STUDENT HANDBOOK

Programs in
Urban and Regional Planning
College of Architecture and Planning
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

Students Handbook
Students Handbook, 1st Edition
© Department of Urban and Regional Planning, 2019.
College of Architecture and Planning
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In the name of Allah, the most Gracious, the most Compassionate
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Planning is one of the most essential environmental design professions which sets the contextual prerequisites for landscape, architectural, construction, and interior design and other design professions. It provides the macro scale spatial standards and criteria that preserve the identity and function of the larger land use pattern thereby achieving better belonging and users' satisfaction. Comprehensive Urban and Regional planning is significant to urban development because it considers the integration of physical, social, and economic aspects of the environment. This will lead not only to a healthy, safe, and comfortable physical environment but also to sustainable and preserved environmental resources.

The College of Architecture and Planning is certain that the Department of Urban and Regional Planning offers all types of academic and professional support to its students to achieve that aim. Through three years (6 semesters), students in the URP Department are exposed to a variety of theoretical and practical learning experiences. Continuous discussions and interactions occur among students and supervising professors. Projects in planning studio are selected keeping certain standards. The educational guidelines of the College and the Department assure that the topics of students’ design projects and term papers are benefitting to the society, adding to the scientific and professional experience of students and contributing to future research.

Dr. Tareq I. Alrawaf, Dean
College of Architecture and Planning
Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University
Dammam, Saudi Arabia
The Department of Urban and Regional Planning in Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University (IAU) prides itself on being the Kingdom pioneer in offering an Urban and Regional Planning Bachelor Program (BURP). It has been hailed by the private sector as an acclaimed academic program, as measured by Alumni and Employer Surveys alike. Since its inauguration in 1975, the program has continued to excel, becoming a renowned Urban and Regional Planning Program nationally and internationally.

This guide, along with the Student Handbook, contains the regulations and requirements for the admission to and graduation from the program. It outlines the structure of the program, the curriculum, and course content required for obtaining the Bachelor of Science in Urban and Regional Planning. In addition, it highlights the employment opportunities in private, semi-private, and public sectors. Educational resources such as labs, libraries and faculty list are also included in this guide. Students should read this guide in conjunction with the Student Handbook and University Catalog, which will aid them in planning for the completion of the degree requirements in a timely and orderly manner. Students are also encouraged to meet their advisors periodically to follow up on their academic progress. It is the policy of the Department to promote students’ learning and to motivate them to seek knowledge beyond the classroom.

Prof. Faez Saad Al-Shihri,
Chairman Urban and Regional Planning Department
College of Architecture and Planning
Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University
Dammam, Saudi Arabia
INTRODUCTION
IAU University

Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University opened its doors to women and men in 1975 with two pioneering colleges, the College of Medicine, and the College of Architecture. Almost four decades later this academic institution has grown into a leading research university with 21 colleges spread throughout the Eastern Province and a student population of over 45,000. Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University (IAU) began as the Dammam Campus of King Faisal University (KFU) based in Al–Hasa. The Dammam campus then separated and established as an independent university, named as University of Dammam in 2009, the name was modified to Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University in 2016.

College of Architecture and Planning

The first 60 students were admitted in the fall of 1975 to commence studies in College of Architecture and Planning. The College of Architecture and Planning had grown to encompass five departments enrolling more than 900 students in five academic undergraduate programs and seven graduate programs. These include: Architecture, Building Science and Engineering, Landscape architecture, urban and regional planning and Interior Architecture for males and females.
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning in the College of Architecture and Planning of Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University is one of only four departments in this discipline in the universities of Saudi Arabia. It was the first department to open in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, in 1396 Hijri, corresponding to 1975 Gregorian, as a supporting department of the College of Architecture and Planning. The department has been providing a bachelor's program since 1412 H/1991 G, graduating the first undergraduate batch in 1414 H/1993 G. Since the inception of the Department until the academic year of 1438 H/2017 G, the department has graduated more than 350 engineers with a bachelor’s degree in urban and Regional Planning.

Jury of 3rd year Planning studio

URP Faculty members during a Department Council.
BACHELOR OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM
The design, construction, operation and management of new cities, the repair and maintenance of the existing cities, and the development of new urban management and technologies, have become serious concerns for the urban and regional planning industry, particularly in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Moreover, the issues of sustainability, pollution, energy use and health are crucial in the fast-growing built environment. It is obvious that, the lack of scientific knowledge and proper strategic planning can result in huge losses in terms of poor construction quality, human discomfort, energy wastage and health hazards.

Therefore, there is need of competent urban and regional planning professionals in Saudi Arabia, with adequate scientific skills and expertise, who are capable of tackling the aforementioned problems, thereby ensuring high performance and sustainable cities and regions, and built environment for the future. Accordingly, the Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning program encompasses diverse fields of study that essentially address the scientific, engineering, and technological aspects of design, plan, management, and maintenance, pertaining to cities and regions. The purpose of this program is to provide predictive capability to optimize building performance and understand or prevent building failures. All the courses in this program are specifically designed to suit the national and international cities standards and accreditation criteria, and are useful for all professionals or clients, who seek a better understanding of the way cities should be planned to optimize structural strength, energy performance and longevity.

In 1407 H/1986 G the department launched its master’s program, which graduated the first batch in 1410 H/1989 G. Since then, until the academic year of 1432 H/2011 G there has been more than 90 graduates with MSc Degree in URP. They are currently working in various public and private institutions concerned with urban planning and development issues.

In the year 1426 H/2005 G, the URP Department started its PhD program in URP and up to the academic year of 1438 H/2017 G, the program awarded the PhD in URP degree to 13 candidates. They are now working in Saudi universities and in public and private institutions interested in planning issues.

Vision, Mission and Values of the BURP Program

**Vision**
Towards comprehensive, balanced and sustainable development for Saudi regions, urban centers and rural communities.

**Mission**
Provide distinctive scientific, technical and professional knowledge; scientific research; and community services related to local, regional and national development projects and programs.

**Values**
Excellence, Professionalism, Creativity, Diversity
Team Spirit, Islamic and Local Culture, and Social Responsibility.
Goals of the BURP Program

With a view to implement the mission of the department and achieve its goals, the objectives of the BURP program have been set to:

1. Enhance and advance knowledge and skills.
2. Carry out meaningful research.
3. Offer high quality community services.
4. Enhance human and professional competencies of all program affiliates.
5. Maintain sustainable working environment for students and staff.
6. Promote efficient administrative structure for the program.
7. Ensure economic competences in running the program.
8. Optimize the use of technological advancement in all program activities.

BURP Program Structure

The URPL program aims at emphasizing four main areas of urban and regional planning specializations associated with sustainable development, which comprise of four stages:

- Learning the basics of Urban and regional planning field,
- Building professional capacity through linking knowledge to the practical aspect of the URP Field,
- Focusing on plan implementation procedures and city management, and
- Reflecting all the knowledge and skills acquired during the previous years of study in the final year graduation project.

The program gives general and equal exposition to these four stages to reflect theoretical and professional knowledge and skills of urban and regional planning. Accordingly, the program curriculum is sequentially organized in two main modules:

a) The Basic Level

This emphasizes basic architectural fundamentals and provides a solid foundation of theoretical and designs courses. The duration of study, at this level, is for two years. The first year is shared with the preparatory year for engineering track colleges of the university. The second year is shared with all bachelor programs of the College of Architecture and Planning. These are aimed at developing basic graphical and architectural design skills and acquire a common language with architects and enhancing the understanding of buildings and their complex interactions.

The first two years addresses the following main requirements:

- University Requirements: Islamic Culture and Physical Education courses.
- Basic Skills: English Language and Basic Graphics.
- Scientific Fundamentals: Mathematics and Physics.
- Basic Technical Courses: courses in each of the areas of structure, construction and environmental controls.
- Architectural Design Fundamentals design courses.
- Surveying course
b) The professional level

The professional part of the program is of three years duration. It is aimed at enhancing and widening the student knowledge and capabilities in the four areas of urban and regional engineering specializations, emphasized by the program, leading to specialized qualification in urban and regional engineering. This is achieved through theoretical courses and technical projects, which are used as means of practical illustration and consideration of build environment. The scope of the student learning experiences, and professional capabilities are enhanced with a balanced combination of mandatory urban and regional planning engineering, planning science courses and elective courses.

During the professional level, the student should undergo a monitored period of practical training in an institution approved by the College.

Elective courses

Four elective courses are allowed to widen the student scope of knowledge and upgrade and emphasize particular areas of interest and technology specialization.

Market Potentials for the Graduates

Jobs directly related to your degree include:

- Facilities manager
- Historic buildings inspector/conservation officer
- Housing manager/officer
- Local government officer
- Town planner
- Transport planner
- Urban Planner
- Urban Designer
- Planning Advisor
- Planning Manager
- Building surveyor
- Civil Service administrator
- Community development worker
- Environmental manager
- Estate agent
- Landscape architect
- Planning and development surveyor
- Sustainability consultant

Jury of 4th year Planning Studio

Jury of 5th year Planning Studio
Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the URPL program, the students will be able to:

- Students will acquire a solid base of knowledge in the principles and practices of learning, including urban spatial structure, local public finance, economics of development, infrastructure provision, and globalization.
- Students will develop the skills necessary for the effective practice of planning, including its purpose, meaning and history; methods that envision future change; elements of plans; adoption, administration, and implementation of plans; speaking for the disadvantaged; laws and policies of environmental planning.
- Students will develop the values necessary for the effective practice of planning, including problem-solving skills; research skills; written, graphical, and oral skills; computational skills; collaboration with peers; meeting professional standards; forecasting and scenarios; implementation of plans; working with diverse communities.
- Students will learn the values and ethical standards affecting the practice of planning, including the values of justice, equity, fairness, efficiency, order, and beauty; the values of fair representation and equal opportunity; and respecting complex legacies.

Professional Skills of Graduates

- Studying urban and regional planning allows you to develop specialist knowledge in town and regional planning, providing you with a range of professional skills such as:
  - design and place making
  - knowledge of planning law and legislation
  - finance and policy development
  - strategic thinking
  - analytical research
  - making a reasoned argument
  - professional report writing and presentation.
  - partnership working and collaboration.
  - You also develop skills that are useful in many different career areas. These include:
    - verbal and written communication
    - IT
    - negotiation and mediation
    - problem-solving
    - impartiality and diplomacy
    - teamwork
    - creativity
    - decision-making
    - general and people management
    - pragmatism.

A team from MUMRA and Habitat visiting the URP Department with the attendance of IAU Vice President for Studies, Development and Community Services; the College Dean and the Chairman of the Department on 11 January 2015.
BURP Course Descriptions

This section presents brief descriptions of courses in the curriculum for a B. Sc. degree in Urban and Regional Planning. It includes description of the core courses, and descriptions of electives courses.

Core Courses

**URPL - 301 DESIGN STUDIO (5): PLANNING SURVEY, ANALYSIS, GRAPHICS & CARTOGRAPHY**

This design studio has three important aims. The first aim is to develop an understanding of survey and mapping work requirements, to build an understanding as to how to analyze and use of surveyed data; and to develop analytical skills applied to processing, presentation, and interpretation of location-based data. In this aim the course will cover surveying and mapping field techniques, and the uses of global positioning system GPS in surveying. The second aim of the course is to introduce students to graphic techniques, representation tools, and analytical methods that are used in urban and physical planning. The third aim of the course is to develop student’s cartographic skills, concepts, and methods such as photogrammetric map design, computer mapping, Arial photography and satellite image, GIS, and Arc GIS.

**URPL - 302 DESIGN STUDIO (6): NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING**

The aim of the workshop is to introduce students to the design problems at neighborhood level. The project involves land subdivision, neighborhood planning and architectural residential design. At the same time, the project explores the relationship between the physical environment, the socio-cultural aspect, and the nature of urban design process. The course aims at: (i) relating urban design theories and vocabulary to develop and up-grade parts of the city, introducing the concept of neighborhood design and the requirements of planning standards with consideration of socio-cultural and local environment, emphasizing the relation between architecture, landscape and urban design through the process of evaluation and design of residential unit and cluster, imparting an understanding of analytical processes and techniques in urban design and land use planning, imparting an understanding of the process of city growth, development, and change, introducing the potential of using computer aided design as a graphical communication and analytical tool, developing experience in individual students to work in a team.

**URPL - 311 APPLIED STATISTICS**

The course starts by presenting what is meant by statistics and why do we need to learn it. It then explains the steps involved in statistical data analysis. Types of data, appropriate data presentation techniques and main tasks performed through statistical analysis are discussed. The course involves discussions of frequency distributions and central tendency measures including the mean, mode and median, dispersion measures including variance and standard deviation. The course covers the theory of correlation including how to compute Pearson linear correlation coefficient as well as Cramer association coefficient. It discusses curve fitting procedure, the regression and time series analysis procedure and how this is used in forecasting, and some theoretical frequency distributions with particular emphasis on the normal distribution curve. The course concludes with presenting the statistical concept of hypothesis testing and the various tests available for testing statistical hypothesis namely chi square test, t-test, and F-test. The course is heavily based on utilizing the SPSS software.

**URPL-312 ECONOMICS**

This economics course is an introductory undergraduate course in economic theory and practice. It is designed to introduce students to the fundamental concepts of economic theory. It is focused on how economic decisions are made by individuals, businesses, and governments. Demand and supply are developed to demonstrate how market prices are determined, how those prices determine an economy's allocation of goods and services, how factors of production are allocated in the production process, and how goods and services are distributed throughout the economy. It also introduces and discusses the effects of government intervention as well as the concept of international trade, comparative advantage, and global economic challenge.
D U R P  S T U D E N T  H A N D B O O K

URPL-321 URBAN GEOGRAPHY

This course is an introductory course to urban geography. It introduces planning students to the fundamental concepts and techniques of urban geography. Particular attention is devoted to their relationships with the urban and regional planning processes. It acquaints students with the most important problems and policies concerning urban geography in general and as they relate to the current practices in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

URPL-322 URBAN DESIGN THEORY

Urbanization presents the end-product of human civilizations. They could be seen and understood in terms of urban and visual Phenomenon, Patterns, and Elements such as Spaces, traffic Paths, buildings Forms, Land-uses, Human Behavior, and socio-functional segregations. The course introduces the field of urban design to students. This introduction takes different parts. An introduction and definition of basic terms and concepts including: the meaning of urban design and its place within the environmental design spectrum; the significance and impact of urban design works on the quality of life and the quality of the environment; the role and qualities of modern urban designer; the various stages and activities of the urban design process; cognition, perception and image-making process; other basic urban design concepts and terms such as: scale in urban design, urban character, size, shape, pattern, texture, urban magnet, urban rhythm, urban module, accessibility, visual messages, direction, etc. Urban design understanding and assessment criteria at Spaces group level. The Course is divided into two major parts; Theoretical and Practical. The theoretical Part is introduced in form of lectures, and the Practical Part is introduced through assignments carried out by students in order to enhance their theoretical knowledge.

