The Rules outlined in this booklet describe the standards and procedures for the College of Architecture and Planning Doctor of Philosophy Program under the auspices of the Graduate School at the University of Colorado Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus.

Please read these standards and procedures carefully. They have been approved by the College of Architecture and Planning Ph.D. faculty and Graduate School, and are strictly enforced. Failure to comply with the policies as stated in this handbook can result in a hold being put on a student’s account, preventing them from registering for subsequent semesters.

Last revised: October 2017
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1. Introduction and Overview

The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Design and Planning is a research-oriented degree offered by the College of Architecture and Planning (the College) at the University of Colorado Denver (the University). Initiated in 1997, the program is dedicated to the education of future professionals and academics in planning, design, and related fields who are intellectual leaders, and who have a critical understanding of the social, political, and global conditions that influence their profession. It is the intent of the program to prepare the students to excel in the planning and design of built environments through the incorporation of intellectual, analytical, and integrative aspects of the involved professions. Within this context, students and faculty seek to creatively shape the built environment and understand it in relation to institutional, political, economic, social, and natural environments.

Admission to the program is competitive and based on merit, available funding, and available advising capacity in the program. Excellent academic performance, and references are prerequisites. In the first two years of residence, students take courses to satisfy the requirements of their identified area(s) of focus and the core requirement of the program, as well as additional electives. The minimum residency requirement is four semesters, not including summer semesters. The first major step in their progress through the program is the completion of the required course work. The second major step is the completion of the comprehensive examinations.

After satisfying program requirements and successfully defending their comprehensive exam, students defend a research proposal in a public event. With the successful defense of the dissertation topic and research proposal, students are admitted to candidacy. Finally, the completed dissertation is defended in a public examination involving external examiners in addition to the members of the Committee. Upon successful completion of the dissertation defense, the program recommends the awarding of the Ph.D. degree.

One of the strengths of the College’s Ph.D. program is that students can take advantage of resources in all departments and fields in the College and elsewhere in the University of Colorado system. Interdisciplinary study and cross-disciplinary inquiry are encouraged and occur in a congenial work environment, drawing upon a wealth of faculty and resources in a range of campus units. The main mission of the program is to provide a foundation for scholarship in planning and design drawing from scientific, critical, historical, and creative modes of inquiry.

The Ph.D. in Planning and Design is appropriate for those seeking careers in research and teaching or consulting, all of which require a research specialization. So far, more than 40 graduates of the program have gone on to faculty positions at universities in the United States and elsewhere, post-doctoral work, and into private consulting, non-profit organizations, and the federal government.

2. Admission

2.1. Prerequisites

Applicants admitted to the Ph.D. Program normally shall have completed the requirements for the Master of Architecture, Master of Planning, Master of Landscape Architecture, or a related master’s degree program. Students from allied fields are also encouraged to apply. Field specialization and background are open.
2.2. GPA and TOEFL Scores

Consistent with the University requirements, applications are evaluated based on Grade Point Average (GPA) scores, and the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores (where applicable). All exams must have been taken within a year before applying to the program:

- Academic achievement as evidenced by an undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale) or better, and a graduate grade point average of 3.5 or better.

- Applicants whose native language is not English must take either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam, or have a graduate degree from a university in the U.S. or another English-speaking country. The minimum TOEFL score required for acceptance by the University of Colorado at Denver is 80 or higher on the TOEFL (sub-scores of 20 in Reading, Listening, and Speaking, and 24 in Writing) or 6.5 on the IELTS (sub-scores of 5.5 in each area). However, the Ph.D. program typically does not accept a student with a score lower than 85 on the TOEFL and 6.8 on the IELTS.

2.3. Application Checklist

The following documents must be submitted before an application will be considered:

- Application Forms
- Application Fee
- Three Letters of Recommendation
- Examples of previous research and written works
- Official transcripts from all previously attended institutions of higher learning
- Statement of Personal and Professional Goals
- Scores of Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) for non-U.S. residents whose native language is other than English
- Financial Statement (for non-U.S. residents/citizens)

3. Program Requirements

3.1. Overview

Successful completion of the Ph.D. Program requires fulfilling course requirements, passing the comprehensive examinations, preparing and defending a dissertation proposal, and undertaking research, writing and defending a dissertation. This is a multi-year process that involves a close mentoring relationship with the student’s advisor. The Checklist that follows summarizes the major requirements of the program.
A student’s program of study must include at least 12 credit hours of Ph.D. Program core classes and 24 credit hours of study within the area(s) of focus established with the primary mentor. The student may focus on one main field of interest or a major and minor field.

