

# URBAN REVITALIZATION, CERTIFICATE IN (POST- BACCALAUREATE GRADUATE CERTIFICATE)

## Program accreditation

Planning Accreditation Board

## Program goal

The Certificate in Urban Revitalization provides specialized training in the techniques and processes of city and neighborhood revitalization. Topics include adaptive reuse of buildings, historic preservation, real estate market analysis and the role of private-public partnerships in financing development projects. The certificate is useful for midcareer professionals who wish to learn new skills to expand their career options. It also is useful for recent college graduates who desire advanced training beyond the baccalaureate level and accelerated entry into the job market.

At any time, students in the certificate program may apply for admission into the Master of Urban and Regional Planning program and, if accepted, may transfer the certificate credits toward partial fulfillment of the master's degree requirements.

## Student learning outcomes

1. Students should display evidence of having developed a multidisciplinary understanding of urban life.
2. Students will demonstrate an understanding of, and a willingness to act in accordance with, the ethics and values of the professional.

## VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate School website (<http://www.graduate.vcu.edu>) and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the **academic regulations section for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students.** (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs>)

## Degree candidacy requirements

A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master's or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy

requirements of the student's graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student's faculty regarding the student's academic achievements and the student's readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the **academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements.** (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/candidacy>)

## Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the **academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements.** (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info>)

Apply online at [graduate.admissions.vcu.edu](http://graduate.admissions.vcu.edu) (<http://graduate.admissions.vcu.edu>).

## Admission requirements

Degree:	Semester(s) of entry:	Deadline dates:	Test requirements:
Certificate	Fall	Apr 1 (Mar 1 for financial aid)	
	Spring	Oct 1	

## Special requirements

- These deadlines are designed to allow sufficient time for application review and admission processing. Applications may be submitted after the deadline; however, there is no guarantee of sufficient time for processing. Any application submitted too late for current semester processing will be considered for the following semester.

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements>), the prerequisites and general criteria of eligibility for admission to the urban revitalization certificate program include:

1. Completion of an official application form
2. Three letters of reference
3. Letter of intent describing interest in applying for the Certificate in Urban Revitalization
4. An official transcript showing successful completion of a baccalaureate degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university with a minimum grade point average of 2.7 (out of 4.0) in the last 60 hours of undergraduate study

5. Demonstration of professional experience in planning or work related to the certificate program (The experience requirement may be waived for candidates who demonstrate professional promise.)

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**Program website:** [wilder.vcu.edu/academic/certificate/urban.html](http://wilder.vcu.edu/academic/certificate/urban.html)  
(<http://wilder.vcu.edu/academic/certificate/urban.html>)

All courses in the graduate Certificate in Urban Revitalization may be applied to meet the requirement of the Master of Urban and Regional Planning degree. However, successful completion of the certificate does not guarantee admission into the M.U.R.P. degree program.

**Degree requirements**

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (<http://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info>), the Certificate in Urban Revitalization program requires 18 graduate credit hours of course work, which blends instruction in planning, urban design, economics and finance.

**Curriculum requirements**

Course	Title	Hours
Select six of the following:		18
FIRE 629	Real Estate Investment Analysis <sup>1</sup>	
URSP 517	Historic Preservation in Planning	
URSP 610	Introduction to Planning	
URSP 611	Principles of Urban Design	
URSP 643	Housing Policy	
URSP 647	Adaptive Reuse of Buildings	
URSP 664	Urban Economic Development Policy	
URSP 666	Urban Commercial Revitalization	
URSP 691	Topics in Urban and Regional Planning (architectural analysis and historical preservation)	
URSP 691	Topics in Urban and Regional Planning (historical preservation application)	
Other elective, if approved by the program chair or certificate program coordinator		
Total Hours		18

<sup>1</sup>

Either URSP 647 or FIRE 629, but not both, may be applied toward the degree requirements.

**For students who wish to focus primarily on historic preservation 12 of the program's 18 hours should include:**

Course	Title	Hours
URSP 517	Historic Preservation in Planning	3
URSP 647	Adaptive Reuse of Buildings	3
URSP 691	Topics in Urban and Regional Planning (architectural analysis and historical preservation)	3
URSP 691	Topics in Urban and Regional Planning (historical preservation application)	3
Total Hours		12

**Total graduate credit hours required (minimum) 18**

**Graduate program director**

Damian Pitt, Ph.D.  
Associate professor and program chair