URPL-331 PLANNING HISTORY AND THEORY

This course is an introductory survey of the built environment (from ancient times to the industrial revolution, with an account of temporary urban development as we move into the twenty first century). The concern is primarily with the physical elements, with the realization that are social, economic, and political elements that shape the environment as well. A system of “urban form determinants” is used as a structured basis for analysis of historic and of more recent urban morphology. In addition to that, the course will review the history of planning activities at the national and regional and local levels in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The theory of urban planning has to do with defining and understanding the context, practices, and processes of planning, and how they have evolved from their respective historical cultural basis.

URPL-332 HOUSING AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The course introduces the field of Housing and Residential Development to students. Terms such as a House, a Housing cluster, a neighborhood, a community, etc. will be defined. Various approaches to housing and residential development (planned/unplanned, formal/informal, conventional/Large-scale, etc.) will be analyzed and compared in terms of their impacts on the quality of life and the quality of the environment. The course describes the various stages and activities of the residential development process. These are: the system definition stage, the planning and design stage, the implementation stage, and the evaluation and management stage. The course comprises from two major parts. In the first part, the instructor delivers and explains the course concepts and terms in the form of lectures, seminars or discussions. Students carry out the second part, during which each student will submit and present a term paper demonstrating his comprehension of the course contents.

URPL-341 PLANNING GEOINFORMATICS (1)

This course acquaints the students with the technologies of Remote Sensing and GIS. It demonstrates to students how to use these technologies in an integrated manner and apply them in their studio projects. The course is divided into two main parts. The first shorter part is on remote sensing. The second part is on GIS. The general concepts of RS and GIS will be introduced to the students and they will become familiar with these technologies and their applications in the field of the regional and urban planning. The students will learn not only the theoretical background but also practical applications. The course content includes methods of data entry and editing, simple data analysis and visualization, and preparation of map layouts.
URPL-342 PLANNING GEOINFORMATICS (2)

This course is designed to build on the expertise gained by the students in the prerequisite course and enhance their skills in applying Remote Sensing and Geographic Information Systems for urban and regional planning projects. In this course students will learn how to choose RS imagery for specific applications and for spatial analysis at urban and regional scales. The students will learn about the concepts of Global Positioning System. A comprehensive set of spatial analysis tools will be introduced to allow exploring and analyzing spatial data and to find solutions to spatial problems and modeling urban phenomenon. The course will also provide general concepts of network analysis and the application of such tools in regional and urban planning. The focus will be on using raster and network data. The course will introduce basic techniques of estimating spatial data through interpolation and the concepts of 3D GIS.

URPL-401 DESIGN STUDIO (7): URBAN PLANNING

The course is intended to give more focus to studying the problem at the urban planning levels. The studio applies planning investigation/research methods involving data collection (primary and secondary), data processing and analysis, problem and issue identification and goal formulation, and their presentation in a professional manner consisting of reports including maps, charts, diagrams, etc. Work phases will consist of both team and individual work. The focus in the Design workshop is on real world urban planning problem. Various urban planning policies and strategies for development will be explored in more details from international and national perspectives. International experiences and Saudi urban development strategies will be introduced and examined. The new approaches of urban development will also be introduced and examined. Different methods and techniques used to evaluate and implement such urban comprehensive development plan will be explored in more details.

URPL-411 URBAN AND REGIONAL ECONOMICS

The course focuses on strategies that policy makers and planners at all levels use to create healthy urban and regional economies. We begin by examining the role of the urban economic development specialist, and then examine a range of tools that economic developers/planners use. We also focus on relatively new strategies for urban economics development and redevelopment. We explore issues of labor force, housing, transportation, examine the role of technology on urban economic development, and look at real international cases (with attention to Saudi Arabia) to understand what has occurred in specific contexts.

URPL-412 REGIONAL PLANNING

This course is concerned with the nature of regional planning as particular form of planning; specially, consideration is given to the historical evolution of regional planning and the definition and scope of regional planning; it’s particular role in and contribution, it’s methods and techniques. In addition, this course deals with the process of regionalization and definition of region, the spatial structure of region, and regional planning in the international perspective. The course will introduce concepts and techniques that are used in the regional development.

URPL-421 URBAN SOCIOLOGY

The course provides a basic understanding of the theories in urban social structure, social change and social processes, and their
relationship with the urban physical structure. In this context, the course introduces the basic social units e.g., society, family, neighborhood and their importance in urban social existence and social life. The course also examines urban social processes like social mobility, social conflict, and the dynamics of social change. Finally, the course examines the impact of urban planning and urban development policies on social environment, social change, and progress.

URPL-422 INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

In the last two decades urban areas in Saudi Arabia experienced rapid growth in population. Therefore, the Saudi cities/towns require adequate infrastructure facilities, specifically in the areas of road, water supply, sewerage, sanitation, and solid waste management. In addition, there is a need of better planning and coordination among the service providing agencies i.e., Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Ministry of Water and Electricity, Telecommunication, Transportation Department, etc. The announced Government’s strategy is to improve the infrastructure facilities in the urban areas. Government has also invited the Public-Private-Partnership to invest in the urban infrastructure projects. The course emphasis is on methods of forecasting demands and the means to meet them. Also, importance is given on the use of catchments area population and systems’ threshold size to estimate demand and supply, the application of sustainable approaches (reduce, recycle and reuse) to their management.

URPL-431 PLANNING METHODS & TECHNIQUES (1)

Planning Methods and Techniques extend over two semesters. The courses are intended to provide planning students with tools that enable them to effectively learn how to Conduct Planning Studies? The first of these two courses deal with the basic – must know – methodologies and techniques of planning studies ranging from goal formulation techniques (e.g. relevance tress) and estimation and projection of population and employment characteristics, to the different planning processes of; creating land information bases, Urban Land Use Design, Commercial and Employment Centers. PMT I, extends to acquaint the students with Alternative Generation and Plan Evaluation Techniques.

URPL-432 PLANNING METHODS & TECHNIQUES (2)

This course is an extension of the first part where most of the Must-Know techniques have been introduced to the students. This course aims primarily at introducing to the students, the most stressing issues of contemporary urban planning. The biggest problem facing the urban environment in Saudi Arabia is the issue of How to Manage Urban Growth? The steppingstone for this course is to study the phenomenon of sprawl and its impacts on cities of Saudi Arabia. The course will discuss the causes, impacts and likely solutions to the problem. The theories of Smart Growth, New Urbanism and Sustainability will be continuously discussed debated and analyzed. Different methodologies and techniques adopted internationally will be examined; ranging from how to pay for sprawl, and who pays for sprawl. Creating more sustainable and walkable communities through concepts of TND's, TOD's and more is presented. Relating transportation and environmental assessments to sustainable growth of cities is emphasized.

URPL-441 URBAN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

The course develops a number of standard methods for predicting travel in urban areas. General characteristics of urban travel and urban transport systems are presented along with a discussion of typical issues pertaining to urban areas. Methods used to evaluate alternatives and resolve issues are presented. These include trip generation, trip distribution, Traffic Assignment, and mode split.

URPL-442 PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This course focuses upon sustainable development beginning with an overview of the history and theories of sustainability. The powers of local government to affect sustainable and zero emission outcomes are evaluated, and examples of local sustainability and climate change plans are reviewed. The course then addresses individual aspects of the elements of the built environment that local governments have some control over: energy use, transportation, land use and urban design decisions, water infrastructure and reuse on-site, municipal solid waste (one of the easiest ways a locality can reduce its carbon footprint), and green
buildings, public health and neighborhoods. Green economy, equity and environmental justice issues are also treated. Ways to coordinate goals of environment, economy, and equity at different scales of planning are addressed, including the region, the city, the neighborhood, and the site. Examples from around the world, with a rich tradition of sustainability efforts will also be included. Some also call these efforts, the “greening” of cities although for many the economic and equity issues are equally important.

**URPL-444 PRACTICAL TRAINING**

Practical training is a significant part in fulfilling the requirement for the bachelor’s degree at the College of Architecture and Planning. It gives the student the opportunity to practice both office and field works equally. It provides the student with practical skills and knowledge of the planning profession at the local, urban, or regional developmental levels. It is conducted in a certified public or private agency practicing the planning functions. Besides, it is regulated and managed at the College level. The training period extends for eight weeks during the summer of the third year. The trainee must complete 200 hrs (25hrs/week for 4 weeks).

**URPL-502 DESIGN STUDIO (10): GRADUATION PROJECT 2**

Design Studio (10) is the 2nd phase of the final Graduation Project of each student. In this phase, the student develops the planning concept selected in the previous phase of the project. He elaborates on the physical, social, economic, and environmental characteristics of his selected planning alternative. The student is expected to spell out an implementation framework (who does what, when, where and how). He defines appropriate policies, actions and legal instruments (such as public investments, public-private-partnership, development control mechanisms, incentives and disincentives, etc.) to be used at various places and at various times. The student is encouraged to use innovative management tools such as place-marketing, events-marketing, websites deployment targeting potential developers.

**URPL-511 PLANNING LAW & ADMINISTRATION**

The course discusses the legislative and administrative institutions related to planning in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and points to their history, development, current structures and the role of planning and control of the built environment. It provides the outline of the institutional processes of formulating national planning policies, local plan preparation, planning byelaws, rules and regulations in controlling, guiding and managing urban development in the country. Further the course discusses the town planning byelaws and procedures as practiced in some of the leading countries to develop a comparative perspective in the subject matter.

**URPL-522 PROFESSIONAL TRAINING & PLANNING PRACTICE**

This course is concerned with improving students' professional qualities and attitudes with emphasis on: planners' perception of their work and public expectation; understanding the political nature of decision making, planner' expertise, effectiveness, autonomy, and legitimacy; principles and procedures professional practice such as professional ethics, client relations, and inter-professional collaboration and marketing of professional services. In particular, it aims to help the students make the transition from
planning theory to planning practice. This transition will be in accordance with the new planning principles and codes of ethics introduced by internationally recognized institutions such as, American Planning Association and the Urban Land Institute.

**URPL-521 RURAL PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

The course is designed to introduce planning students to the general concepts and approaches of rural planning and development. We begin by defining what is “rural” and identify the criteria that determine what is “rural” from “urban”. We examine a range of concepts, approaches, and tools that planners use in the field of rural planning and development. The socio-economic problems in rural areas will be explored in more details, then, the concepts of community economic development and sustainable rural development will be introduced and examined. The Saudi Arabian rural development system will be explored, and different case studies will be examined.

**URPL-532 PUBLIC FINANCE AND BUDGETING**

The course introduces planning students to the fiscal role of government in the modern mixed market economy, with an emphasis on the functions of budgeting and public finance in the planning field of modern governments. The various dimensions of budgeting and public finance theory and practice which are examined include: basic principles and concepts, forecasting, resource allocation, executive and legislative budget processes, budget preparation and development, budget reforms, capital budgeting, revenue policy and administration, and principle of taxation, the Saudi budget system will also be examine in more detailed.

**Elective Courses**

**URPL-550 SPECIAL TOPICS IN URBAN DESIGN AND HOUSING**

Since the city could be seen in terms of masses and spaces, urban space could be considered as major and critical component of city fabric. The importance of designing urban spaces lies on their role as communications elements and social public interactions. A carful arrangement of urban spaces sequence or composition and the form of each individual urban space affect human public activities. The course is structured according to the special area of expertise of the instructor or to meet the demand for a certain subject area by students within the fields of Urban Design and Housing. The Course is divided into two major parts: theoretical and practical. The theoretical part is introduced in form of lectures and seminars or discussions; while the practical part is introduced through assignments carried out by students in the field to enhance the comprehension of the theoretical part.

**URPL-551 DESIGN OF LARGE-SCALE URBAN SPACE**

Since the city could be seen in terms of masses and spaces, urban space could be considered as major and critical component of city fabric. The importance of designing urban spaces lies on their role as communications elements and social public interactions. A carful arrangement of urban spaces sequence or composition and the form of each individual urban space affect human public activities. The Course is divided into two major parts; Theoretical and Practical. The theoretical Part is introduced in form of lectures and seminars or discussions, and the Practical part is introduced through assignments carried out by students in the field, in order to enhance their comprehension of the Theoretical part.

**URPL-552 HOUSING ANALYSIS AND DESIGN**

The course provides explanations of residential land use patterns; location characteristics, determinants of residential land use; distribution of population and densities within the metropolitan area; study of existing housing stock; housing market analysis; optimization of resource allocation in the housing sector; housing equilibrium; and demand and supply constraints; value attributes of housing and lifestyles; preparation and formulation of housing policy in the Muslim social context.

**URPL-553 URBAN CONSERVATION & RENEWAL**

The aim of course is to enable students to understand the evolving processes of the urban conservation and its multi-dimensional character as the key aspect of urban regeneration within the sustainability context of
the 21 centuries. It considers the social and economic aspects of the historic preservation of the built environment. Class projects include survey of historical core of the city and structural condition of buildings therein; definition of sphere of influence for the central areas; three-dimensional evaluation of the urban form; techniques and policies of conservation and renewal; social and economic aspects of urban renewal; staging of urban renewal projects and community participation.

**URPL-554 CITYSCAPE & BEAUTIFICATION**

The course introduces the elements of cityscape and thereafter discusses the following: Horizontal and vertical surfaces as delimiters of urban space, qualitative improvement of horizontal and vertical surfaces; street furniture design and detailing; urban beautification principles; long- and short-range policy measures for the enhancement and upgrading of urban spaces.

**URPL-555 URBAN IMAGE**

The course deals with how individuals perceive and navigate the urban landscape, and how they perceive and organize spatial information. It explores the presence of time and history in the urban environment. The emphasis of the course is on how to employ human perception of the physical form of cities and regions as the conceptual basis for good urban design. The course starts with a discussion of the multi-sensory nature of perception and covers the following topics: spatial characteristics and qualities of urban environment, elements of urban image and construction of ‘mental map’, urban morphology and visual evaluation; cross-cultural view of the city, socio-cultural image of the city; characteristics of the Middle eastern city.

**URPL-556 NEW TOWNS AND RECENT URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

This course reviews the theories and issues in New Towns development, their historical evolution in the West and the East, and their typologies and roles in both regional and national development. Recent urban developments in Saudi Arabia are explored with emphasis on major design issues such as relationships between activities: services (residential, commercial, administration, etc.) and production (industrial, employment, etc.). The course clarifies the main design elements in each of these activities. Future directions of urban planning and design of new towns are explored.

