EXPLORE YOUR INTERESTS.

City and regional planning is a dynamic field that engages people and their government in the design of vibrant, equitable and resilient communities. Planners analyze the intersection of social and spatial systems to provide creative solutions in a multiplicity of focus areas, from transportation, to environment, to housing at range of scales.

**International Development: Global Context, Perspectives, and Practices**
Unifying themes in international development include sustainability, resiliency and context sensitivity. Powerful global forces like trade, migration, governance and technological change create opportunities as well as challenges for communities and regions around the world. When coupled with rapid changes in global climate, planning for disruptive global change is more important now than ever. The interconnectedness of human societies brought about by globalization makes understanding the international context an increasingly urgent objective for professional planners. Students use their understanding of international planning, design and social aspects to analyze and apply best practices to communities in the U.S.

**Transportation: Smart Cities, Travel Behavior, Aviation**
As new transportation technologies emerge, there is potential for significant changes in mode choice, travel behavior, goods movement, land use patterns and infrastructure. Planners must be able to anticipate, communicate and reconcile the impacts of dynamic transportation systems in order to plan for all types of people, freight and modal options. Students learn how transportation systems interact with land use policy through advanced coursework and research in smart city transportation systems, travel behavior and aviation planning, then further consider how that interaction affects the regional economy, the natural environment and social inclusion.

**Urban and Regional Analytics**
Students cultivate spatial thinking and enhance their quantitative skills in Geographic Information Systems (GIS), spatial analysis, big data analytics, urban and regional development and land-use modeling through urban and regional analytics. Planners and officials must make decisions about complex systems, the provision of goods and services, the movement of people, our natural resources and the resiliency of our cities and settlements. As human settlement redistributes into more diverse and densely populated urban regions, planners must be prepared to assess increasingly complex social and global networks.

**Sustainability: Planning, Decision-Making, and Urban Design**
Planning faculty seek to understand and improve the ways communities and societies make decisions about and design interactions between scarce resources, social differences and natural environments. We research: sustainable urban design and the creation of places that support human interaction, economic exchange and well-being; the measurement of sustainability; the relationship between place making, sustainability and resilience; the resolution of social and environmental disputes; and the evaluation of city and regional plans in terms of their inclusion of sustainability principles and approaches. We seek to answer the question ‘How can cities become (more) sustainable?’

**Regional Equity: Housing, Neighborhoods, and Community**
Healthy, vibrant neighborhoods are the foundation of sustainable and equitable cities or regions. Housing, food access, freedom from health risk and crime, robust social capital and infrastructure are the building blocks to strong neighborhoods. We provide expertise in various aspects of neighborhood development practice, including housing and real estate development, community health planning, food system or food security planning, community building and culturally competent engagement. We focus on the pressing challenges facing 21st century regions, cities and neighborhoods such as revitalization of communities without displacement or gentrification, addressing vacant property and neighborhood blight, changing regional development patterns, social and racial equity, and fair housing for marginalized communities.

With a professional planning degree, the opportunities to enact change are practically endless.
EXPERIMENT HERE, SHAPE THE WORLD.

Why Knowlton?
City and regional planning at Knowlton provides expansive knowledge of the field and detailed understanding in specific focus areas grounded in practice. Professors of practice and local practitioners share expertise and experiences in the classroom. Students go outside the classroom for award winning studios which engage local and regional clients, addressing existing challenges in transportation, sustainability, international development and regional equity. Internships with local public, private and non-profits provide year round opportunities to see classroom ideas in action. International opportunities in Taiwan, Europe, the Caribbean and beyond enrich the degree experience with new and innovative perspectives.

Why Ohio State?
Earning a graduate degree from Ohio State means you and your peers will be working alongside some of the world’s leading researchers and scholars, a network of colleagues you will value throughout your career. The Ohio State University is committed to establishing a culturally and intellectually diverse environment, encouraging all members of our learning community to reach their full potential.

Why Columbus?
The Ohio State University campus is located in Columbus, the capital city of Ohio. Columbus is the center of a rapidly growing and diverse metropolitan area with a population of over 1.5 million. The area offers a wide range of affordable housing, many cultural and recreational opportunities, excellent schools and a strong economy based on government as well as service, transportation and technology industries.

You can describe Columbus in two words—open and smart. It’s a technology center where world-changing innovations are born. It’s a multicultural community that welcomes new residents from every country and culture. You’ll hear 109 languages spoken here and discover art that words can’t describe. Columbus extends the same invitation to everyone—Columbus is what you make of it.

The dynamic and fast-growing city of Columbus is our Midwestern laboratory for learning.
Our MCRP program benefits from an established Internship Program and a studio-based model that has produced a culture of student engagement in the profession of planning. MCRP students have opportunities through studios and internships to gain professional experiences working with a diverse range of professional planners.

Internships
The MCRP program has a well established internship program that connects current students with a variety of internship opportunities. By graduation, students have gained 560 or more hours of planning experience in the public sector, private sector, non-profits, or academia. Internship partners work at a range of scales from neighborhoods, communities and the city, to counties and entire regions.