Students shall complete the minimum of 36 credit hours in their area(s) of focus and Ph.D. Program core requirements prior to advancement to candidacy. Credit transfers are not allowed. Credits earned from previous courses before the student is enrolled in the Ph.D. program cannot be used as credit toward the Ph.D. degree.

Students must maintain a 3.0 GPA in all their coursework. A grade of less than B in any Ph.D. Program requirement shall not be accepted as meeting those requirements. For Program Core courses, the student must retake the course. A Program Core course may only be retaken once. The student shall be terminated from the program if a grade less than B is received more than once in a Ph.D. Program Core course.

In addition, students must also pass a comprehensive exam as well as write and defend a dissertation proposal and dissertation.

**Checklist of Student and Advisor Responsibilities**

**Annually**
Student submits end of Year Report to the Advisor and the Ph.D. Program Director in April

**Year One**
Student refines area(s) of focus  
Student identifies Committee that can support their area(s) of focus  
Student develops course of study with his/her Primary Mentor  
Advisor provides advice on above and reviews progress

**Year Two**
Student completes the course requirements  
Primary Mentor provides advice on above and reviews progress

**Year Three**
Student completes the comprehensive exam  
Student submits the dissertation proposal  
Student begins writing their dissertation

**Years Following**
Student finishes dissertation

**Completion of Course Requirements**
Upon completion of the course requirements, the student prepares a list of courses taken and outlines their relevance to the area(s) of focus. This list is reviewed and approved by the student’s advisor, and submitted to the Ph.D. Program Director for final approval.
Comprehensive Examinations
Before the comprehensive examination a student must establish a Comprehensive Examination Committee. The formal confirmation of the Dissertation Committee is established by signing the committee form. The student’s Comprehensive Examination Committee and the examination schedule must be approved by the Ph.D. Program Director. The Graduate School must be notified on the appropriate forms at least two weeks before the exam.

The Committee Chair is responsible for monitoring the conditions and reporting their outcome to the Ph.D. Program Director. The examination form must be signed by the Committee and returned to the Ph.D. Program Director for approval. Upon approval of the form, the Ph.D. Program Director submits the form to the Graduate School Office.

Dissertation Proposal
The dissertation proposal should be submitted by the student in writing to the student’s Dissertation Advisor and the Dissertation Advisory Committee for approval after they have passed their comprehensive exam. The proposal must be approved in writing by the student’s Primary Mentor and Dissertation Advisory Committee. Once approved, the signed copy must be submitted to the Ph.D. Program Director.

After the student has satisfied the requirements for the course work, comprehensive examination and dissertation proposal, he/she will be eligible for admittance to the status of doctoral candidate. The student’s advisor and Ph.D. Program Director must approve completed Candidacy Status application form before submission to the Graduate School for final approval and filing.

Dissertation Defense
The Ph.D. Program Director shall approve the student’s final examination / defense committee and the examination schedule. The Graduate School must be notified on the appropriate forms at least two weeks before the exam. The Dissertation Defense Committee shall consist of a minimum of five Graduate Faculty members. If both the dissertation proposal and the examination are satisfactory and the candidate has completed the requirements of minimum credit hours, residence, and any other requirements of the field of study, the Graduate School shall certify the candidate as qualified to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

3.2. Residency and Enrollment Requirements

The minimum enrollment requirement at CU Denver for doctoral students is six (6) semesters of full-time scholarly work beyond the attainment of a bachelor's degree. No enrollment credits are allowed for an earned Master's degree from another institution.

The Ph.D. Program requires a minimum of two years of residency (not fewer than four semesters enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours each) devoted to coursework and other preparation for advancement to doctoral candidacy status. Ordinarily, research for the dissertation shall also be completed while in residence. After that time, special arrangements can be made with the Dissertation Advisory Committee if substantial work needs to be performed elsewhere.
Students must complete the comprehensive examinations and dissertation proposal defense within four years from the beginning of their first semester in which they are enrolled as a Ph.D. student at the University. In addition, the University requires that all degree requirements be completed within eight years of matriculation.