**URPL-560 SPECIAL TOPICS IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PLANNING**

This course is intended to provide a degree of flexibility in content for both faculty and students within the field of Social and Economic Planning. The course may be structured according to the specific area of expertise of the instructor or to meet the demand for a certain subject area by students. The course is organized in a way to allow students to carry out research studies in approved themes serving the selected course topic in the field of Social and Economic Planning under supervision of the instructor. The specific topic of the course is subject to the approval of the Department Council.

**URPL-561 FACILITIES PLANNING**

Introduction to the definition and types of facilities, description of the process and methods of planning of public facilities, including the determination of the number, size, and location of facilities, planning consideration for facilities critical in an emergency situation, case studies of facilities in different contexts.

**URPL-562 SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES PLANNING**

The Course reviews the theories and concepts influencing social services and community facilities, principles and standards in planning and development of community facilities and services; evolution of existing community services in respect of public health, education, recreation, amenities and utilities, and their efficiency and effectiveness, in terms of their location and service radius. The course contents focus on un-met needs in under-served population groups, and on improving services and facilities in the community. The course also introduces the idea of self-sufficiency and self-reliance; and also discusses opportunities in efficient delivery of services with minimum administrative overhead costs.
URPL-563 SOCIAL POLICY PLANNING

The course first highlights the need for social development planning aimed at reducing social conflict and ensuring equitable development opportunities for all citizens. Thereafter, the course establishes the need for social policy planning and its scope; identifies crucial areas of social planning; discusses the need for human resource development and the required support services towards ensuring comprehensive and sustainable development; and discusses the methodology and contents of social policy planning and cross-cultural experience in social policy planning in developing countries highlighting the role of government and institutions in social policy formulation.

URPL-564 ECONOMIC ANALYSIS FOR PLANNING PRACTITIONERS

The course is an introductory course in the application of basic principles of economic analysis to problems of urban planning and policy. It is designed to acquaint students with the essential elements of quantitative and qualitative economics that are most relevant to the practice of city planning. The course will explore issues such as: (1) how the basic tools of microeconomic analysis can expand and strengthen the planner’s capacity to address city planning problems and issues; and (2) how to analyze critically the strengths and weaknesses of various economic approaches to, and justifications of, urban policymaking. The study of theory will be augmented by case studies and practical exercises in applying economic analysis to current planning problems in the Dammam, Riyadh, Jeddah, and elsewhere in Saudi Urban System.

URPL-565 REGIONAL ECONOMIES: THE MIDDLE EAST EXPERIENCE

The Middle East is a large, complex, and diverse region, which faces a wide range of economic issues. Our focus will be on the economic development, current economic policies, and the future economic prospects of the following countries: Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Syria, Yemen, and the United Arab Emirates. The course will examines the following economic realities of the region and compare them across the Middle East economies (in varying degrees of depth): technology gap and comparative development; the value of education and human capital development; water and food security; the economics and politics of oil; population growth, role of gender and labor mobility; the role of the state as economic actor; the economic value of democracy; the prospects for regional integration; and economic impact of tourism.

URPL-566 POLITICAL IMPACTS OF DEVELOPMENT

This course is an introduction to the political, social, and economic issues involved in the theory and practice of community and economic development. It is about people in diverse cultural and ethnic communities and neighborhoods, and how they mobilize to play a role in the planning and development of their communities. Particular focus is on national policies and programs (social, economic, and political); the unique role of community-based economic development initiatives; the critical importance of the policy and planning process in balancing the conflict between private-sector profitability and the public interest/community accountability; and a critique of the politics of "trickle down" vs. "bottoms up" social and economic strategies. Focus will be given to how Saudi national policies impact our real-life communities and neighborhoods with particular focus on social, economic, political, and environmental justice.

URPL-567 LAND ECONOMICS

The course aims to introduce planning students to the economics of land uses, with an emphasis on the supply and Demand of land for economic use; the nature and significance of economic rent; real-estate prices and allocation of resources. The various dimensions of land economy (housing, offices, retail, and property valuation) will also be examined in terms of market comparison and replacement cost approaches, operation of real estate markets, land development and investment costs, economic meaning of land conservation; conservation of real estate.

URPL-568 PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS

This course is an introductory exploration of policy analysis. It assumes that planning student already has some familiarity with the
The basic concepts and terminology of public policy and public administration. This course will provide students with both rapid and more complex methods of public policy analysis. It will cover important considerations in the process of policy analysis such as identifying data sources and weighing the utility of data; establishing criteria for analyzing policies; assessing policy alternatives; choosing among policies; and monitoring policy implementation.

**URPL-570 SPECIAL TOPICS IN TRANSPORT & TRAFFIC PLANNING**

This course is intended to provide a degree of flexibility in content for both faculty and students within the field of Transport and Traffic Planning. The course may be structured according to the specific area of expertise of the instructor or to meet the demand for a certain subject area by students. The course is organized in a way to allow students to carry out research studies in approved themes serving the selected course topic in the field of Transport and Traffic Planning under supervision of the instructor. The specific topic of the course is subject to the approval of the Department Council.

**URPL-571 ROAD ENGINEERING DESIGN**

This course introduces the design concepts, material properties and performance criteria are used together with vehicle loading criteria, to demonstrate how they are combined to design road pavements. Another objective is to describe the principles of geometric design fundamentals, in relation to safety and driver comfort, focusing on horizontal and vertical alignment. It will give the student all the stages of the road design process, and all the related design documents, also it elaborates the relation between the road planning process and the design stages. It introduces the general computer applications in this aspect. The students perform examples so they can see how the principles and their application come together in a design.

**URPL-572 TERMINALS PLANNING AND DESIGN**

This course addresses the characteristics of transportation terminals on a mode-by-mode basis (seaports, railways, airports, parking lots, etc.). It reviews methodologies used to study terminal operations for different modes and the management of congestion (input-output diagrams, simulation, optimization, queuing). Although the course covers all transportation modes, freight terminals (ports and railways) receive extra attention to passenger transportation terminals. Besides, the course presents a number of recipes for examining and improving terminal operations. The course also presents the related aspects of terminal operations through modeling and (if necessary) observation.

**URPL-573 TRAFFIC SURVEYS AND PLANNING**

The course will provide knowledge on transportation & Traffic surveys; data collection and analysis methods as well as selection and interpretation of appropriate statistical tests that are relevant to the solution of the studied problem. It illustrates the most important surveys e.g., volume studies, density, speed studies, and OD surveys, etc. It highlights survey organization and implementation of transport projects and elaborates the cost & accuracy considerations in designing & planning transportation surveys.

**URPL-574 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS**

In the context of sustainable development, this course addresses the transport issue of how to make social and economic progress possible with the least damage to the human, natural and built environments. The course identifies and discusses the potential environmental impacts resulting out of the transport system. Ways and means that can be used for measuring these impacts are presented. The framework and techniques that can be used for environmental impact assessment are discussed. The course takes an emphasis also on Traffic Impact Analysis. Traffic impact studies identify traffic problems and suggest ways for relieving these problems resulting from new or expansion of existing land use developments. The process involved in conducting a traffic impact assessment is thoroughly presented and discussed. Specific matters like noise pollution, visual impact and air pollution are presented. Finally, the course concludes by discussing a set of policies and measures that can be used to relieve the deleterious effects of the traffic system both on the natural as well as on the physical environments.
**URPL-575 TRAFFIC ENGINEERING**

This course introduces the field of transportation engineering with particular emphasis on traffic engineering. Topics covered include a description of the transportation industry and transportation modes; characteristics of drivers, pedestrians, vehicles, and the roadway; traffic engineering studies, capacity analysis, and level of service analysis, intersection design and control, traffic signals: capacity, delay, allocation, and optimization of phase times. Studied also, are control of combinations and networks of signals, highway safety, parking, and computer applications in traffic engineering.

**URPL-580 SPECIAL TOPICS IN SUSTAINABILITY & DESERT DEVELOPMENT**

This course is intended to provide a degree of flexibility in content for both faculty and students within the fields of Urbanization, Sustainability & Desert Development. The course may be structured according to the specific area of expertise of the instructor or to meet the demand for a certain subject area by students. The course is organized in a way to allow students to carry out research studies in approved themes serving the selected course topic in the field of Transport and Traffic Planning under supervision of the instructor. The specific topic of the course is subject to the approval of the Department Council.

**URPL-581 CITY MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

This course explains the political and administrative setup of local government and city management functions. The course covers the following concepts and topics: introduction to management thoughts and concepts, city government and its relationship with other level of national government, city management functions. City management is devoted to creating a positive interaction between urban needs and Personal inhabitants’ interests and needs. Urban Equality, Public Participation, socio-economic and personal feeling of secure are critical parameters in modern concepts of City management.

**URPL-582 DESERT DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY**

The course covers four themes: (1) Understanding the desert environment; its characteristics, obstacles, and potentialities, (2) Examining the role of development technology in facilitating desert settlement, (3) Critical review of desert development practices in the world, the Middle East Region and in the KSA, and (4) A search for proper planning strategies for settling the desert. The course is an elective course recommend to planning students; yet students from other programs and departments of the College of Architecture and Planning and other Colleges of the University of Dammam may find it interesting and useful.

**URPL-583 KNOWLEDGE-BASED SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT**

This course is an introductory exploration of the engineering of creative places through knowledge-based spatial development. In many cities and nations, in recent years, policymakers have realized the importance of engineering and orchestrating knowledge places (incubators, precincts, hubs, cities, regions or mega-regions) as key strategies for integrative economic, socio-cultural, and physical development. In these physical entity’s knowledge and information (and the social and technological settings for their production and communication) are used as tools to economic prosperity. The economy of knowledge-based places creates value-added products using research, technology, and brainpower. However, the social benefits of these knowledge-based places extend beyond aggregate economic growth or the locality. Thus, their global appeal planners and development analysts.

**URPL-584 URBAN DIGITAL IMPACTS**

The course seeks to introduce planning students to the general concepts and approaches of how advances in Information Technology are changing the ways cities function and develop in the digital era. At the macro-level, the course explores urban places are being complemented with, and sometimes substituted by, an increasing array of digital spaces in cities and regions. At the micro-level the course explores the activities of individuals, households, firms and institutions and how they are by affected by the digital technology in their daily activities at work, residence, educational places as well as at social and recreational places. The challenges and opportunities these interactions and transformations posed will be examined along with suitable strategies of responding to them.
URPL-585 PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR PLANNERS

This course introduces students to the concept of effective Project Management (planning, prioritizing, scheduling, budgeting, negotiating, organizing, controlling, managing change, motivating, coaching, and refereeing) and is intended to develop a strategic thinking about Project Management. Topics covered in the course include the Triple Constraint Theory (scope, time, and cost), Critical Path, PERT, Gantt, and Critical Chain Project Management (CCPM) methods. Besides, the content will focus on two domains. The first domain covers the concepts, theories, and process groups of the Project Management during the project life cycle (PLC); namely, Project Initiation, Project Planning and Design (or developing), Project Execution (or production), Project Monitoring and Controlling, Project Completion (or closing). The second domain explores the nine “knowledge areas” of project management; namely, scope management, time management, cost management, quality management, human resource management, communications management, risk management, procurement management and Integration Management.

URPL-590 SPECIAL TOPICS IN PLANNING GEOINFORMATICS

This course is intended to provide a degree of flexibility in content for both faculty and students within the field of Planning Geoinformatics. The course may be structured according to the specific area of expertise of the instructor or to meet the demand for a certain subject area by students. The course is organized in a way to allow students to carry out research studies in approved themes serving the selected course topic in the field of Planning Geoinformatics under supervision of the instructor. The specific topic of the course is subject to the approval of the Department Council.

URPL-591 ADVANCED RS APPLICATIONS IN URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING

Geographical information systems (GIS) and remote sensing technology are routinely applied in resources survey and management, in environmental management, and in urban and regional planning. Although these different application fields share many of the core principles, each has its own approach and methods of using GIS and remote sensing. The relationship between remote sensing and urban-regional planning is significant in large part due to the strong spatial component within urban and regional planning. However, it is nevertheless necessary to have frequent overview of the interface between remote sensing and urban-regional planning, particularly in the light of developments in the types of image data and techniques. The use of remote sensing within urban and regional planning provides a rich range of examples of the interface, including application of some of the latest types of image data. In this course is an overview of the interface that remote sensing has with urban and regional planning. In this course the student will learn how to use remote sensing techniques in his studies of land use, settlement development, transportation, vegetation, water resources, environmental problems, regional geology, and mineral resources. There are many kinds of remotely sensed imagery for such studies and the student can learn from this course how to interpret remotely sensed imagery and geocoded data.

URPL-592 ADVANCED GIS APPLICATIONS IN URBAN & REGIONAL PLANNING

The course introduces a variety of advanced topics in GIS that will equip learners with skills and knowledge to better deal with real life issues in GIS applications in Urban and Regional Planning. The topics of the course are selected based on the needs and interests of both students and instructor/s of the course. Topics to be covered include the quality of data and data standards, errors and uncertainty in data, error propagation, spatial (point and areal) interpolation, Modifiable Areal Unit Problem (MAUP), spatial autocorrelation, application of fuzzy sets and logic in GIS. The course would deal with theoretical issues with adequate exercises to demonstrate their practical applications.

URPL-593 PLANNING GEOINFORMATICS FOR DISASTER MANAGEMENT

This course shows the students how Geoinformatics can be useful at different stages of disaster management, including hazard assessment, vulnerability analysis, risk analysis and emergency response. The discussion would focus on common hazards such as
floods, earthquakes, storms, and industrial accidents. Case studies from real life will be discussed to strengthen the learning process.

**URPL-594 SPECIAL TOPICS IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING**

This course is intended to provide a degree of flexibility in content for both faculty and students. The course may be structured according to the special area of expertise of the instructor or to meet the demand for a certain subject area by students. The course is organized in a way to allow students to carry out research studies in approved themes serving the selected course topic under supervision of the instructor. The specific topic of the course is subject to the approval of the Department Council.

