Graduates’ Professions and Places of Work

Development Agencies
Ministry of Development
Ministry of Environment and Urbanization
Ministry of Culture and Tourism
Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs
Universities
United Nations (UN)
Planning Offices
Local Governments

Year of Commencement: 1966-1967 Academic Year
Total Number of Students Graduated – 2013: 135

Application Requirements

Candidates should have:

• B.S. degree from City and Regional Planning (CRP) or other relevant departments
• Min. 65 METU EPE Result
• Min. 55 ALES (Quantitative)
• Min. 2.25 B.S. CGPA
• 2 Reference Letters
• Letter of intention (included in the online form)
• Portfolio (studies carried out during BSc, etc.)
• Interview

Project Examples Developed in Regional Planning Graduate Program

• URBAN-NET Project, “Sustainable Land Use Policies for Resilient Cities”, 2009-2010
• URBAN-NET Project, “Urban Tourism and Climate Change”, 2009-2010
• “The action plan for urban development for achieving sustainable urban development”, 2009
• “Istanbul Service Sector Study” supported by Istanbul Greater City Municipality, 2007-2008
• “The spatial development strategies for Istanbul for action plan: Reseach and model development” financed by Istanbul Greater City Municipality, 2003-2005
• “Regional Theories and Policies Connected to Industrial Clusters” TÜBİTAK, 2002-2005
• “Multi level governance and institutionalization models for city regions” financed by TÜBİTAK, 2006-2008

crp.metu.edu.tr/programs/master-regional-planning
Regional Planning Graduate Program
Graduate School of Natural and Applied Sciences

OVERVIEW
Regional Planning is a scientific field that was brought to agenda in 1950s for elimination of the regional inequalities. However, the rapid transitions in socio-economic structure in the world enforced new perspectives in spatial issues, new debates on spatial organization and new concepts related to space. Today the meanings of the concepts used for identification of spatial units such as urban, rural, metropolitan, metropolitan region, region, are evolving continuously. The second change took place is the concepts related to planning. The meaning of planning today, do not coincide with the term used in 1950s and 1960s. Regional planning, which is made of the two terms that experienced changes in their meanings, has obviously a content quite different than its definition in 1950s and 1960s.

Today the Program provides a comprehensive framework that includes economic, social and environmental issues with different specialization fields. In the Regional Planning Program the aims of the planning are defined as, to enable formation of a local/regional structure developed both in terms of social and economic conditions, with acceptable environmental quality and governed by democratic rules that lead development process. In order to achieve development of this structure, regulations should be defined consistent with four targets of planning. Viable economic structure with growth potential, learning capacity in order to adopt new circumstances and compete at international scale, liveable and sustainable environment and a governance system that enables the formation of links with external world and initiates development potential at local scale.

In order to reach these targets at local/regional scale there is need for planners. However, the planners should cope with different roles in the new regulation and governance system, in addition to their earlier functions. Planners should undertake the role of technician when they make research and give decisions on inter-relational aspects of development and space, and the role of mediator and negotiator during formulation of decisions on locality/region by the different social groups. That is why the roles of planners change from decision making at spatial development, to provision of help to members of locality in order to integrate to the world system according to their choices and make sure that their living conditions are compatible with their priorities collectively defined. The regional Planning Programme is designed for educating manpower to take the responsibility of all these functions.

Research Fields
Regional Development Theories, Changing Economic Development Paradigms, New Theoretical Debates on Industrial Development, Consequences of Changing Economic and Political Structure, Service Industries New Forms of Governance and Emergence of New Institutions, Regional Analysis Methods and Planning Techniques, Key Notions of Competitiveness (Knowledge, Learning, Innovation, Social Cohesion, etc.), Policies of Competitiveness (Cluster Development Policies, Regional Innovation Strategies (RISs), etc.), Regional Resilience and Planning for Resilience

Curriculum
First Semester
RP 501 Regional Planning Studio (4-8)8
RP 511 Planning Theory (3-0)3
RP 532 Methods of Regional Analysis and Spatial Organization (3-0)3
Elective (3-0)3

Second Semester
RP 534 Changing Economic and Political Structure (3-0)3
RP 546 Workshop on Regional Economic Restructuring
CP 570 Thesis Seminar NC
CP 524 Application of Advanced Statistical Techniques - Elective (3-0)3

Third Semester
RP 500 M.R.P. Thesis (Master of Regional Planning Thesis) NC

Fourth Semester
RP 500 M.R.P. Thesis (Master of Regional Planning Thesis) NC

Total minimum credit: 29
Number of courses with credit (min.): 8