3.3. Active Status

To remain actively enrolled, students must register for six credit hours or more each academic semester (excluding summer) until they become a doctoral candidate. Students who are not so registered are automatically withdrawn from the University of Colorado Denver and must apply for readmission to the program. The readmission decision shall depend on the student’s academic record and progress toward the degree.

Doctoral students must register for a minimum of one hour of dissertation credit in the term of graduation. If all requirements for graduation, including submission of the final approved dissertation, have been completed prior to the last day of registration, and the student was registered for the preceding term, the student may apply for a waiver of the enrollment requirement.

3.4. Leave of Absence

Students who need to take a leave of absence the University graduate programs for a period of time should determine with their program directors if a petition for leave is required for an absence of up to one year. If approved by the Ph.D. Program Director, a copy of the petition is forwarded to the Graduate School Office for their final approval before placed in the student’s file. Approved leaves of absence do not automatically extend the time limits for earning a degree, but they may be cited as supporting documentation to request an extension if needed.

Leaves of absence that exceed one year shall not be approved unless the Ph.D. Program Director provides the Dean with a compelling justification why such action should be approved.

Students who have not registered for three consecutive semesters shall be considered to have withdrawn from the program and will be required to reapply for admission and be considered with all other applicants.

3.5. Advising and Committees

Overview

Each student entering the program shall have a Primary Mentor. Students wishing to change their Primary Mentor should do so during their first year. All appointments of Primary Mentors must be approved by the Ph.D. Program Director. Students wishing to change their Primary Mentor after the first year must petition the Ph.D. Program Director for approval. The Dissertation Advisory Committee is comprised of a primary mentor and at least two additional members. Any of these three may serve as the Chair of the Dissertation Advisory Committee.
Primary Mentor
The Primary Mentor guides the student through the completion of the course requirements, the preparation for the comprehensive examinations, the dissertation proposal, and the dissertation. The Primary Mentor must have a doctoral degree and be a tenured/tenure-track member of the College’s Ph.D. Program or an invited affiliate faculty with a regular appointment to the Graduate School. The Primary Mentor may serve as the Chair of the Dissertation Committee but may not serve as the Chair of the Comprehensive Exam Committee.

Committee Chair
The Committee Chair’s primary responsibility is serving on the student’s Advisory Committee and chairing the dissertation defense.

Dissertation Advisory Committee:
The Dissertation Advisory Committee provides guidance for the investigated dissertation topic, comprehensive examination, dissertation, and the final dissertation examination.

This Committee includes at least three faculty members: the primary mentor and at least two additional committee members. One of the committee members must be full-time faculty member of the College, and the majority of the committee members must have a Ph.D. degree. All committee members must hold Graduate Faculty appointments. This Committee must be fully formed by beginning of the students third semester of study.

Membership of this Committee may change if the student’s interests and needs change. Any changes should be developed in consultation with the student’s advisor, and must be approved by the Ph.D. Program Director. The Dissertation Advisory Committee must meet with the student at least once each year to assess progress.

Comprehensive Examination Committee:
This Committee consists of a minimum of three graduate faculty members, including the Advisor. Although it is not a requirement, this Committee should mainly consist of the Dissertation Advisory Committee. At least one member of the Comprehensive Examination Committee must be a full-time faculty member of the College, and the majority of the committee members must have a Ph.D. degree. All committee members must hold Graduate Faculty appointments.

Final Dissertation Examination Committee:
The final Dissertation Examination Committee shall be formed according to the Policies and Procedures of the Graduate School. All committee members must hold Graduate Faculty appointments.

Special Circumstances
If the Primary Mentor leaves the faculty of the College before the comprehensive exam and/or thesis topic is approved, the Ph.D. Program Director will work with the student to identify a new Primary Mentor and Chair for the Committee.

If the advisor leaves the faculty of the College after the comprehensive exam and/or thesis topic is approved, and both the advisor and the student wish to continue in the advising
relationship, the original advisor can continue to be co-advisor with the appointment of a co-advisor from within the Program. The advisor may be appointed as adjunct faculty in the School and will continue to hold a regular graduate faculty appointment until the student graduates, in order to recognize his or her continuing role, with approval of the Ph.D. Program Director.