**URPL-595 URBANIZATION IN SAUDI ARABIA**


**URPL-596 URBANIZATION & URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

This course involves a study of the history of urbanization process and urban growth in the world, the existing structure and pattern of urbanization; sources of urban growth and regional contrasts in urbanization. Urbanization problems and urban planning and policy with special reference to Saudi Arabia are discussed.
## Curriculum of the B. Sc. Degree in Urban and Regional Planning

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<td>URPL 511</td>
<td>Planning Law &amp; Administration</td>
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<td>Professional Training &amp; Planning Practice</td>
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<td>URPL 521</td>
<td>Rural Planning and Development</td>
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<td>URPL-412</td>
<td>URPL 532</td>
<td>Public Finance and Budgeting</td>
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<th>FIFTH YEAR</th>
<th>SECOND SEMESTER</th>
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**CURRICULUM TOTAL 170 Credit Hours**
### Elective Courses in the Urban and Regional Planning Bachelor Program

#### Field 1: Urban Design and Housing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course #</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URPL-550</td>
<td>Special Topics in Urban Design and Housing</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-551</td>
<td>Design for Large Public Space</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-552</td>
<td>Housing Analysis &amp; Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>URPL-553</td>
<td>Urban Conservation &amp; Renewal</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-554</td>
<td>Cityscape &amp; Beautification</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pass 3rd Year</td>
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<td>URPL-555</td>
<td>Urban Image</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pass 3rd Year</td>
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<td>URPL-556</td>
<td>New Towns and Recent Urban Development</td>
<td>3</td>
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#### Field 2: Social and Economic Planning
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<td>URPL-561</td>
<td>Facilities Planning</td>
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<td>URPL-562</td>
<td>Social &amp; Community Services Planning</td>
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<td>URPL-563</td>
<td>Social Policy Planning</td>
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<td>URPL-564</td>
<td>Economic Analysis for Planning Practitioners</td>
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<td>URPL-565</td>
<td>Regional Economies: The Middle East Experience</td>
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<td>URPL-566</td>
<td>Political Impacts of Development</td>
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<td>URPL-567</td>
<td>Land Economics</td>
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<td>Public Policy Analysis</td>
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#### Field 3: Transportation and Traffic Planning
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-571</td>
<td>Road Engineering Design</td>
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<td>URPL-572</td>
<td>Terminals Planning &amp; Design</td>
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<td>URPL-573</td>
<td>Traffic Surveys &amp; Planning</td>
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<td>URPL-574</td>
<td>Environmental Impact Assessment of Transportation Projects</td>
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<td>URPL-575</td>
<td>Traffic Engineering</td>
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#### Field 4: Sustainability, Technology & Desert Development
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Special Topics in Sustainability &amp; Desert Development</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-581</td>
<td>City Management &amp; Administration</td>
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<td>URPL-582</td>
<td>Desert Development and Technology</td>
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<td>URPL-583</td>
<td>Knowledge-based Spatial Development</td>
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<td>URPL-584</td>
<td>Urban Digital Impacts</td>
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<td>URPL-585</td>
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#### Field 5: Planning Geo-informatics
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<td>URPL-590</td>
<td>Special Topics in Planning Geo-informatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-591</td>
<td>Advanced RS Applications in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
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<td>URPL-342</td>
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<td>URPL-592</td>
<td>Advanced GIS Applications in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>URPL-342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL-593</td>
<td>Planning Geo-informatics for Disaster Management</td>
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#### General Electives: Urban & Regional Planning
<table>
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<th>Course #</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>URPL-594</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL-595</td>
<td>Urbanization in Saudi Arabia</td>
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<td>Pass 3rd Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL-596</td>
<td>Urbanization &amp; Urban Development</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Pass 3rd Year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MASTER OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM
The master’s program in Urban and Regional Planning began in 1984-85. This was a pioneering step in educating and preparing urban and regional planners in Saudi Arabia. After five years of successful operation the program was reviewed and revised with an aim to shorten the duration of the course. After careful deliberations, the total credit hours required for the degree was reduced from a hefty 72 to 48, bringing it at par with most master’s programs in the country.

During the last three decades the internal forces of economic growth and social development as well as the forces of globalization required realignment in the perspectives of planning. In view of the emerging changes in regional and urban structures and functions, the master's in urban and Regional Planning (MURP) program of the Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University was modified again in the mid-2010s. The modifications were designed to adequately meet the changing demands on the professional specializations of spatial planners in the country.

**Vision, Mission and Values of the MURP Program**

**Vision**

Maintain a leading position in preparing competent professionals in the fields of urban, rural and regional planning and real estate development, and thereby effectively contribute in the process of sustainable, balanced spatial growth and development.

**Mission**

Keep enhancing and advancing knowledge and skill and thereby prepare graduate students in carrying out meaningful research and be competent professionals to offer high quality community services in the field of local, regional and national planning, as well as real estate development.

**Values**

Excellence, Professionalism, Creativity, Diversity Team Spirit, Islamic and Local Culture, and Social Responsibility.

**Goals of the MURP Program**

With a view to implement the mission of the department and achieve its goals, the objectives of the MURP program have been set to:

1. Enhance and advance knowledge and skills.
2. Carry out meaningful research.
3. Offer high quality community services.
4. Enhance human and professional competencies of all program affiliates.
5. Maintain sustainable working environment for students and staff.
6. Promote efficient administrative structure for the program.
7. Ensure economic competences in running the program.
8. Optimize the use of technological advancement in all program activities.
MURP Program Structure

The MURP program requires a student to complete 48 hours of credit. The program has two specializations: Urban & Regional Planning, and Housing & Real Estate. Also, a student in either specialization can opt to do either a thesis (research option) or a project (professional option). The 48 credit hours (45 in the professional option) are distributed among the two years of study as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Semester 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Semester 2</td>
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Total in two years 48/45

A visiting guest speaking on writing an effective research proposal for a group of MURP students on 17 October 2017.
### MURP Curriculum

#### Thesis Stream (Research Option)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester I</th>
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<tr>
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<td>URPL 602</td>
<td>Theories in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>URPL 603</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>URPL 604</td>
<td>Methods &amp; Techniques in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
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<table>
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<th>Code</th>
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<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
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<td>URPL 605</td>
<td>Transportation &amp; Land Use Development</td>
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<td></td>
<td>URPL 606</td>
<td>IT in Urban &amp; Regional Development &amp; Management</td>
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<td>URPL 607</td>
<td>Legal and Administrative Aspects of Planning</td>
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<td></td>
<td>URPL 616/626</td>
<td>Workshop I: Local Development (Urban/Real Estate)</td>
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<td>URPL 711/721</td>
<td>Workshop II: Regional Development (Spatial/Real Estate)</td>
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<td>URPL 701</td>
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<td>Specialization Elective IV</td>
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<td>Graduation Thesis</td>
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|             |            | **Program Total**                                  | **48**  |

#### Courses and Project Stream (Professional Option)

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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>URPL 601</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Economics</td>
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<td>URPL 602</td>
<td>Theories in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
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<td>URPL 603</td>
<td>Research Methods</td>
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<td>URPL 604</td>
<td>Methods &amp; Techniques in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
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<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
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<tr>
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<td>IT in Urban &amp; Regional Development &amp; Management</td>
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<td>URPL 607</td>
<td>Legal and Administrative Aspects of Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>URPL 616/626</td>
<td>Workshop I: Local Development (Urban/Real Estate)</td>
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### Semester III

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<tbody>
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<td>Specialization Elective I</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Specialization Elective II</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 711/721</td>
<td>Workshop II: Regional Development (Spatial/Real Estate)</td>
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Semester Total 11

### Semester IV

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<td>Specialization Elective IV</td>
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<td>Graduation Project</td>
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Semester Total 45

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### Electives Courses

#### Electives for Urban & Regional Planning Specialization

**Group A**

<table>
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<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>URPL 751</td>
<td>Techniques of Land Use Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 752</td>
<td>Regional Economic Development</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL 753</td>
<td>Structure Planning Technique and Urban Policy Planning</td>
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#### Electives for Real Estate Specialization

**Group A**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URPL 771</td>
<td>Real Estate Valuation</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 772</td>
<td>Real Estate Market Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 773</td>
<td>Real Estate &amp; Urban Land Economics</td>
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**Group B**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URPL 754</td>
<td>Sustainable Urban Design</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 755</td>
<td>Islamic City &amp; New Towns Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 756</td>
<td>Housing Planning &amp; Policies</td>
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**Group B**

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<tr>
<td>URPL 774</td>
<td>Development Control &amp; Real Estate Laws in KSA</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 775</td>
<td>Urban Public Services Management</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL 776</td>
<td>Real Estate Development &amp; Financial Management</td>
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**Group C**

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<td>Special Topics in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 758</td>
<td>Guided Field Studies in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>URPL 759</td>
<td>Geoinformatics in Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
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**Group C**

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<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL 778</td>
<td>Guided Field Studies in Real Estate Development</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL 779</td>
<td>Geoinformatics in Real Estate Development</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
MURP Course Descriptions

**URPL 601: Urban and Regional Economics**

The course introduces the basic concepts of economics in relation to urban and regional planning professionalism with a special focus on the Saudi Arabian context. Various urban and regional economic theories and concepts that policy makers and planners use to create healthy spatial/space economies will be focused upon. The course begins by examining the role of the urban and regional economic development specialist, and then examines a range of tools and techniques that planners used in the field of urban and regional economic development. It explores issues of market force, location decisions, land use patterns (housing, CBD, retail, manufacturing, and transportation), land rents, real estate market. It also looks into the role of technology on urban and regional economic development and looks at real international cases (with particular attention to Saudi Arabia) to understand what has occurred in specific contexts.

**URPL 602: Theories in Urban & Regional Planning**

The course reviews historical and current thoughts in urban and regional planning— the key dilemmas in planning practice, changing role of planners, rationality and comprehensiveness in development policy formulation. The course also demonstrates planning as a process, planning as decision making and its relation to social, economic, political and administrative processes. It also provides alternative views on the role and scope of government.

**URPL 603: Research Methods**

The course is designed to support master's degree students in developing their research projects and to assist them in defining their mode of enquiry. The course gives them a general introduction to graduate research, its methodologies, its challenges, and its organization, including creative practices in carrying out a research project. Students are also introduced to a range of research tools and will be equipped to plan and organize their research as well as to communicate their research findings.

**URPL 604: Methods & Techniques in Urban & Regional Planning**

The course identifies the components of urban development plan in the framework of urban and metropolitan planning process including goal formulation, plan generation, plan evaluation, implementation, and monitoring. Popular planning techniques e.g., demographic, economic base /employment analysis, land use planning, zoning and urban growth control measures, strategies for intervening in the formation of social and economic areas, distribution of social services and facilities, and other policy measures to introduce planned changes. The course relates urban planning to its regional context by introducing regionalization of National Development Plan and regional development strategies and policies. Basic techniques of regional analysis, regional accounting, shift-share analysis, regional growth, and linkages etc. in estimating growth of regions are introduced in the course. The course also discusses the realities of plan implementation including political, administrative and equity aspects of planning.

**URPL 605: Transportation & Land Use Development**

This course reviews the classic transportation planning and land use models. These include the four-stage transportation model, including the famous Lowry land use model. The course specifically explores transportation issues in urban and regional development including impact of major facilities on the environment such as urban congestion, economic cost vs. energy cost, environmental pollution, and social equity. The course includes Traffic Impact Analysis and suggests ways for relieving these problems resulting from new or expansion of existing land use developments. The process involves generic traffic problems and methods for measuring the intensity of such problems. The course concludes with introducing concepts involved in developing a transport friendly urban center.

**URPL 606: IT in Urban & Regional Development & Management**

This course examines the application and impacts of information technology on urban and regional planning practices and their effects on spatial change, social transformation, and wealth creation.
in Saudi Arabia against the backdrop of global experiences. It will examine both the application of knowledge and IT tools by development actors (residents, firms, and institutions) in their activities to shape multi-level spatial systems, and how purposely created spatial units (technology incubators, technology parks, knowledge cities and regions) are being used to create new economy and new society.

**URPL 607: Legal and Administrative Aspects of Planning**

The course begins with highlights on the importance of the study of planning legislation and planning ideology, and then goes on to review the basis and significance of planning legislations and the administrative organs, procedures, and systems necessary for urban planning, plan implementation, development control, development guidance and management, specifically examining land development and control on the one hand and urban growth management on the other. The course also highlights some international practices with respect to planning laws and byelaws and their applications. The course further introduces the basis of planning legislation in Saudi Arabia including the Islamic principles related to development control. The course covers the spectrum of existing planning laws and byelaws with respect to urban and regional plan preparation, plan implementation, development control, development guidance and management.

**URPL 616: Workshop I: Local Development (Urban)**

The workshop is to train students to organize teamwork to investigate and analyze development planning problems at urban levels. Project assignments would focus on problem identification, goal formulation, and development of methodology, data collection, data tabulation and analysis, conclusion towards problem solving. Students are introduced to basic proficiency in graphic, written, and oral communication skills.

**URPL 626: Workshop I: Local Development (Real Estate)**

The workshop is to train students to organize teamwork to investigate and analyze real estate related issues at urban levels. Project assignments would focus on problem identification, goal formulation, and development of methodology, data collection, data tabulation and analysis, conclusion towards problem solving. Students are introduced to basic proficiency in graphic, written, and oral communication skills.

**URPL 701: Thesis Seminar**

The seminar is centered on contemporary urban/rural/regional planning issues and/or development problems. Through the deliberations in the seminar, students will identify researchable problems to be investigated in greater detail which will be formalized by individual students into a thesis to fulfill the requirements for the Masters’ degree. The seminars will be given in a progressive manner. The seminar will be given by each student individually presenting their conceptualization of the problem to be investigated.

**URPL 702: Project Seminar**

The seminar is centered with contemporary urban/rural/regional planning issues and/or development problems. Through the deliberations in the seminar, students will identify researchable problems to be investigated in greater details which will be formalized by individual students into a graduation project to fulfill the requirements for the Masters’ degree. The seminars will be given in a progressive manner. The seminar will be given by each student individually presenting their conceptualization of the problem to be investigated.

**URPL 703: Graduation Thesis**

The main objective of the master's thesis is to train students to produce research based on the initiative and efforts of individual students under the supervision of professors with extended research experience of their own. Each student will be required to select a topic of research and develop a methodology guided by his supervisor. The thesis proposal has to be approved by the Departmental, College and Graduate Studies Councils. The completed thesis should be submitted following the rules and specifications prescribed by the university. Each student shall be required to present the thesis orally to a board of examiners and the board will examine the student to evaluate the quality and
acceptability of the thesis. The thesis will be accepted on a positive recommendation by the board.

**URPL 704: Graduation Project**

Graduation project is meant to be an alternative to a thesis particularly since urban/regional planning profession is committed to solving problems of development in the real world. Therefore, students who are interested in making worthwhile contributions in solving real world problems would be encouraged to undertake a major project from the real world at city, region, or national territorial level. Such a project would naturally involve intensive fieldwork under the guidance of a supervisor or a team of supervisors. The project will investigate and analyze an existing problem and invent a feasible, realistic, and sustainable solution. The work will be prepared in a professional report format and presented in the same form and specification as that of a thesis.

