

Urb Plan 990, THESIS (3-6 credits)

A student may elect to write a thesis for either three or six credits. A thesis is not a substitute for the comprehensive exam. It is considered as course work.

When electing to write a thesis, students must first find a topic that they would like to research in some depth and find a faculty member with a similar interest who is willing to oversee the thesis. Students must then prepare a written statement of intent, explaining what the topic is and how it will be researched.

Departmental procedure assumes that a student will have a topic, proposal, and advisor well before the beginning of the semester. Electing to write a thesis implies that the student has already done the groundwork in an area before commencing on the formal thesis.

In consultation between the student and major professor on the thesis, two additional faculty should be **enlisted as committee members. The committee will evaluate the student's work and approve the thesis** when it is completed.

The thesis is presented to DUP faculty and students. This presentation is part of the oral defense of the thesis.

Because thesis is regulated by the Graduate School, students must adhere to Graduate School guidelines regarding format, submission requirements, and deadlines. If these are not followed, the thesis may be **accepted by the department as a "project" that is "thesis quality". Credits for a project are also taken under the Urb Plan 990 course number.**