If a member of the Dissertation Committee other than the advisor is unable to continue in this role, for any reason, the advisor will work with the student to identify a new member for the Committee. Upon accepting to serve in this role, the new member of the Committee must sign on the dissertation topic and dissertation proposal documents as they were previously approved.

3.6. Curriculum

The minimum requirement is 36 credit hours of coursework, all of which must be at the Graduate level (5000 and above) and 30 hours of dissertation credits. All Ph.D. students are required to take 12 credit hours of core courses.

The curriculum is divided into three stages consisting of core courses, courses supporting the designated area(s) of focus, and the dissertation. The program requires a minimum of 66 hours of graduate work, 36 of which must be earned while in residence.

Each student's curriculum is tailored to his/her individual needs and is determined in close consultation with the dissertation advisor. All students are required to enroll in the Ph.D. colloquium and Research Methods core courses during the first and second years of course work.

Core Courses (12 credit hours, minimum with B or better grade)

- PhD colloquium 1 (1 credit)
- PhD colloquium 2 (1 credit)
- PhD colloquium 3 (1 credit)
- PhD colloquium 4 (1 credit)
- Literature Review survey with the Committee Chair (2 credits total)
- Two Research Methods courses (3 credits each)

Courses supporting the Area(s) of Interest (24 credit hours, minimum grade of B)

Students work with their Dissertation Advisory Committee to designate their area(s) of interest. This designation is not intended to reflect the particular focus of their dissertation topic but rather the disciplinary context within which their dissertation topic resides. Students, in consultation with their advising team, may select one central area of study or a major and minor area of study. This designated course of study forms the basis for their comprehensive exam.

Dissertation Credits (variable): (30 credit hours, minimum of B or better grade)

During the course of doctoral study, students may enroll for credits related to their preparation for comprehensive exams, the dissertation proposal and preparation, or advisor approved independent study as dissertation credits.
3.7. Typical Course of Study

**FIRST YEAR**
Students develop their degree plan, take six credit hours of the required Core Curriculum, complete additional courses in their area(s) of focus, and prerequisite courses necessary for courses to be taken in the second year.

**SECOND YEAR**
Students take the remaining core courses, continue to take electives which support their area(s) of focus, begin literature surveys and reviews, and prepare for their comprehensive exam.

**THIRD YEAR**
Students complete their specialization papers, prepare a dissertation proposal, complete literature review, and take the comprehensive exam.

**FOURTH and SUBSEQUENT YEAR**
Fourth and subsequent years are spent researching and writing the dissertation.

3.8. Independent Studies

All independent or directed studies must be related to the student’s area(s) of focus, comprehensive examinations, and/or dissertation topic. The number of credit hours for independent studies is limited to a maximum of three per semester over the first four semesters of coursework. Independent study course work cannot exceed 25 percent of the 66 credits of course work required for the Ph.D. degree.

3.9. Annual Reports

Students are required to submit year-end reports that update their progress relative to the program of study. The report must be first approved by the advisor of the student. Upon approval of the advisor, the report shall be circulated to the student’s Dissertation Advisory Committee and submitted to the Ph.D. Program Director. The submission format is both digital and analog: (1) one pdf file of the report as signed; (2) one printout of the report as signed. A copy of this report is forwarded to the Graduate School Office to be placed in the student’s file. Dissertation Advisory committees must meet with the student at least once a year.

See Annual Report Form in Appendix A
The submission of this report is mandatory, not optional. The submission deadline is June, 1st.

3.10. Candidacy Status Application

The application and approval of the Ph.D. Candidacy Status of the student is a two-step process:
(1) Comprehensive Examinations
(2) Dissertation Proposal

Students must apply for admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree at least two weeks before taking the comprehensive examination. The Candidacy Form is included in the Ph.D. Comprehensive Examination packet available on the Graduate School website.

3.11. Comprehensive Examinations

After completing or registering for all program-required, non-dissertation coursework, and concurrently with applying for admission to candidacy for the Ph.D., students must take a comprehensive examination in their respective field. The timing will normally be no sooner than immediately following the end of the fourth semester.

The student cannot take the comprehensive examination with less than a 3.00 G.P.A. In addition, they must have completed or registered for all non-thesis coursework required by the College Ph.D. Program before this application is submitted to and approved by the Graduate School.