Through participation in the internship program, students learn to connect classroom learning with the practical work of the planning discipline and establish valuable connections. With this professional experience, students are able to make informed decisions about what they want to do with their careers, and they stand out as superior candidates when competing for positions after graduation.

Studies
The purpose of the Planning Studio is to engage students in a variety of academic and research activities that put ideas to work for communities. We believe that it is critical for students to learn how to effectively engage their communities in the design and planning process. In all courses students are constantly exposed to community engagement, critical thinking, and design-by-research as a way to inform planning policy and design.

Studio courses are practice oriented, focusing on comprehensive planning, urban design/physical planning, transportation, sustainability or international development.

The goal of the planning studio is to develop deliverables that make positive impacts on the socioeconomic conditions and human health factors while generating connections between social networks and the built environment.
ADDRESS GLOBAL CHALLENGES.

Lectures, studios and study abroad opportunities relate to all aspects of planning—urban design and economic development, transportation and infrastructure, food systems and public health, and land use and housing. International opportunities in Taiwan, Europe, the Caribbean and beyond enrich the degree experience with new and innovative perspectives.

**Moving (and Eating) Around Taiwan: A Bus, Subway and High Speed Rail Systems Planning Workshop**

Taipei City region provides a wonderful opportunity to broaden your knowledge and personal experience riding and closely studying transit in an international context. Taipei, Taiwan’s mass-transit system is known as a world model of transportation efficiency. Vastly different than cities in Ohio, the districts in the Taipei region have among the highest densities of residential, office and commercial land use in the world. The country’s tight, mixed use development pattern makes reliable public transportation possible, serving as a model in the study of transit oriented development and “smart growth.”

**Belize City: International Development Planning Program**

This program seeks to combine community service with academic reflection while addressing real issues to gain a sense of socially responsible knowledge, and offers a unique opportunity to study in a developing global south nation in contrast to more common discussions on western, Euro-centric planning practices.

The service-learning component is critical as it provides students with the invaluable opportunity to practice in-class techniques in problem solving, and affords students to serve fellow human beings. By participating in this program, students will have experience with: community-defined project work, sustainable development and discipline-appropriate research methodology.

**European Cities and Sustainable Urban Planning Practices**

Students in this program explore how diverse approaches to planning and urban design found in Europe, address the general principles of sustainability, and examine in the field how some of these principles have been put into practice. Students will focus on historical precedents, cultural differences and planning and design priorities, and not only gain an understanding of the planning, design and social function of some European cities, but discuss and analyze how applicable these approaches and technologies might be for U.S. urban areas (especially applied to cities in the Midwest).

“Now after going on this incredible trip, I have a greater desire to implement people-focused planning and design back here in the U.S.”

— Summer, 2018 Travel Program Participant
The City and Regional Planning Section is home to tenure track, affiliated and associated (adjunct) faculty from diverse backgrounds in planning scholarship and planning practice. Affiliated faculty, lecturers and guest speakers complement the teaching competencies of full-time faculty and add perspectives from planning practice and related specialties. The expertise of our faculty is broad:

- **Gulsah Akar, PhD:** transportation planning, land-use and transportation, travel behavior, transportation data
- **Kimberly Burton, AICP, PE:** sustainability, transportation, hazard mitigation, energy, green building
- **Zhenhua Chen, PhD:** regional science, risk and resilience, transportation planning and policy
- **Jennifer Clark, PhD:** economic geography, industrial districts/innovation systems, regional economic development
- **Maria Manta Conroy, PhD:** sustainable development, watershed planning, protected lands, planning processes
- **Santina Contreras, PhD:** natural hazards, international development, community engagement, resilience
- **Kyle Ezell, AICP, CUD:** underserved populations, innovation, planning processes, urban design
- **Bernadette Hanlon, PhD:** political economies, environmental sustainability, immigration, urban environmental policy
- **Rachel Garshick Kleit, PhD:** housing, poverty alleviation, community development, equity planning
- **Jesus J. Lara, PhD:** sustainable urban design, Latino Urbanism, community development, sociocultural factors
- **Don Leonard, PhD:** politics of inequality, economic development, international development planning
- **Yasuyuki Motoyama, PhD:** economic development, innovation, entrepreneurship, urban vibrancy
- **Jason Reece, PhD:** social equity in city planning, fair housing, health equity, asset-based community development
- **Kareem Usher, PhD:** urban food systems, social justice, sustainable community development, participatory research
- **Tijs van Maasakkers, PhD:** collaboration, conflict resolution, ecosystem services, science and technology studies, land use
- **Amber Woodburn McNair, PhD:** multimodal planning, air transportation, disruptive technology
To learn more, visit go.osu.edu/knowltonplanning

Request info at go.osu.edu/knowltongradinfo

Applications completed by January 1 will receive priority consideration for funding opportunities through the Knowlton School.

Learn more about the application process at knowlton.osu.edu/grad-admissions