

What is MIP?

The School of Public and International Affairs offers both a Master of Urban and Regional

Planning and Public and International Affairs degree in conjunction with the Peace Corps through the Masters International Program (MIP). The MIP is designed to prepare students for their Peace Corps service as well as subsequent careers in international development, international nongovernmental organization management and leadership and planning.

Electives and required core courses address such subjects as community and economic development, international development planning and policy, land use and environmental planning, public and non-profit organization governance and management, NGOs in international development. Students spend one year in graduate study and the next two years overseas as Peace Corps volunteers, integrating their experience and graduate studies. Students then return to VT for their final year to complete their chosen degree.

Seeking additional information?

Urban Affairs and Planning
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061
Phone: (540) 231-5485

Fax: (540) 231-3367

Email: uapvt@vt.edu

Website: www.uap.vt.edu

VT Graduate School Admissions:

<http://www.grads.vt.edu/admissions/applying/index.html>

For the MPIA degree option :

Wilma Dunaway, Professor and Coordinator
Masters International Program
Government and International Affairs, Virginia Tech
Phone: (540)231- 5177
Email: wdunaway@vt.edu

For the MURP degree option:

Max Stephenson, Professor and Coordinator
Masters International Program
Urban Affairs and Planning, Virginia Tech
Phone: (540)231-7340
Email: mstephen@vt.edu

For information concerning Peace Corps admission requirements:

Peace Corps University Programs
Volunteer Recruitment and Selection
1111 20th Street, NW, 6th floor
Washington, D.C. 20526
Phone: (800) 424-8580 ext. 1812
Fax: (202) 692-1801
Email: masters@peacecorps.gov
Website: <http://www.peacecorps.gov>

Masters International Program

Peace Corps-Virginia Tech

Combine a Peace Corps Experience with a Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning or Public and International Affairs

Setting

Virginia Tech's Urban Affairs and Planning Program combines a core of outstanding professional degree courses with an array of electives in 7 curricular concentrations:

Environmental planning & policy, international development planning & policy, economic & community development, physical development planning, social policy & planning, public & non-profit management, & comparative urban policy.

The Program's distinction derives from its interdisciplinary, comparative, and applied approach to instruction and research. Faculty with advanced education and research in planning, geography, engineering, economics, sociology, political science, and law work collaboratively to provide students with a coherent vision of how communities, large and small, work and how to facilitate positive change within them.

Admission

Prospective students plan to apply to both Virginia Tech's Graduate School and the Peace Corps separately, indicating the MIP program in both applications. To ensure timely processing students should submit all of their required application materials to the Peace Corps before arriving on campus for their first semester. Given the Peace Corp placement cycle, new MIP students are strongly encouraged to begin their graduate studies in the Fall semester. While prospective MIP students who meet admission requirements for the graduate degree programs in Urban Affairs and Planning are admitted into the Program with the expectation that they will serve a full 2-year term in the Peace Corps, those who do not receive invitations to do so may nonetheless plan to complete their degree.

"Life is calling. How far will you go?"



My Peace Corps service enriched my life and my perspective immeasurably. Living and working for an extended period in a small community in Ecuador gave me the chance to understand the every-day joys and challenges of my neighbors and to see the world through their eyes. I learned first-hand the hardship that living in poverty brings. I also came to understand that human dignity and worth depends not at all on culture, nationality, religion or economic status- that first we are humans with much to share..and then we are all those other things.

- Lisa Poley, RPCV Ecuador 1996-98, VT alumna (B.S. 1991)