Before the comprehensive examination, a student must establish a Comprehensive Examination Committee. The membership and responsibility of this Committee is defined in the Advising and Committee section. The primary mentor cannot chair the Comprehensive Examination Committee.

The student’s Comprehensive Examination Committee and the examination schedule must be approved by the Ph.D. Program Director. The Graduate School must be notified on the appropriate forms at least two weeks before the exam. These forms are included in the Ph.D. comprehensive examination packet.

The Comprehensive Exam consists of two stages and tests the student’s mastery of a broad field of knowledge, not merely the formal coursework that s/he has completed:

i. Students first prepare literature review paper(s) in their chosen area(s) of focus. Preparation of these papers is to ensure that students possess the requisite background for the dissertation research to be undertaken. This effort is also intended to assist students in integrating the diverse disciplines and perspectives to which they have been exposed as these relate to their area(s) of focus. The subject matter will be delineated so as to reflect the students’ interests and research direction and is determined in consultation with the student’s Advisor and Dissertation Advisory Committee.

Papers must entail an extensive review of the pertinent literature, describing and summarizing past research, critically evaluating its findings, and identifying remaining questions, while outlining appropriate approaches to address them. Preparation of these papers may begin during the second year of full-time study. Students will typically find it to their advantage to produce them in the context of an independent study arrangement with a sponsoring faculty member. This review of the pertinent literature will typically be
between 5000 to 7000 words. The Primary Mentor shall determine in writing the number of papers required, the scope of each paper, and a word count expectation for each paper. This will be distributed to the student and the Director of the Ph.D. Program. The Primary Mentor and the Dissertation Advisory Committee will also determine the extent to which this literature review may be included in the final dissertation.

ii. An oral exam that assesses the student’s general knowledge and understanding of the field in which the dissertation will be developed. It is based on the previously prepared specialization paper(s) and conducted by the Dissertation Committee.

The oral part of the comprehensive examination is open to all members of the Graduate Faculty. This examination must be completed no later than the end of the third year for full time students.

All members of the Committee must be present for the examination although a minority of members, but not the chairperson nor the student, may participate by interactive video. In the event of an emergency that prevents one faculty committee member from attending the exam, the exam can proceed with the faculty who can attend and the student will schedule a separate meeting with the faculty member who was absent at an alternate time. The examination form must be signed by the Committee and returned to the Ph.D. Program Director for approval. Upon approval of the form, the Ph.D. Program Director submits the form to the Graduate School office. The student must receive votes from the majority of the Examination Committee for one of the following outcomes:

- Pass
- Conditional Pass
- Fail

If a student receives a Conditional Pass, the Examining Committee shall clearly define the requirements for the student to receive an unconditional passing grade and these requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of the Examination Committee within four months. The Committee Chair is responsible for monitoring the conditions and reporting their outcome to the Ph.D. Program Director. Failure to satisfy these conditions will result in failure of the examination.

If a student fails the Comprehensive Exam, his/her Committee Chair shall inform the student in writing of the grounds for failing short. A student who fails the examination is subject to immediate dismissal from the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the Ph.D. Program Director and concurrence of the Dean. At the Ph.D. Program’s discretion, a student who fails the examination may retake it. The retake will be in the form designated by the Committee and must be completed within 12 months. The original examination form noting the failure is signed by the Committee and returned to the Ph.D. Program Director. New examination forms will then be generated when the examination is rescheduled. Students shall be required to meet registration requirements and be registered during the term in which the repeated exam is taken.

After successful completion of the comprehensive examinations, the student shall defend a dissertation topic developed in consultation with the Dissertation Advisory Committee. The formal dissertation proposal will typically be between 3000 and 5000 words. The Primary Mentor shall set a word count expectation in writing, which shall be distributed to the student and the Director of the Ph.D. Program. The dissertation proposal shall as a rule contain the following:

- General Statement of the scope of the dissertation
- Significance of the dissertation
- Survey of existing research and literature with critical comments and an assessment of the extent to which the material will be utilized
- An explication of the proposed design, methods, and data sources for the research
- Outline of the dissertation
- An assessment of the proposed project’s contribution to the field
- Working bibliography
- Resources for primary material

The student shall get written approvals of the dissertation proposal in the following order: Primary Mentor, Dissertation Committee, Ph.D. Program Director.