**URPL 711: Workshop II: Regional Development (Spatial)**

The objective of this workshop is to train students to organize teamwork to investigate and analyze development planning problems at sub-national, regional, and sub-regional spatial levels. Project assignments would focus on problem identification, development goal formulation, and goal achievement through field investigation, data collection, data tabulation and analysis, conclusion towards problem solving. Project completion would include skills in formulation of strategies and policies, identification of programs and projects, and recommendation of tools and mechanisms for implementation of those projects and programs.

**URPL 721: Workshop II: Regional Development (Real Estate)**

The objective of this workshop is to train students to organize teamwork to investigate and analyze real estate related issues at sub-national, regional, and sub-regional levels. Project assignments would focus on problem identification, development goal formulation, and goal achievement through field investigation, data collection, data tabulation and analysis, conclusion towards problem solving. Project completion would include skills in formulation of strategies and policies, identification of programs and projects, and recommendation of tools and mechanisms for implementation of those projects and programs.

**URPL 751: Techniques of Land Use Analysis**

The course presents various techniques of land use analysis (Lowry model, Penn-Jersey model, Kain model, Policy Oriented Gaming) and how they are used in urban planning. The topics to be discussed include, but are not limited to, activity system analysis in the framework of system theory of planning, threshold analysis technique, land use and transportation interactions, information systems approach, growth management practices etc. The course will also present perspectives on future potentials and scenarios of urban land use as impacted by information technologies.

**URPL 752: Regional Economic Development**

The course introduces the notion of ‘economic space’ (as distinct from geographic space) in order to explain the nature of economic regions. The course then dwells on the field of regional economic development and discusses the theories/mechanism how economic development spreads throughout a national territory and beyond with the help of planning of regional resources including natural, human, cultural, and institutional.

**URPL 753: Structure Planning Technique and Urban Policy Planning**

The aim of the course is to introduce the concept, nature, and scope of structure plan as it developed in the UK and now adopted in the KSA. The course identifies the salient features of structure plans and how they differ from the conventional master plan in terms of planning processes and practices. The course also covers institutional arrangements that are required to facilitate structure planning process as well as its implementation. Further, the course includes urban policy planning as practiced in the USA and examines its relevance in Saudi Arabia.
URPL 754: Sustainable Urban Design

This course explores the relationship between environment, ecology, and urbanism. It examines the multiple, interrelated ecological and social systems operating in the city. The course utilizes innovative design processes and techniques that would serve to create a higher quality of life and environment with a particular emphasis on the effectiveness of sustainable design approaches at varying scales.

URPL 755: Islamic City & New Towns Planning

The course focuses on discussing the Islamic principles that governing the life of individuals and society as a whole and their implication in modern city planning. It also provides an historical overview of some of the most important cities of the Islamic world, such as Medina, Damascus, Baghdad, Cairo, and Istanbul, with emphasis on the development of their physical and socio-economical characters. Based on these, the historical preservation as well as possible means for recovering the essence of the Islamic city in our contemporary environment will be discussed. In addition, the course looks at the ideals, theories, and principles relating to modern new towns development. It addresses the evolution of new towns concept, urban growth, and new towns policies at regional scale. It focuses on new towns design and physical layout, social and economic planning, and financing and legislative aspects.

URPL 756: Housing Planning & Policies

The course reviews the evolution of housing development as a process of development of human civilization including the old and the new techniques and approaches in housing. This is followed by a discussion of housing in the urban system and the place of housing in the national development process and its place in the national development plan. The course also covers methods and techniques in housing survey; identification of housing needs, basis for housing policy making, principles and systems of housing the low-income groups and the concept of affordable housing, housing management and housing finance.

URPL 757: Special Topics in Urban & Regional Planning

The course is intended to provide opportunities to selected students who may show interest in some special topics in the urban and regional planning to which a faculty member might have sufficient contribution and specialist knowledge. The course will be designed and offered from time to time by the faculty specializing in such a branch of knowledge. The content of the course varies and depends on the prior consent of the scientific Department and the College.

URPL 758: Guided Field Studies in Urban & Regional Planning

The course is intended to provide opportunities to selected students who are interested in some phenomenon in the urban and regional development field or would like to try to solve a particular problem in the real world. Such a study will involve fieldwork and assignments aimed at solving the problem so identified. The work will be supervised jointly by an instructor in the department and personnel from concerned agency who may be the client of the study project.

URPL 759: Geoinformatics in Urban & Regional Planning

This course is designed to introduce the basic principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing (RS) and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS). The focus would be to develop an appreciation of how these technologies may be applied to help the tasks of planners in the profession.

URPL 771: Real Estate Valuation

This course involves critical examination of appraisal concepts and methods; the role of value estimates in private land use and real estate investment decision and in the implementation of public policies affecting urban development. The course includes various methods used in the valuation of the different types of real properties. The course also includes market analysis techniques, evaluation of development projects, and problems of real estate
management. The course uses experience and case studies from developed countries in Europe, USA as well as the Asian countries.

**URPL 772: Real Estate Market Studies**

This course teaches the principles and dynamics that underlie real estate markets. The course is designed as a practical guide for analyzing the market potential of real estate developments in a variety of sectors e.g., residential (single family dwellings, compounds, multi-story apartments), commercial, industrial, recreational, educational, public institutional, etc.

**URPL 773: Real Estate & Urban Land Economics**

This is a course introducing the nature and scope of real property including such basic topics as the role of real estate development in national, regional and local economy, urban land resources and urban development, metropolitan growth and rational urban land utilization; tools of control and guidance in the urban land market, real property and investments in real properties, the ideals of housing democracy and public policies in housing, housing market analysis including supply and demand in the urban housing sector and the issue of equity participation in urban housing market, investment properties, banks and mortgage lending institutions etc.

**URPL 774: Development Control & Real Estate Laws in KSA**

The course introduces to students some selected theories, concepts and principles of public laws and byelaws which are useful in controlling and guiding socio-economic and physical development of communities. The course then introduces a profile of the existing patterns of urban growth and land factors in the KSA, and then outlines the legal mechanisms of land development and control and the existing development control measures in the Kingdom. The course further explores Islamic principles related to development control. The course also introduces the newly formed real estate laws in the Kingdom.

**URPL 775: Urban Public Services Management**

The course enlists the common experience of constraints and often-inadequate resources for municipal services, the need for efficiency, and the necessity of managing municipal programs and services effectively and equitably. This is done through reviews of selected international cases in municipal management, organization, financial management, program planning and budgeting, and administration of municipal functions. The course then examines how services are provided by local governments in the Kingdom. The course covers the administrative structure of municipalities and regional and sub-regional districts, conduct of elections, protective and regulatory services, refuse collection and solid waste disposal, the operation and financing of water and sewer utilities, and general public works services. The course also considers how municipal employees should deal with requests and complaints from the public regarding municipal services.

**URPL 776: Real Estate Development & Financial Management**

The course is designed to give the student a multidisciplinary overview/survey of the development process – from conception of the idea/vision through project completion and ongoing management.

**URPL 777: Special Topics in Real Estate Development**

The course is intended to provide opportunities for students who may show interest in some special topics of their choice and in such areas some specific faculty member may have expertise of interest. The course will be variable. The syllabus and course contents for each topic will be worked out by each faculty independently and approved by the department academic committee. Consent of the faculty will have to be obtained in advance.

**URPL 778: Guided Field Studies in Real Estate Development**

The course is intended to provide opportunities to selected students who are interested in some phenomenon in the real estate development field or would like to try and solve a particular problem in the real world. Such a study will involve field work and assignments aimed at solving the problem so identified. And the work will be supervised jointly by an instructor in the department.
and personnel from concerned agency who may be the client of the study project.

**URPL 779: Geoinformatics in Real Estate Development**

This course is designed to introduce the basic principles of Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Remote Sensing (RS) and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS). The focus would be to develop an appreciation of how these technologies may be applied to help the tasks of planners in the profession.

*Jury of final Project in the MURP Program on 30 December 2015.*
PHD IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM
The Department of Urban and Regional Planning initiated a PhD in Urban and Regional Planning program in response to the Sixth Five-Year Plan of the state that invoked institutions of higher learning to contribute to national development so as to meet the new challenges of internal development and globalization, and to respond to the ever-expanding social and economic demands. The first batch of doctoral students was admitted in Rajab 1426H (September 2006G).

**Vision, Mission and Values of the PhD-URP Program**

**Vision**
Maintain a leading position in preparing competent professionals in the fields of urban, rural, and regional planning, and thereby effectively contribute to the process of sustainable, balanced spatial growth and development.

**Mission**
Enhance and advance knowledge and skills and thereby prepare graduate students in carrying out meaningful research and be competent professionals to offer high quality community services in the field of local, regional, and national planning.

**Goals of the PhD-URP Program**
With a view to implement the mission of the department and achieve its goals, the objectives of the PhD URP program have been set to:

1. Enhance and advance knowledge and skills.
2. Carry out meaningful research.
3. Offer high quality community services.
4. Enhance human and professional competencies of all program affiliates.
5. Maintain sustainable working environment for students and staff.
6. Promote efficient administrative structure for the program.
7. Ensure economic competences in running the program.
8. Optimize the use of technological advancement in all program activities.

**Values**
Excellence, Professionalism, Creativity, Diversity, Team Spirit, Islamic and Local Culture, and Social Responsibility.

**PhD-URP Program Structure**
Students in the PhD program is required to complete 21 hours of credit, of which twelve credits come from courses and the remaining nine credits are earned through successful defense of the PhD dissertation. After a student finishes the courses with a minimum of B grade in each, they sit for a comprehensive examination. After passing the examination in a maximum of two
attempts, the student can register for dissertation and develop a proposal under the guidance of assigned advisors. Once the proposal is approved, a supervisor and optionally a co-supervisor are appointed to guide their research. The distribution of credits is described in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Semester I</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester II</td>
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<tr>
<td>2-5</td>
<td>Semesters III-X</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total in 3-5 years</td>
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*The final defense of Doctoral Thesis submitted by Khaled Al-Arfaj on 29 January 2015*

*Accreditation Committees are meeting to prepare the Self Evaluation Scales for the PhD-URP Program.*

*Graduating Student Faraway party, March 2019*
PhD-URP Program Curriculum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Year First Semester</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URPL 801</td>
<td>Seminar (1): Advanced Urban &amp; Regional Planning Theories</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL 803</td>
<td>Seminar (3): Doctoral Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester Total</td>
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<tr>
<th>First Year Second Semester</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URPL 802</td>
<td>Seminar (2): Emerging Issues in Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URPL 804</td>
<td>Seminar (4): Advanced Research Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Semester Total</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<th>From Second Year to Minimum Third and Maximum Fifth Year</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Cr. Hr.</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>URPL 900</td>
<td>Doctoral Dissertation</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total in 3-5 years</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PhD-URP Course Descriptions

**URPL 801: Seminar (1): Advanced Urban & Regional Planning Theories**

This course offers PhD students the opportunity to address, in considerable depth, pressing and enduring issues being faced by the planning theorists and practitioners. These issues center around what role could or should planners play in the development of cities and regions within the prevailing forces of Islamic culture, institutions, and the Western influences. Students are encouraged to examine the diverse, sometimes conflicting, and contradictory, views on the wide-ranging planning issues. In addition, the course explores the various uses, forms and limits of theorizing and its relationship to the practice of planning in the West and in the Muslim world, with specific emphasis on the Kingdom and the...
Gulf. Students are required to develop their own intellectual models of theory in, for, or of planning that takes into consideration timely measures and developments. Yet, these models should be aligned with the context of socio-cultural and institutional experiences and aspirations of the Kingdom. The models should recognize the facts, values, knowledge, and experiences of the past and the inspirations of the future of local communities and society.

**URPL 802: Seminar (2): Emerging Issues in Urban & Regional Planning**

Recent events are pointing to new and challenging contexts of planning thought and action including emerging new social, economic, technological, administrative, and spatial issues. Social structure and order of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) with more youthful demographic profile are demanding more and better public goods (jobs, homes, and social and physical infrastructure). These changes constitute unprecedented challenges for planners, especially in the context of globalization and development of telecommunications and information technology. The seminar focuses on discussing modern concepts and techniques and their consequences in the economic and social conditions. The seminar seeks strategies to support balanced spatial development in cities and regions.

**URPL 803: Seminar (3): Doctoral Research Methods**

This seminar provides the students with practical and intellectual tools to help them design, conduct, and criticize scholarly research. It places heavy responsibility on the students to prepare and present research papers in their area of interest, preferably directly related to their proposed dissertation topic. Assuming that students have some background in analytical and statistical methods and research design, the course focuses on methods to develop a sound research proposal/paper. The course attempts to shed light on how to: select a research topic, define a research problem, develop questions, articulate aim, and objectives, state a hypothesis; delineate the scope, collect secondary and primary data, conduct analysis of nominal and ordinal data; synthesize data, develop, and evaluate alternative solutions, compile findings and conclusions, write scientific paper, assess the quality of your research paper, and publish scientific research.

**URPL 804: Seminar (4): Advanced Research Methods**

The course is designed for advanced students particularly those preparing for their dissertation research proposal. It assumes that students have background in research design and analytical methods and hence will focus on the following areas: hypothesis and their tests; analysis of nominal and ordinal data; analysis of variance; correlation and regression techniques of analysis; dummy variable and multi-co linearity; path analysis; research report writing, etc.

**URPL 900: Doctoral Dissertation**

The objective of the doctoral dissertation is to apply the theoretical and practical knowledge and analytical methods to the resolution of a specific research problem in one of the subfields of urban and regional planning: regional planning, urban planning, urban design, transportation planning, social planning, public administration, quantitative planning techniques, etc. The research must be original and contribute to the existing body of applied or theoretical knowledge. The dissertation stage consists of three main parts: (1) filing the dissertation proposal, (2) doctoral seminars, and (3) dissertation final defense.
RESOURCES OF THE URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT
The Department of Urban & Regional Planning at Imam Abdulrahman Bin Faisal University is one of the first in introducing the graduate studies in Urban & Regional Planning in the Kingdom and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Therefore, the department has to its credit significant teaching, research, and consultation expertise. Graduates of this department have already assumed high responsible positions in the public and the private sectors. This testifies that the Department of Urban & Regional Planning has been able to impart the right kind of knowledge and skills successfully. The physical and human resources to support the modified M.Sc. program in Urban & Regional Planning are as follows.

**Physical Resources**

**Work/study space:**

Currently the College of Architecture & Planning is housed in a spacious, three-storied building exclusively for its own use in the new campus of the university.

The 3rd floor of the College of Architecture and Planning; a dynamic middle spine leading to the various Departments to the right and the left.

