustainable urban design and planning practice and teaching. This includes research-oriented positions in nonprofit organizations, community design and research centers, and government agencies as well as faculty positions at colleges and universities focused on applied research in sustainability and urban design.

This individualized program allows each student to pursue their particular research interest while ensuring the development of the necessary research competencies and broadening of the student's knowledge in sustainable urbanism. Students learn a holistic and integrative methodological approach to sustainability thinking involving complex social, political, economic and scientific issues as they are applied to a wide range of urban contexts and spatial patterns and conditions.

The program is based on a close working relationship between students and their faculty advisors, who work together to develop a detailed course of study that takes full advantage of the resources available at Washington University and through collaborative partners around the country and the world.

Much of the program's course work and independent reading and study is focused on preparing students for their two-part general examination. The nature of this preparation varies widely depending upon the candidate's background and research interests. Overall, the exam is a platform for the student to demonstrate a broad knowledge of evidence-based research methods, the multidisciplinary frameworks of sustainable urbanism, the best practices for sustainable urbanism and the technical knowledge base and skills necessary for implementing sustainability at a multi-scaler level in the city.

Website: https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/academics/college-of-architecture/doctor-of-sustainable-urbanism

Faculty

The core faculty for the Doctor of Sustainable Urbanism program draws from an accomplished set of educators throughout Washington University.

Program Coordinator

Ian Trivers (https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/people/faculty/185-ian-trivers/)
Visiting Assistant Professor
PhD, University of Michigan

Program Standing Committee

John Hoal (https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/people/faculty/150-john-hoal/)
PhD, Washington University in St. Louis
Derek Hoeferlin (https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/people/faculty/151-derek-hoeferlin/)
Associate Professor and Chair of Landscape Architecture and Urban Design
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Petra Kempf (https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/people/faculty/156-petra-kempf/)
PhD, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology
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Eric Mumford (https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/people/faculty/174-eric-mumford/)
Rebecca and John Voyles Professor of Architecture
PhD, Princeton University
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InCEES Associate Professor
PhD, Carnegie Mellon University

Ex Officio

Heather Woofter (https://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/people/faculty/190-heather-woofter/)
Director, College of Architecture and Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design
Sam and Marilyn Fox Professor
MArch, Harvard University
Faculty for required and elective courses are drawn from all departments within the university, representing the interdisciplinary nature of the program.
Degree Requirements

Doctor of Sustainable Urbanism

To earn the Doctor of Sustainable Urbanism degree from the Sam Fox School, students must complete 72 units of graduate work. Students will typically complete the program in four years, but they may complete the program in as few as three or as many as five years.

Of the 72 units, 48 units represent course work to be completed in residence at Washington University, including required seminars and courses and approved elective seminars and courses. Thereafter, 24 units of thesis research and writing may be completed at Washington University or offsite if approved by the chair of urban design.

In order to graduate, students must do the following:

• Maintain satisfactory academic progress and standing
• Pass Parts One and Two of the General Examination
• Fulfill residence and enrollment requirements
• Demonstrate competency in teaching at both the basic and advanced levels
• Write and submit an acceptable dissertation in sustainable urbanism and defend it before a designated dissertation committee

Courses

For a list of available courses, please refer to the Courses (http://bulletin.wustl.edu/grad/architecture/#courses) section of the Graduate School of Architecture & Urban Design in this Bulletin.