The student shall give a public presentation and defense of the dissertation proposal. This defense shall follow the same requirements as the comprehensive exam. The proposal and the defense shall also be given a Pass, Conditional Pass or Fail.

While this defense may happen immediately after the comprehensive exam has been passed, the two defenses and the documents are distinct. If a student is not given a Pass or a Conditional Pass in the comprehensive exam, they are not allowed to defend their dissertation proposal.

After the student has satisfied the requirements for the coursework, comprehensive examination and dissertation proposal, he/she will be eligible for admittance to the status of doctoral candidate. For recognition of this status, the student must submit a formal statement that names the Dissertation Committee, and delineates the dissertation topic, states the purpose of the investigation, and proposes a methodology for its completion.

The student’s advisor and Ph.D. Program Director must approve the statement and completed Candidacy Status Application Form before submission to the Graduate School for final approval and filing.

3.13. The Dissertation

The Ph.D. dissertation is a written piece of original scholarship that represents a significant new perspective or contribution in the chosen field of study. The candidate must complete a comprehensive, comparative, and methodological investigation in the chosen field, culminating in a written dissertation covering that investigation. The dissertation must be either an addition to the fundamental knowledge of the field or a new and substantially better interpretation of
facts already known. It must demonstrate that the candidate provides substantial evidence of original thought, talent for independent research, and ability to organize and present findings. The dissertation must be presented in the format appropriate to the candidate's field. It must meet the criteria published in the University of Colorado Denver Graduate School Policies and Procedures and Format Guide for Theses and Dissertations.

The student's Advisor and Dissertation Committee periodically review drafts of the dissertation and offer suggestions for its completion. The student's Dissertation Advisory Committee shall evaluate the final draft dissertation when ready to determine whether the document has met both the objectives stated in the proposal and the minimal standards for dissertations. It is expected that the members will give this evaluation within two weeks after the receipt of the completed draft dissertation. The student will be personally available for clarification, if any is needed, at this stage. The advisor shall inform the Dissertation Advisory Committee and the Ph.D. Program Director as soon as the Committee agrees that the final examination can be scheduled. No final examinations shall be scheduled without a letter from the Dissertation Committee Chair to the Ph.D. Program Director requesting an examination to be scheduled. The letter must state the Dissertation is in final form and that all members of the Final Examination Committee have the most recent version.


After the dissertation has been completed, a final examination on the dissertation and related topics is conducted in two parts:

1. an oral presentation of the dissertation research that is open to the public, and
2. a closed examination conducted by the Examining Committee.

The Ph.D. Program Director shall approve the student's final examination / defense committee and the examination schedule. The Graduate School must be notified on the appropriate forms at least two weeks before the exam. Forms are included in the Ph.D. graduation packet.

Students must register for the semester in which they undertake the dissertation defense; therefore, if students elect to defend their thesis in the summer semester they must register for that semester.

The Graduate School shall send announcements of the examination to appropriate faculty members, and the signature form shall be sent to the Ph.D. Program office to be placed in the student’s file for use at the examination. The Dissertation Defense Committee shall consist of a minimum of five Graduate Faculty members. The student must submit finalized draft copies of the thesis to the Defense Committee at least two weeks before the examination date.

All members of the Committee must be present for the examination although a minority of members, but not the Dissertation Chair or the student, may participate by interactive video. In the event of an emergency that prevents one faculty committee member from attending the exam, the exam can proceed with the faculty who can attend and the student will schedule a separate meeting with the faculty member who was absent at an alternate time.
The examination form must be signed by the Committee and returned to the Graduate School office. The student must receive votes from a majority of the Examination Committee for one of the following outcomes:

- Pass
- Conditional Pass
- Fail

If a student receives a Conditional Pass, the Examining Committee shall clearly define the requirements for the student to receive an unconditional passing grade and these requirements must be completed to the satisfaction of the Examination Committee within 60 days of the defense. Under extenuating circumstances, the Ph.D. Program Director may petition the Graduate School for additional time. If a student fails the examination, s/he may not continue in the Program.