**The Central Library in the Campus:**

This library has a rich collection of books, journals and periodicals in engineering, architecture, planning, and related fields. The library has the necessary facilities and space to cater to graduate research students Also, there is an extensive collection of scientific databases that can be accessed online.
The Geographic Information System (GIS)

Unit: The college has a GIS unit equipped with all the hardware and software required to facilitate advanced studies and research in the areas of socio-economic and geographic information.

The Environmental Studies Center:

The college contains a comprehensive range of instruments needed to conduct advanced research in the field of environmental planning e.g., weather & climatic studies, noise studies etc.

The Audio-visual Center:

This college has an adequate variety of audio-visual equipment required for teaching and related activities envisaged in the proposed modification.

The Model-making Workshop:

This workshop has all the necessary materials, equipment (including 3D printers and laser cutters) and expertise that might be needed by students in a graduate program of studies in diverse aspects of planning.

Information Document Center:

This Center is a special part of the Central Library on campus. The Centre is rich in terms of professional planning reports issued by various ministries as well as the secretariats of the regions and municipalities. It contains general and structural plans, which include national development plans, the work of comprehensive urban development regions and cities and various sites in the Kingdom. It also provides numerous plans and studies, books and maps for research and academic activities in curriculum decisions.

The Computer Center & Internet Services:

The College of Architecture and Planning is very rich in numbers and quality of advanced computers as well as Internet facilities with high capacities. The College can provide computer services and electronic communication with scientific research worldwide databases to support research activities. These facilities are useful in many ways: for example, providing access to worldwide databases and information centres, interactive Internet and intranet resources will open the potential for e-learning and distant education, etc.

HUMAN RESOURCES

The Department of Urban & Regional Planning is rich in human resources required to carry out the modifications introduced in the program. The Department has long-standing experience in both teaching and scientific research activities at the bachelor’s and master’s degree levels. The Department is involved in scientific research on annual basis. Since its initiation in 1975, the Department has produced over 200 graduation project reports for the undergraduate level, over 70 Masters’ degree theses and 12 Ph. D. dissertations. The staff has credible experience in conducting research and in supervising Masters’ theses and Ph.D. dissertations, as well as assessment of scientific papers, research documents, and promotion reports both inside and outside Saudi Arabia.

IAU Vice President for Studies, Development and Community Services with the Vice Dean of the College of Architecture and Planning and the Chairman of the Department of Urban and Regional Planning during a meeting with a visiting team from Portland State University on 21 February 2015.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name of Faculty</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Field of Specialization</th>
<th>Research Interests</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Prof. Faez Saad Al-Shihri</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Urban &amp; Regional Planning</td>
<td>Sustainable Dev. Planning; Environmental URP; Urban &amp; Regional Sustainability, urban resilience Urban Green City, Smart Cities, New Urbanism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Prof. Mahmoud A. Abdellatif</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Desert Dev &amp; Technology; Urban Dev. &amp; Design; Desert Housing; Architectural and Computer Education.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Prof. Khandoker Maniruzzaman</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Urban Planning</td>
<td>Spatial Analysis; Disaster Management, Spatial Optimization, GIS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Prof. Jamal Y. Salaghoor</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Urban Design</td>
<td>Housing Regulation; Urban Design, Housing Regulation, Architecture Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Prof. Abdullah H. Al-Kadi</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Urban Planning</td>
<td>Planning Techniques; Legal Aspects of Planning, Housing, G.I.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Prof. Antar A. Abou Korin</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Regional/Urban Planning; Regional Development; Urban Analysis; Population &amp; Development; Spatial Analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Prof. Abdulkarim Al-Howaish</td>
<td>Professor</td>
<td>Regional Planning</td>
<td>Economic Development; Regional Economic Analysis; Urban &amp; Rural Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dr. Abubakar R. Ismaila</td>
<td>Assoc. Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Sustainability; Urban Sustainability; New towns Development; Urbanization; Environmental Planning; Urban services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Dr. Ahmed Basha</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Regional Planning; Urbanization, Regional Planning; Nutrition Health Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dr. Maher S. Al-Shammri</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning; GIS, Planning Techniques, Quantitative Methods in Planning; Sustainable Dev.; Physical Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Dr. Karim A. Gazzeh</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Regional Planning</td>
<td>Risk Management Infrastructure; Housing, Sustainable Urban Dev., Risk Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Dr. Ali M. Al-Qahatany</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Sustainability Urban Planning; Sustainability Urban Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Dr. Khalid Al-Arfa</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Urban Planning</td>
<td>Planning Graphics; Cartography, Visual Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dr. Hatem Touman Abdelhameed</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Urban Planning</td>
<td>Urban Design; Green roofs; new settlements; active mobility</td>
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<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Dr. Nawaf Abdulkarim Al-Shabibi</td>
<td>Asst. Professor</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
<td>Transportation Planning and Engineering; Transportation Planning and Traffic Engineering</td>
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Support staff in the Department of Urban & Regional Planning (Ramadan 1440/May 2019)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Name of Faculty</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Field of Specialization</th>
<th>Research Interests</th>
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<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Eng. Ahmed Ismail</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
<td>Urban Planning</td>
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<td>21</td>
<td>Eng. Abdullah A. Al-Hamoudi</td>
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<td>Eng. Salem Ibrahim Aljoaib</td>
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<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Eng. Abdulrahman A. AlSayel</td>
<td>Lecturer</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Eng. Khalid A. Al Melhem</td>
<td>Teaching Asst. (Abroad)</td>
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<td>Teaching Asst.</td>
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A group photo of URP Department faculty members and graduating students from the BURP Program, April 2019
H.E. IAU Rector opening the Planning Day in March 2011

A Planning Student is explaining his work to IAU Rector and respected guests.

H.E. IAU Rector and guests attending the lectures of the Planning Day

End of year get together party honoring some retiring faculty members, 5 April 2018
STUDENT AFFAIRS
4.1 Student Services and Activities

The Deanship of Student affairs in collaboration with the student affairs unit in the college are concerned with the services of students by taking care of their mental, psychological, and cultural aspects. Their programs aim at strengthening the bonds and boost the relationship between the student and their college and university and deepening the spirit of loyalty to the country and strives hard to fill their leisure times with the matters enhancing their cultural, psychological, and mental abilities as well as provision of all means of comfort through different student services aims at creating a motivated educational environment.

4.1.1 Goals

- Enhances righteous Muslim morality and genuine national spirit among university / college student and qualify the student to be a good example for his country and nation.
- Contributes to build a balanced and integrated student character.
- Strengthens the bonds of love between the student the teacher during an undergraduate and post graduate stage.
- Enhances the spirit of belonging to the university during an undergraduate and postgraduate stage.
- Invest the leisure times for the benefit and interest of the student.
- Encourages the students to participate in volunteer activities and community service and sacrifices for the sake of the nation.
- Expand student’s skills, develops their knowledge, and connect them with modern means of learning.
- Creating a motivated learning environment meeting all service needs of the student.

4.1.2 The Vice-Deanship of Student Affairs

The vice-deanship offers non-academic services which in turn make the learning and education processes more enjoyable. Some of these services are as follows.

4.1.2.1 Issuing Student IDs

A student affair is responsible for Issuing students IDs after they are officially accepted and after finishing all registration procedure from the website http://www.iau.edu.sa. The student must bring a recent photo for his ID card which must be worn at all times on campus and during exams. Losing the ID card will result in paying 50 Riyals fine deposited into the Students Fund. The student must deposit the money himself into the account number provided. The deposit slip must be handed over to the employee in charge of ID. Students are not allowed to pay in cash.

4.1.2.2 Housing

Student affairs are responsible for student housing according to the university housing policy and regulations.

Responsibilities of Housing Department

- Supervises housing accommodation units.
- Following up the service problems
- Create the best means of comfort for students.
- Following up the janitorial works inside the student housing accommodation with the concerned department.

4.1.2.3 Students Fund

This treasurer is responsible for providing loans to students who are not financially stable by giving those loans starting from the second year. These loans are offered in the form of Jarir Bookstore installment plans or renting lockers for an annual fee of 100 Riyals. The student must deposit the money himself into the account number provided. The deposit slip must be handed over to the employee in charge. Students are not allowed to hand in cash to the employee.
4.1.2.4 Catering Service

The Catering Department supervises the university main restaurant and other cafeterias inside the university campus. The department is also responsible for completion of contracting formalities with the catering contractors who will provide food services to the students in the university campuses after meeting the prescribed health conditions.

The catering department comprises qualified food management and health cadres who follow up and supervise the provision of food services inside the university.

Department Duties

- Supervises the procedures for start of catering contracts.
- Supervises the preparation, cooking and serving of food meals.
- Supervises and follows up the health aspects of foods services.
- Ensure that all served food is safe and clean.
- Supervises selling of food coupons for the student according to the prescribed financial policies.
- Participates in preparation of foods and meals for parties and courses organized by the deanship of student affairs and other university department.

4.1.2.5 Scholarships

The scholarship and international students’ department at the University of Dammam was established to supervise the scholarships and provide necessary welfare for foreign students. The council of ministers issued its decision No. 94 dated 29/03/1431 H organizing the regulations of non-Saudi students admitted in the higher education institutions in Saudi Arabia. The decision was circulated among all Saudi universities regarding the welfare of scholarships students in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Benefits for Scholarship Students

- Health care for the student and family dependents if they are recruited to live with him in Saudi Arabia similar to the health care provided to the Saudi citizens.
- Provided with a three-month bursary upon graduation for shipment of his books.
- Provided with a low-rate food meal. The council of the university will determine the amount per meal to be paid by the scholarship student.
- The benefits availed by his Saudi student colleagues in the university.

4.1.3 The Vice-Deanship of Students Activities

The vice-deanship consists of the following departments:

- Social and educational activities.
- Athletic activities.
- Student clubs.

These activities aim at providing a solid ground for students to promote their developing needs whether on the cultural level or on the social one. Students who are interested in joining the activities can be paid per hour. They will be able to communicate online with students, Deanships, and different colleges to receive suggestions that will, in turn, remove any obstacle on the students’ pathway which is our ultimate objective. Different students’ activities are designed to meet the needs and interests of students. They help students utilize their leisure time in useful activities. Students are permitted to join these activities under the guidance of the faculty staff.

These activities include, but not limited to:

- Social and cultural activities
- Sports activities
- Student clubs: reading forum club, student relations club, roamers club, participants club, educational club, scientific research club, excellence club, drama club, scientific club, media club and photography club
- Student competitions such as College Star Award and University Star Award
- Open day activities
- Leisure trips such as spring camping and university beach tours etc.
4.2 Students Rights

Students have the right to:

1. To have student handbook, which contains information about the university, its regulations, and its facilities.
2. To have an orientation program addressed to newcomers.
3. Students have the right to be treated fairly and with dignity regardless of age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin or ancestry, race, religion, or sex.
4. To take their feedback into account after education assessment in order to improve the quality of education at the university. Students will evaluate the material they have studied and the faculty members who taught them.
5. Students treat this issue with high credibility—free from any personal, partisan, or tribal prejudices.
6. To create and establish the appropriate academic environment for students to accomplish high-standard understanding and study more easily by making all educational sources accessible to serve this goal.
7. To get the learning material and have access to any-related knowledge in accordance with the university provisions and regulations that organize the academic work.
8. To obtain study plans from the faculty or the department and the available academic programs, as well as to concede the schedule before commencing studies; to register for the courses offered to them by the registration system and making sure that fair guidelines are followed during registration period; to take registration priorities into account when achieving the wishes of all students becomes impossible.
9. To withdraw from or add any course, or to drop the entire semester, according to what the system of registration at the university permits during the period specified for that purpose.
10. The full schedule of the faculty members with respect to the date and time of lectures, and commitment to teach the theoretical and practical material effectively, and never cancel a lecture or changing its date unless there is a necessity. If that announcing alternative lectures, lectures should be given in coordination with the students and the department concerned. Asking questions and discussing the material with the professors without restraints whether that was during the lecture or commitment during the specified office hours.
11. Exam question should be taken for the material which was taught, or the topics which were discussed or highlighted during class, and grades should be fairly distributed between topics
12. To prepare and conduct all scheduled exams in the syllabus. Student should be informed of the dismissal from the course before the final exam.
13. To be provided with model answers for the examination’s questions of each semester and the distribution of points according to which the evaluation of the students’ performance stands.
14. To revise his answer sheet of examinations in accordance with the provisions and regulations issued by the university concerning these matters.
15. To facilitate the students’ access to their full rights decided by academic or administrative bodies based on the university provisions and regulations.
16. To know the results obtained in all the monthly, quarterly, and final exams performed after they have been corrected and approved.
17. Commitment of the faculty members and the staff workers to show respect to students and entail them their academic and human rights.
18. Using the electronic system to monitor grades and documenting absence provided that that it should not be delayed more than a week.
19. Notify the student of his total scores of their practical and quarterly works.

20. To enjoy subsidized care and social services provided by the university, and to participate in the activities undertaken in accordance with the university regulations and instructions concerning these matters.

21. To enjoy adequate health care treatments at the health care centers and the hospitals of the university.

22. To use the services and facilities of the university (the book, electronic and branch libraries, the gym, the cafeteria etc.) and in accordance with the rules and regulations in place at the university.

23. To get incentives and rewards and other regular financial aids especially for distinguished students.

24. To be nominated to training courses and internal and external programs and tours, and to increase their participation in the cultural activities and the activities of community services and voluntary works.

25. The right of complaint or grievance of anything reflected upon him in his relationship with faculty, department or college or any unit of the university.

26. The complaint or grievance process has to be followed in accordance with the rules of the organization for the Protecting Students Rights Unit and enable the student to know the result of his complaints by the party responsible for them.

27. To enable the student to defend himself before any university entity in any disciplinary case raised against them. Also, any decision cannot be taken until he/she attend the session and gives his account of the story. If the student did not attend with no acceptable excuse, a default judgment will be issued an hour after the student being summoned for the second time.

28. To appeal the disciplinary decision issued against the student accordance with the rules laid down in this regard under the provisions of disciplining students.

29. Maintain the contents of the student’s personal file within the university and the integrity of dealing with it. These files are not to be handed to anybody except the student himself or their guardians or their authorized representative by investigators or the judiciary or other governmental entity.

30. The University shall not disclose the contents of a student’s file unless the publication comes as a result of the decision of disciplinary punishment against the student.

31. The right of the students with special needs to receive an appropriate service, which meets his needs according to the regulations and rules, considered.

4.3 Student Responsibilities

Following are some of the responsibilities to be adhered by the students.

1. The students should fulfill responsibilities to respect faculty members, staff workers, and other people on campus.

2. The students should fulfill responsibilities to respect the rules and arrangements relating to the operation of the lectures.

3. The students should fulfill responsibilities in the preparation of research and other academic requirements in accordance with the scientific integrity and disciplinary action will be taken against students for cheating in any form.

4. The students should fulfill responsibilities to the directions and instructions given by the official in the testing room.

5. The students should fulfill responsibilities to university systems, regulations, instructions, and decisions issued.

6. The students should fulfill responsibilities to carry the ID card while at the university.

7. The students should fulfill responsibilities not to cause any damage in the facilities of the university.

8. The students should fulfill responsibilities to the instructions of arranging, organizing and use of university facilities and equipment.
The students should fulfill responsibilities of the student to the dress code and behavior suitable for Islamic norms.

The students should fulfill responsibilities to keep quiet and behave tranquilly in the university facilities and to refrain from smoking on campus.

A student or group of students cannot initiate and hold an event/activity outside campus by the name of Dammam University without having written approval from authorities.

4.4 Academic Policies for Students

4.4.1 Attendance

Regular students must attend punctually at least 75% of lectures and of labs in each course. Any student failing to complete this percentage will be denied sitting for the exam and will be marked (DN).

4.4.2 Dropping a Semester

A student is allowed to submit an electronic written excuse for not attending a semester and is not to be marked (Fail) in the courses. Deadlines for submitting this form must be checked on the university website www.iau.edu.sa.

4.4.3 Postponement of Studies

A student is allowed to postpone studies when the University Council approves his application. A student cannot postpone 2 consecutive semesters or 3 non-consecutive ones; otherwise, he will be expelled from the university. Only on exceptional cases, a student can be granted an exception for further postponement. The postponement is not counted in the graduation requirements. Deadlines for submitting this form must be checked on the university website www.iau.edu.sa.

4.4.4 Dropout

If a student drops out a semester without submitting a postponement application, he will be expelled from the university. However, this does not apply to study abroad or exchange students.

4.4.5 Transfer

A student is allowed to transfer to another college as long as he completes 24 credit hours in his current college and as long as he meets the requirements of the desired college. Deadlines for submitting this form must be checked on the university website www.iau.edu.sa.

4.4.6 Rewards

Each student is rewarded a monthly stipend to be deposited into his account.

- The amount due for each student is 1000 Saudi Riyals. Ten Riyals will be deducted monthly for the Student Fund.
- Students must open a bank account to get his monthly stipend transferred.
- All students must fill in the application in the Admission and Registration section of the university website.

4.4.7 Grading and Cumulative Grades

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<td>90 to less than 95</td>
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<td>4.75</td>
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<td>85 to less than 90</td>
<td>Very Good+</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>80 to less than 85</td>
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<tr>
<td>75 to less than 80</td>
<td>Good+</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<td>70 to less than 75</td>
<td>Good</td>
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<td>Pass+</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>60 to less than 65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less than 60</td>
<td>Fail</td>
<td>F</td>
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</table>
4.4.8 Pre-Requisites/Co-Requisites

The student is expected to know and follow the academic rules and regulations. It is entirely his responsibility to make sure that both pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements have been met for the courses added during the Early Registration period. He should refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin or consult his Advisor for these requirements.

4.4.9 Withdrawal

A Student may be allowed to withdraw from the College for a semester and not be considered as having failed if the Student furnishes an acceptable excuse to the authorized body as determined by the College Council, at least five (5) weeks before the commencement of the final examinations. If absolutely necessary, the College Council may extend this period. A grade of "W" will be recorded for the Student in that semester, and the semester will be included in the period within which the Student is required to complete graduation requirements.

4.4.10 Suspension & Interruption of Enrollment

- A Student may apply for suspension of enrollment, for reasons acceptable to the appropriate authority designated by the College Council, provided the suspension period does not exceed two consecutive semesters, or a maximum of three non-consecutive semesters, during the Student's entire course of study at the College. Otherwise, the Student's enrollment status will be canceled. However, the College Council may, at its discretion, make exceptions to this rule. The period of suspension will not be included in the period within which the Student is required to complete graduation requirements.

- If a regular Student interrupts studies for one semester without applying for suspension of enrollment, the Student's enrollment status at the College will be canceled. The College Council, however, may at its discretion, cancel a Student's enrollment status if the Student discontinues studies for a period of less than one semester. The enrollment status of a Student studying by affiliation will be canceled if the Student makes himself absent from the final examination of all the courses in the semester without submitting a valid excuse.

- A Student is not considered to have interrupted studies during the terms spent as a visiting student in other universities.

4.4.11 Re-Enrollment

Student, whose enrollment status has been canceled, may apply for re-enrollment with the same College ID number and academic record the Student had before his suspension, if provided:

- The Student applies for re-enrollment within four regular semesters from the date of cancellation of his enrollment status.
- The Student obtains the approval of the College Council and related bodies for reenrollment.
- That four or more semesters have lapsed since cancellation of the Student’s enrollment, in which the Student can apply to the College for admission as a new Student without considering the Student’s old academic record, if the Student fulfills all the admission requirements for new Students. However, the College Council may make exception to this rule, in accordance with the regulations established by the Council.
- The Student has not been re-enrolled previously. The however exempt the Student from this restriction, if needed.
- The Student was not on academic probation prior to the cancellation of his enrollment.

- A Student who has been dismissed from the College for academic or disciplinary reasons - or from other universities for disciplinary reasons - will not be re-enrolled at the College. If it becomes known later that a Student has been dismissed for such reasons, enrollment will automatically be considered null and void as of the reenrollment date.

4.4.12 Dismissal

The Dismissal from the University will occur in the following circumstances:

- A Student will be dismissed if the Student obtains a maximum of three consecutive academic probations as the result of his cumulative GPA being less than 2.00 out of 5.00 or 1.00 out of 4.00. The College Council may allow the student a fourth
opportunities if the Student is able to improve his cumulative by taking additional courses.

- A Student will be dismissed if the Student fails to complete the graduation requirements within a maximum additional period equal to one half of the period determined for the Student's graduation in the original program period. The College Council, however, may exempt the Student from this restriction and give the Student the opportunity to complete the graduation requirements within an additional period of maximum duration equal to that of the original program.

- In exceptional cases, the University Council may allow the student to complete the graduation requirements within an additional period of a maximum duration equal to two semesters at most.

### 4.4.13 Probation

Students are expected to maintain satisfactory academic progress toward graduation. Any student not making satisfactory academic progress may be placed on academic probation upon recommendation of the ACC. The ACC seeks to uphold the essence and the spirit of the College’s rules and regulations and is therefore empowered to make exceptions in cases where regulations may be working to a student’s educational disadvantage.

1. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.75 which must be maintained throughout the program to be considered for graduation from the program.

2. If a GPA below 2.75 minimum is achieved, or if the student earns an “F” grade in a course, the student is placed on probation with specific requirements that must be fulfilled. The student remains on probation until the course with the “F” grade is successfully remediated.

3. A student will be placed on probation if either the semester GPA or the cumulative GPA falls below 2.75. A student will remain on probation until both the semester and the cumulative GPA are 2.75 or above. A student will remain on probation if the semester GPA falls below 2.75, regardless of whether the cumulative GPA is above 2.75. A student may be suspended or dismissed, as determined by the ACC if, while on probation, (1) the cumulative GPA falls below 2.75; (2) the student receives a failing grade; or (3) the semester GPA falls below 2.75 for two consecutive semesters.

4. A student on probation must successfully complete all requirements for academic performance developed by the ACC. If the student meets the requirements for academic performance and the semester and cumulative GPA are at least 2.75, the student may be removed from probation. If the requirements are met but the cumulative GPA is still less than 2.75, the student will remain on probation. If goals are not met, the student may be suspended or dismissed as determined by the ACC.

5. A student on probation for any reason, or who has a GPA less than 3.0 may not serve in a leadership position (i.e., class officer).

### 4.4.14 Probationary Procedures

1. It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of his academic status, including the status of probation. The ACC Chair will contact the student regarding the probationary status and requirements for the student to be removed from probation.

2. A student will normally have one probationary semester to raise his term or cumulative grade point averages to 2.0 or above, or to remediate a failed course.

3. If the student’s semester or cumulative GPAs are between 2.0-2.74 at the end of the probationary semester, or if a course is not remediated by the end of the next term, the ACC will decide whether to place the student on probation for a second semester or to dismiss the student from the program.

### 4.4.15 Graduation

A Student graduates after successfully completing the graduation requirements according to the degree plan, provided his cumulative is not less than "pass". Following the recommendation of a department council, the College Council may determine
certain additional courses the student should take to improve the Student's cumulative GPA if the Student has passed the required courses, but with a low GPA.

4.5 Code of Academic Conduct

4.5.1 Documentation and Academic Honesty

- Submit your homework covered with a sheet containing your name, number, course title and number, and type and number of the homework (e.g., tutorial, assignment, and project).
- Any completed homework must be handed on the due date.
- Submission after the deadline will lead to one grade decrease in the score of the homework for each delayed day in addition to decrease in score of professional behavior.
- You must keep a duplicate copy of your work because it may be needed while the original is being marked.
- Coursework, laboratory exercises, reports, and essays submitted for assessment must be your own work, unless in the case of group projects a joint effort is expected and is indicated as such.
- Use of quotations or data from the work of others is entirely acceptable and is often very valuable provided that the source of the quotation or data is given.
- Failure to provide a source or put quotation marks around material that is taken from elsewhere gives the appearance that the comments are ostensibly your own. When quoting word-for-word from the work of another person quotation marks or indenting (setting the quotation in from the margin) must be used and the source of the quoted material must be acknowledged.
- Sources of quotations used should be listed in full in a bibliography at the end of your piece of work.

4.5.2 Avoiding Plagiarism

- Unacknowledged direct copying from the work of another person, or the close paraphrasing of somebody else's work, is called plagiarism and is a serious offence, equated with cheating in examinations. This applies to copying both from other students' work and from published sources such as books, reports or journal articles.
- Paraphrasing, when the original statement is still identifiable and has no acknowledgement, is plagiarism. A close paraphrase of another person's work must have an acknowledgement to the source. It is not acceptable for you to put together unacknowledged passages from the same or from different sources linking these together with a few words or sentences of your own and changing a few words from the original text: this is regarded as over-dependence on other sources, which is a form of plagiarism.
- Direct quotations from an earlier piece of your own work, if not attributed, suggest that your work is original, when in fact it is not. The direct copying of one's own writings qualifies as plagiarism if the fact that the work has been or is to be presented elsewhere is not acknowledged.

4.5.3 Plagiarism Policy

Plagiarism is the submission of another’s work as one’s own. It includes:

1. Use of another’s exact words without use of quotation marks and acknowledgement of that use in a footnote or endnote.
2. Use of another’s organizational scheme without acknowledgement of that use in a footnote or endnote.
3. Either close paraphrasing of the work of another without attribution or submission of a work which is largely a paraphrasing of another’s work without attribution.

Procedures

Upon discovering what is believed to be plagiarism on written work submitted by a student in a course, a faculty member may:

1. Assign a grade to the written work based on the faculty member’s determination of plagiarism. This determination and the explanation thereof shall be expressed in writing and transmitted to the student with a copy to the Chairman of the department and Vice dean for academic affair;
2. Refer the matter to the Disciplinary Committee or an Ad hoc committee formed by the dean with defined responsibilities. The committee will deal the situation according to the given mandate. A student found guilty of plagiarism by the committee may appeal to the Dean for review of the penalty assessed.

4.5.4 Sanctions for Student Plagiarism

In the academic world, plagiarism by students is usually considered a very serious offense that can result in punishments such as a failing grade on the particular assignment, the entire course, or even being expelled from the institution. Generally, the punishment increases as a person enters higher institutions of learning. For cases of repeated plagiarism, or for cases in which a student commits severe plagiarism (e.g., submitting a copied piece of writing as original work), suspension or expulsion is likely.

1. Upon receiving notification from a faculty member of his determination of plagiarism, and determining that plagiarism has been committed, the Dean, shall appoint a committee of five faculty members to conduct a hearing to determine whether plagiarism has been committed by the student.

2. At the hearing, the faculty member will introduce evidence relevant to the question of whether plagiarism has been committed. The student is entitled to be represented by counsel of his choice, to introduce relevant evidence and to confront and cross-examine any witnesses against him.

3. To support a finding of plagiarism at least four members of the committee must identify plagiarism beyond a reasonable doubt. A finding of plagiarism by the committee in accord with the procedures established by this policy shall be final and binding on the dean and the student.

4. The committee shall file with the dean a written report on its proceedings and its findings. If plagiarism has been found by the committee, the report shall include a recommended sanction. The presumptive sanction shall be a one semester suspension, but the committee may recommend a different sanction, either more or less severe. Such sanctions include, but are not limited to, expulsion, suspension for a longer period, probation, or remedial activity.

5. The final determination of the appropriate sanction for plagiarism shall be made by the dean. It may be more or less severe than any sanction recommended by the committee. This determination shall be expressed in writing and provided to the student within 14 days of the filing of the committee’s report with the dean. The committee members and the complaining professor shall receive copies of the dean’s determination of sanction. The dean’s determination of sanction may be appealed to the provost of the University.

6. In response to appropriate inquiries, the College shall make available to appropriate bar officials the written committee report and the dean’s final determination of sanction.

4.5.5 Disciplinary Offenses

Any student or student organization found to have committed or to have attempted to commit the following actions is subject to appropriate disciplinary action under this policy:

1. **Scholastic Dishonesty**: Scholastic dishonesty includes plagiarizing; cheating on assignments or examinations; engaging in unauthorized collaboration on any academic activity; accepting, acquiring, or using test materials without faculty permission; submitting false or incomplete records of academic achievement; acting alone or in cooperation with another to falsify records or to obtain grades, honors, awards, or professional endorsement in a dishonest manner; altering, forging, or misusing a College academic record; or fabricating or falsifying data, research procedures, or data analysis.

2. **Disruptive Classroom Conduct**: Disruptive classroom conduct includes engaging in behavior that substantially or repeatedly interrupts either the instructor’s ability to teach or a student’s ability to learn. A “classroom” is intended to include any setting where a student is engaged in work toward academic credit or satisfaction of program-based requirements, or related activities.
3. **Falsification:** Falsification means willfully providing University/College offices or officials with false, misleading, or incomplete information; forging or altering without proper authorization official University/College records or documents, or conspiring with or inducing others to forge or alter University/College records or documents without proper authorization; misusing, altering, forging, falsifying, or transferring to another person University-issued identification; or intentionally making a false report of a disaster or other emergency to a University/College official or an emergency service agency.

4. **Refusal to Identify and Comply:** Refusal to identify and comply includes the willful refusal to properly identifying oneself or willfully failing to comply with a proper order or summons when requested by an authorized University official.