If both the Dissertation and the Examination are satisfactory and the candidate has completed the requirements of minimum credit hours, residence, major/minor fields, and any other requirements of the field of study, the Graduate School shall certify the candidate as qualified to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

3.15. Ph.D. Degree Time Limit: Eight Year Completion Requirement

University of Colorado Denver requires that doctoral students, whether enrolled full time or part time, must complete all degree requirements within eight years of matriculation. Students who fail to complete the degree in this eight-year period are subject to termination from the Graduate School upon the recommendation of the Ph.D. Program Director and concurrence of the Dean of the College of Architecture and Planning and the Dean of the Graduate School. For a student to continue beyond the time limit, the Program Director must petition the Graduate Dean for an extension and include: (1) reasons why the Program faculty believes the student should be allowed to continue in the Program, and (2) an anticipated timeline for completion of the degree. Approved leaves of absence do not automatically extend the time limits for earning a degree, but they may be used as a reason to request an extension if needed.

3.16. Appeals and Grievances

Students, who feel they have been treated unfairly or outside of normal Ph.D. Program policies, may file a grievance with the College Ph.D. Program Director. Students must follow these procedures before they can submit a grievance to the Graduate School.

4. Financial Aid and Resources

4.1. Ph.D. Program and the College of Architecture and Planning

The Ph.D. Program offers a variety of financial aid opportunities to graduate students. Most types of financial assistance at the graduate level are merit-based rather than need-based.
Because of the ongoing academic and research activities, Graduate Research Assistantship (GRA) positions may be available.

The decision to offer a GRA position is made by the Principal Investigator (PI) directing a research project, for any duration that the PI sees as appropriate, whether renewable or not.

In addition, a number of Graduate Teaching Assistant (GTA) positions are funded by the undergraduate and graduate departments in the College of Architecture and Planning. These are determined based on the needs of those departments and the qualifications of the candidates. GTA positions are offered at the discretion of the Department Chair on a per-semester basis.

4.2. The Graduate School at CU Denver

The Graduate School provides up to $500/year to help defray the expenses incurred by a Ph.D. student who attends a national or international meeting and presents his/her work. The $500 can be used to help defray the costs of registration, travel, lodging, food, and such. Funds are distributed once travel is complete and receipts have been submitted for reimbursement.

5. College Ph.D. Faculty and Affiliate Faculty

The faculty of the Ph.D. Program represents a broad range of interests and expertise.

Ameri, Amir  
Professor  
Department of Architecture

Ph.D., Cornell University 1988

History and Theory of Architecture from Renaissance to present, Cultural Studies, Contemporary Theory, History of Building-types

Anthamatten, Peter  
Associate Professor  
Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences

Ph.D. in Geography, University of Minnesota, 2007; MPH in Environmental Health, University of Minnesota, 2002

Cartography, Spatial Analysis, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Built Environment and Health, Children’s Health

Attmann, Osman  
Associate Professor  
Department of Architecture

Ph.D., Georgia Tech 1999

Green buildings, sustainable living environments, environment & health, architectural technologies
Beck, Jody  
*Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania  2009*
Assistant Professor  
*Department of Landscape Architecture*

Politics of land use, particularly focused on energy and food

Breger, Sasha  
*Ph.D. in International Studies, University of Denver, 2009*
Assistant Professor  
*Department of Political Science*

I teach and research in the fields of international political economy, development studies, global finance, and food and farming systems.

Crow, Deserai  
*Ph.D. in Environmental Policy, Duke University, 2008*
Associate Professor  
*School of Public Affairs*

Local and state-level environmental policy, often with a focus on disaster recovery and hazard mitigation. Conceptual foci include stakeholder participation, information sources used in decision-making, and policy change.

Gallegos, Phillip  
*Arch.D., University of Hawaii 2007*
Associate Professor  
*Department of Architecture*

Education and the Profession

Heikkila, Tanya  
*Ph.D. in Management, University of Arizona, 2001*
Professor  
*School of Public Affairs*

Environmental policy, natural resources governance and the management of collaboration and conflict

Hill, Jordan  
*Ph.D., Virginia Tech*
Director, Social Justice Program  
Instructor, Master of Humanities/Masters of Social Science

A critical study of violence in modern times drawing from the fields of public history, spatial studies, digital humanities, political memory and critical theory
Hodgkins, Jamie  
Associate Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
Ph.D., Arizona State, 2012  
Paleoarchaeology, Zooarchaeology, Human Environmental Interactions: I am a zooarchaeologist interested in reconstructing the behaviors of early modern Homo sapiens and Neandertals, and what they tell us about the origins and worldwide dispersals of our species.

Jenson, Michael  
Ph.D., University of Edinburgh 1996  
Associate Professor  
Department of Architecture  
The Philosophical Relationship of Power and Utopia

Koester, Steve  
Ph.D. in Anthropology, University of Colorado at Boulder, 1986  
Professor  
Department of Health and Behavioral Sciences  
Medical anthropology, qualitative methods, marginalized populations

Kozioł, Chris  
Ph.D., University of Colorado Denver 2003  
Associate Professor  
Department of Architecture  
Evidence-based design, applied public interest design/research, historic preservation & design policy history.

Makarewicz, Carrie  
Ph.D., University of California Berkeley 2013  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Planning  
Community development, affordable housing, and public schools; economic development and regional planning; and transportation equity, including policies and planning related to active travel modes

Mäkelä, Taisto  
Ph.D., Princeton University 1991  
Associate Professor  
Department of Architecture  
Aesthetic theory, the modern movement, cultural institutions, cultural criticism, classical & vernacular traditions, and global urbanism.
McAndrews, Carey  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Planning

Transportation planning, policy, and design; public health and healthy communities; organizations and institutions

Moreno, Rafael  
Associate Professor  
Department of Geography and Environmental Sciences

Geographic Information Science and Technology; Open Source Software for Geospatial Applications (FOSS4G); Natural Resources Management; Sustainable Development; Forestry and land use planning in Latin America.

Morgenthaler, Hans  
Professor  
Department of Architecture

Modern European Architecture

Németh, Jeremy  
Associate Professor  
Department of Planning

Environmental justice, social equity, and the politics of public space

Otañez, Marty  
Associate Professor  
Anthropology Department

Digital storytelling to increase health equities, tobacco industry exploitative practices at the farm-level in Malawi, and strategies cannabis workers’ deploy to stay healthy.

Piro, Rocky  
Associate Research Professor and Executive Director of the Colorado Center for Sustainable Urbanism

urban sustainability, health and the built environment, growth management, smart growth, regional planning, collaborative planning, integrated planning, policy planning
Rumbach, Andrew
Assistant Professor
Department of Planning
Ph.D., Cornell University 2011
Environmental planning, disaster management, international development, climate change adaptation

Shellenbarger, Melanie
Senior Instructor
Department of Architecture
Ph.D., University of Colorado Denver 2008
Architecture History, Theory, Criticism

Simon, Gregory
Associate Professor
Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences
Ph.D. in Geography, University of Washington, 2007
Human-environment relations, environmental policy and governance, political ecology, critical development studies, science and technology studies, urban ecology. Regional Focus: U.S. West and India

Steffel Johnson, Jennifer
Senior Instructor
Department of Planning
Ph.D., University of Colorado Denver 2006
Mixed-income housing, housing policy, social justice, diversity, communities

Sullivan, Esther
Assistant Professor
Department of Sociology
Ph.D. in Sociology, University of Texas at Austin, 2015
Poverty and Inequality; Urban Sociology; Housing

Thomas, Deborah
Professor
Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences
Ph.D. in Geography, University of South Carolina, 1999
Environmental Hazards and Disasters, Health Geography, Geographic Information Science & Technology, Environmental Health
Troy, Austin
Professor and Chair, 
Department of Urban and Regional Planning 

Land use, environmental planning, GIS, spatial analysis, green infrastructure, urban forestry, urban water management

Wallis, Allan
Associate Professor of Public Policy 
School of Public Affairs 

Metropolitan regional governance, Growth management, Affordable housing, Innovation in state and local government, Manufactured Housing

Wee, Bryan
Associate Professor 
Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences 

Childhood and Nature, Environmental Education, Visual Methodologies

Weible, Christopher M.
Professor 
School of Public Affairs 

Policy process theories, conflicts and concord over environmental issues, Comparative policy analysis

Woodhull, Margaret
Assistant Professor 
Humanities 

Ancient Mediterranean Studies, Classical Art and Architecture, Art History, Women's and Gender Studies, Interdisciplinary Humanities.

6. Correspondence and Information
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College of Architecture and Planning 
University of Colorado Denver 
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Denver, CO 80217-3364 

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