5. **Attempts to Injure or Defraud:** Attempts to injure or defraud includes accepting, creating, forging, printing, reproducing, copying, or altering any record, document, writing, or identification used or maintained by the University/College when done with intent to injure, threaten, defraud, or misinform.

6. **Threatening, Harassing, or Assaultive Conduct:** Threatening, harassing, or assaultive conduct includes engaging in conduct that endangers or threatens to endanger the health, safety, or welfare of another person, including, but not limited to, threatening, harassing, or assaultive behavior.

7. **Disorderly Conduct:** Disorderly conduct includes engaging in conduct that incites or threatens to incite an assault or breach of the peace; obstructing or disrupting teaching, research, administrative, or public service functions; or obstructing or disrupting disciplinary procedures or authorized University/College activities.

8. **Illegal or Unauthorized Possession or Use of Drugs or Alcohol:** Illegal or unauthorized possession or use of drugs or alcohol includes possessing or using drugs or alcohol illegally or, where applicable, without proper University/College authorization.

9. **Unauthorized Use of College Facilities and Services:** Unauthorized use of College facilities and services includes the wrongful use of College properties or facilities; misusing, altering, or damaging fire-fighting equipment, safety devices, or other emergency equipment, or interfering with the performance of those specifically charged to carry out emergency services.

10. **Theft, Property Damage, and Vandalism:** This includes theft or misuse of, damage to, destruction of, unauthorized possession of, or wrongful sale or gift of property.

11. **Unauthorized Access:** It includes accessing without authorization College property, facilities, services, or information systems, or obtaining or providing to another person the means of such unauthorized access, including, but not limited to, using, or providing without authorization keys and/or access codes.

12. **Disruptive Behavior:** Disruptive behavior includes willfully disrupting University/College events; participating in a campus demonstration that disrupts the normal operations of the University/College and infringes on the rights of other individuals; leading or inciting others to disrupt scheduled or normal activities of the University/College; engaging in intentional obstruction that interferes with freedom of movement on campus, either pedestrian or vehicular; using sound amplification equipment on campus without authorization; or making or causing noise, regardless of the means, that disturbs authorized University/College activities or functions.

13. **Rioting:** Rioting includes engaging in, or inciting others to engage in, harmful or destructive behavior in the context of an assembly of persons disturbing the peace on campus, in areas approximating the campus, or in any location when the riot occurs in connection with, or in response to, a University/College sponsored event. Rioting includes, but is not limited to, such conduct as using or threatening violence to others, damaging or destroying property,
impeding, or impairing fire or other emergency services, or refusing the direction of an authorized person.

14. **Violation of University/College Rules:** It includes engaging in conduct that violates University, collegiate, or departmental regulations that have been posted or publicized, including provisions contained in University contracts with students.

15. **Violation of Laws:** It includes engaging in conduct that violates a law, including, but not limited to, laws governing alcoholic beverages, drugs, gambling, sex offenses, indecent conduct, and/or arson.

16. **Persistent Violations:** Persistent violations include engaging in repeated conduct or actions that are in violation of this Code.

### 4.5.6 Sanctions for Academic Dishonesty and Cheating During Examinations

According to University Guidelines, the following sanctions may be imposed upon student(s) found to have violated the Code:

1. If a student commits actions disturbing or disrupting the examination process, the Dean may delegate the decision of whether or not student continues the examination to senior faculty who are supervising (proctoring) the examination.

2. The proctor has the authority to order the student out of the examination room.

3. The Dean may report the incident to the University’s Vice Rector for Academic Affairs, in order to discuss the incident in the Rectifying/Disciplinary Committee at the University.

4. The Rectifying/Disciplinary Committee will determine the appropriate sanction.

5. The University Rectifying Committee will decide whether the student’s examination in one or more courses will be cancelled or voided.

6. The student’s grade results will not be released until the Rectifying/Disciplinary Committee’s decision is finalized.

### 4.5.7 Violations Other Than Examination Misconduct

The following sanctions may be imposed upon student(s) or student organizations found to be in violation of the Code:

1. **Alert Note:** The issuance of an oral or written notice of misconduct.

2. **Warning:** A written document that is to be maintained in the student’s file.

3. **Injunction of University’s privileges for students**

4. **Cancelation /Voiding of one or more course examinations.**

5. **Prohibited participation in one or more final examination(s)**

6. **Probation:** Probation confers special status with conditions imposed for a defined period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student is found to violate any institutional regulation(s) during the probationary period.

7. **Required Compliance:** Required compliance necessitates the mandatory completion of University requirements, work assignments, community service, or other discretionary assignments.

8. **Confiscation:** Confiscation means confiscation of goods used or possessed in violation of University regulations, or confiscation of falsified identification or identification wrongly used.

9. **Restitution:** Restitution means making compensation for any loss, injury, or damage.

10. **Restriction of Privileges:** Restriction of privileges includes the denial or restriction of specified privileges, including, but not limited to, access to an official transcript for a defined period of time.
11. Suspension: Suspension means separation of the student from the University for a defined period of time, after which the student is eligible to return to the University.

12. Expulsion: Expulsion means the permanent separation of the student from the University.

13. Withholding of Degree: Withholding of a degree means not releasing a degree otherwise earned for a defined period of time or until the completion of assigned sanctions.

For further details of misconduct and sanctions authorization, please refer to University Guidelines.

**4.6 Student Grade Reporting and Appeals**

Grade reports for each course are submitted to the University Registrar at the close of each semester by a date and time determined by the University Registrar. Once a grade has been posted it becomes part of the student's permanent record and can be changed only by the faculty member and with the approval of the college council.

Students who want grade information before the end of the semester and prior to official posting of grades must ask their Faculty.

Student evaluations and assignments of final course grades are the responsibility of the faculty. The faculty member is accountable for any and grades assigned to students; therefore, each faculty member shall maintain records to support student evaluations and grades. Students who have reasons which can be substantiated to request grade changes must:

- Write a formal letter to the Instructor (or to the Vice Dean of academic requesting a re-evaluation of their performance in the course.
- Provide the following information in the letter: name and student ID, course number, title, and section; semester and year taken; name of the Instructor and a clear statement of the grade change request and reasons which justify the request.

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**I. Incomplete Grades**

Course work is considered “incomplete” when a student fails to submit all required assignments when they are due or is absent from the final examination. An ‘IC’ grade may be assigned instead of a failing grade only when:

1. The student has demonstrated satisfactory progress and attendance in the course;
2. The student is unable to complete all course work due to unusual circumstances that are beyond personal control (e.g., illness or family emergency)
3. The student must submit reasons supporting a grade of “IC” to the Course coordinator prior to the time that the final grades are due. The Course coordinator will decide based on these reasons. If the Course coordinator determines that the student should receive a grade of “IC”, the student must complete the coursework by the end of the subsequent semester, or the ‘IC’ grade will be changed to an ‘F’ grade until remediated.

**II. Failing Grades**

Rectifying Failing Grades: The Course Director will provide input before the Committee on Student’s Circumstances to determine actions for remediation (whether the F can be remediated and/or what activities or assignments will be required to remediate)

All Failure and Incompletes grades must be rectified by the end of the subsequent semester.

**4.6.1 Grading and Testing Disputes**

Complaints regarding grades and testing must first be discussed with the Course coordinator. If the dispute is not resolved; the student must then discuss the matter with the department chair. If the matter remains unresolved at that level; the Vice Dean for Academic Affairs should be notified in writing. It will be shared with the appropriate committee, and a meeting will be established for further discussion. The student will have the opportunity to discuss the complaint directly with the committee. The committee will then make a recommendation to the Vice Dean for Academic
Affairs, who will make a final decision on the disposition of the complaint. Disputes, requests, and complaints MUST be submitted and resolved according to announced deadline each semester.

Faculty members, upon receiving of a student's request for a grade change, will review their records. If it is determined that a student's request is justified, the faculty member will prepare a Grade Change Authorization Form, with appropriate documentation and submit it to the Vice Dean and to the Dean for authorization.

The grade change is forwarded to the Office of the Registrar. A faculty member may not change an F grade to a W grade in those cases in which the student did not follow the proper procedures for withdrawing from the course.

The student can appeal a negative decision of a faculty member. The steps in the appeal process are as follows:

- Present the appeal to the faculty member's College Dean who refer the appeal to a committee for hearing and decision.
- Based on committee decision, college dean authorize a grade change, and must notify the involved individual of his action, i.e., the College Dean must notify the student and the faculty member of his decision.

4.6.2 Policy for a Review of Exam Sheet

The student submits a review of course grade appeal to the dean of the faculty concerned during two weeks from the date when the students’ GPA’s have been submitted according to university academic calendar or the announcement of the results. In the Appeal, the student states reasons for the change, and he pledges that the information he provided are all correct. The college concerned prepares a form including the following data: student name; university ID number; number, code, and title of the course; number of the student’s section; the grade of the quarterly works; the semester; the student’s GPA; number of academic warnings, if any; name of the instructor; date of having the exam.

The college council, where the course is taught, may take a decision concerning the appeal submitted by the student. Reviewing the test answer sheet must be done in time not exceeding two weeks from the beginning of the following semester. If the appeal has been accepted, the council of the concerned college forms a committee to revise the test sheets. Then the committee submits the acceptance report to the faculty council to take its decision which is the final decision.

**Procedures**

1. In general, through this operational foundation, the colleges may follow the following procedure for reviewing a grade.

2. The student, who has questioned his grade, submits exam review request form no longer than two weeks from the announcement of the grade concerned. The form is submitted to the concerned department. By that, his request enters the academic system, and he/she is given a notice (using the review form attached).

3. The head of the department shows the student his answers in comparison to the modal answer sheet. If the student is convinced of the correctness of the review, he/she signs a waiver, and the then file is saved after shall be signed by the head of the department.

4. In the case that the student is not convinced of the result of the review, the head of the department forms a committee includes two faculty members from the department- the teacher of the course concerned is not one of them. Then the committee submits a report to the head of the department to take his decision of either changing the grade or not. Then the student will immediately be informed.

5. In the case that the student is still not convinced, he/she may reappeal to the college council within two weeks from the date he/she is informed. The appeal is submitted officially to the dean of the college explaining reasons and justifications of this appeal, supporting his case with tangible and convincing set of evidence. The appeal should also include a statement from the deanship of admission and registration showing the previous requests of review submitted by the student if any, along with the decisions taken concerning them.
6. If the college council rejects the case once more and does not agree on the grade change, it takes the decision to close the case.

7. If the collage council agreed on the grade change, it forms a committee of at least three faculty members, one of them is to be from outside the department, and the teacher of the course should not be one of them.

8. The committee gathers to re-correct the student’s answer sheet. And then it submits its report to the college council within fifteen days from the day of its establishment. Then the appeal is discussed by the council to take the final decision in its next session.

4.6.3 Make-Up Exams

A student who is unable to take an examination due to unavoidable circumstances (e.g., hospitalization, car accident, major illness) is expected to:

Contact the Office of Academic Affairs prior to the time of the examination (except during unexpected circumstances), to notify the College about his absence. At the discretion of the course director, the student may make-up the examination at an alternative pre-arranged time only when the unavoidable circumstances have been substantiated by the Office of Academic Affairs in concert with the Course Director. Make-up exams are to be completed within 2 College days of the student’s return to the College. Make-up exams should cover the same content area of the missed examination but should not be the same exam that was administered to other students.

Procedure

1. The student makes the request in writing and in a timely manner before the scheduled exam, to request an opportunity to complete a makeup exam

2. The student provides the Instructor with the required originally signed documentation, regarding the reason he is not able to complete the test on the originally scheduled exam date. Without this documentation, the student will not be granted an accommodation to complete a makeup exam and will be assigned a zero grade for the exam. No incomplete (I) grade can be assigned in this situation.

3. All communications with the student must be via e-mail, with the University Registrar copied on each exchange.

4. Assign an incomplete (IC) grade to the student if unable to grade the final exam before the final grade deadline and submit a Grade Change.

5. Authorization Form to the Vice dean of academic affair and the College Dean for approval online copy to the Office of the Registrar.

4.7 Hearing and Appeal of Student Disciplinary Decisions

Any student or student organization charged with violation of the Code shall have the opportunity to receive a fair hearing.

1. In cases of academic or general misconduct, the Dean will form a committee comprised of the following members:
   - Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
   - Chair of department related to incident
   - College faculty member

2. The committee will investigate the incident.

3. The committee will schedule a meeting not later than one week from the date of the incident.

4. A report with committee recommendations will be submitted to the Dean, who will forward it to the Permanent Disciplinary Committee at the University to determine the appropriate action.

Note: Please also refer to the “Policy and Guidelines for Student Code of Conduct” and annexure therein “University of Dammam Student Disciplinary Bylaws”.

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4.8 Student Advising & Counseling

Academic advising and counseling service is an assistant educational system, whereby faculty members introduce the students to the university and college systems and inform them by their roles, responsibilities, and rights. Academic advising and counseling service provide guidance and support for students to overcome any academic problems or personal difficulties that may hamper student’s academic progress, as well as develops the students' capacities and potentials, that enhances their academic performance.

Academic advising and counseling services are basic steps that guarantee collaborative relationship between faculty members and students. The intent of this collaboration is to facilitate learning by providing opportunities for students to achieve their goals and uphold the academic standards of the college.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Academic Advisors

- Acquaint students with rules and regulations of IAU, especially the newcomer students and provide outreaching programs about advising and counseling.
- Assist students in their decision-making related to course selection and registration in collaboration with the Registrar's office.
- Provide accessible advising services to students by scheduling and maintaining regular office hours throughout the semester;
- Send invitations to students encouraging them to visit the counseling office to discuss and review their academic and nonacademic problems.
- Identify and Select meritorious and ideal students, continuously encouraging them and honored them at the University level to maintain excellence
- Maintain confidentiality of students’ information and academic records unless student requesting approval in written.
- Assist in overcoming barriers that may prevent the students from completing their educational plan.
- Provide supportive academic advising by recognizing the personal, social or educational difficulties and responding to the different students’ needs.
- Follow-up and monitoring student 'academic progress and provide guidance program Provide information regarding courses, requirements, tests, registration, course changes, and so forth.
- Provide encouragement and assistance for student with academic difficulties. Assist them in managing their time, develop more effective study skills, and send recommendations to the responsible course coordinator.
- Provide a private space in which student feel free to discuss their thoughts, aspirations, concerns, and interests
- Become knowledgeable concerning university rules, policies, regulations and procedures that affect academic programs and activity.
- Help students have better understanding skills, self-development and enhance their self-confidence by identifying their strength and weakness.

Keep resource materials as the Student Handbook, college rules and Regulation, academic calendar, class schedules and other useful resources on hand to answer questions about academic and non-academic concern.
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