Department of Planning, Policy, and Design

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http://ppd.soceco.uci.edu/

Overview

The Department of Planning, Policy, and Design utilizes an interdisciplinary approach to the study of urban and regional planning, public policy issues, and the built environment. The Department faculty devote their scholarly and teaching efforts to theory-driven and empirically oriented urban research and their interests include urban and community development, environmental policy, health promotion and policy, and urban design and behavior. The faculty focuses on education in urban, social, public policy, and environmental problems.

The Department offers the B.A. degree in Urban Studies; undergraduate minors in Urban Studies and Urban and Regional Planning; the Ph.D. degree in Planning, Policy, and Design; the Master of Public Policy; and the Master of Urban and Regional Planning professional degree (fully accredited by the national Planning Accreditation Board). The Department’s graduate degree programs feature innovative teaching often involving students in community projects, and a significant degree of accessibility by students to faculty members.

The faculty members in the Department are productive and influential scholars. The Department’s teaching, research, and graduate training utilize UCI’s proximity to both urban centers and planned communities, as well as the University’s location within the dynamic and multicultural Southern California and Pacific Rim regions. Collaborative academic and research ties are maintained with UCI’s Blum Center for Global Engagement, Metropolitan Future Initiatives, Institute of Transportation Studies, Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies, Newkirk Center for Science and Society, Environment Institute, Center for Unconventional Security Affairs, Center for Organizational Research, and the Urban Water Research Center.

The common mission linking the Department’s undergraduate, master’s, and doctorate-level instruction and faculty research efforts is to bring applied research to the cause of bettering individuals, neighborhoods, communities, and regions. Southern California has grown dramatically over the past four decades and will soon become the nation’s largest urban corridor. The challenges to maintain the quality of life, provide employment opportunities, and reduce the deep socioeconomic disparities of this bi-national and multicultural metropolitan region are enormous. Extremely diverse, multiethnic communities face the necessity of solving their problems in ways that are acceptable to their populations. Older central city areas that are vital to the region face issues of social and economic sustainability. The need to create employment opportunities, through the application of new technologies in industries and services, will be a constant feature of an urban region undergoing such population increases. At the same time, urban growth and transportation will have to meet increasingly stringent environmental regulations that can safeguard the population’s health and quality of the diverse natural environments. The urban design and landscape of most communities stand to be reshaped as never before, as the building stock ages and the need to redevelop intensifies.

Faculty members and students who study urban and community development examine contemporary planning approaches to managing local, community, and regional development and explore the spatial dynamics of urbanization in diverse settings and how public policy can guide urban and regional growth to balance environmental and economic concerns. Faculty members and students engaged in design-behavior research investigate the interrelationships of people and their socio-physical environments at all scales, from micro to macro, with emphasis on urban design and community-scale issues. Faculty members and students who examine environmental policy focus on the environment and natural resources as important policy and planning issues and provide a clear understanding about how politics, economics, ethics, and institutions affect planning and policy choices. Finally, faculty members and students who study health promotion and policy examine the public welfare, psychological, and health implications of social and physical planning, and the techniques and goals of public health policy making.

Undergraduate Program

Undergraduate students who major in Urban Studies will become acquainted with the global challenges of urbanization and the analytical skills needed for addressing them. Students will acquire the background for entering graduate study in related fields, including urban planning, community and economic development, and transportation, to name only a few, or for seeking entry-level positions in fields that address urban problems, including urban planning, community development, transportation, and housing.

Requirements for the B.A. in Urban Studies

All students must meet the University Requirements. All students must meet the School Requirements.

Departmental Requirements

Twelve courses (48 units) as specified below:

A. Three lower-division courses:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECON 20A</td>
<td>Basic Economics I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 4</td>
<td>Introduction to Urban Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 40</td>
<td>Urban Sociology</td>
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</table>
B. Three of the following core upper-division courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 101</td>
<td>Urbanization and Social Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 107</td>
<td>Urban and Regional Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 131</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 153</td>
<td>Elements of Environmental Design</td>
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<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 155</td>
<td>Urban Design Principles</td>
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<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 166</td>
<td>Urban Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 167</td>
<td>Public Policy and Management</td>
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</table>

C. Six additional upper-division electives from PP&D 100-177 or ECON 144A-ECON 144B.


Integrative course.

**Urban Studies Minor Requirements**

Eight courses (32 units):

- PP&D 4 Introduction to Urban Studies

Select any seven upper-division PP&D courses.

**Urban and Regional Planning Minor Requirements**

Nine courses (36 units):

- PP&D 4 Introduction to Urban Studies
- PP&D 107 Urban and Regional Planning

Select seven of the following:

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<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 108</td>
<td>Cities and Transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 109</td>
<td>Housing and Urban Development Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 110</td>
<td>Urban Economic Development Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 112</td>
<td>Foundations of Community Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 113</td>
<td>Poverty in Developing Countries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 132</td>
<td>Environmental Sustainability II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 139</td>
<td>Water Resource Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 155</td>
<td>Urban Design Principles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 156</td>
<td>Urban Design and Graphics Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 166</td>
<td>Urban Public Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 169</td>
<td>Public Policy Analysis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Graduate Program**

General information about the School of Social Ecology’s graduate programs, including admission requirements, career opportunities, and Ph.D. program milestones can be found in the School of Social Ecology Graduate section of the *Catalogue*. Specific information about the Department of Planning, Policy, and Design’s graduate program appears below.

**Master of Public Policy**

The Master of Public Policy (M.P.P.) program is a two-year professional degree program administered by both the School of Social Ecology and the School of Social Sciences.

**Requirements**

Students are required to complete 72 units of graduate courses. In the first year, students will attend an introductory conference, participate in a workshop, and take seven core courses and two elective courses. In the summer after the first year, students will participate in a policy-relevant internship in an appropriate government, business, or nonprofit setting. In the second year, students take three core courses and five elective courses.

A part-time option is available for students. Part-time students take two courses per quarter over the span of three years. These students have the choice of completing the required summer internship in the summer after year one, or the summer after year two. The required capstone project takes place during the winter and spring quarters of year three.

The core course requirements in year one of the program are Qualitative Methods and Public Policy, Statistical Methods for Public Policy, Information and the Policy Process, Microeconomics and Public Policy, Policy Processes and Institutions of Governance, Collaborative Governance and Public
Management, and Social Mobilization, Power, and Justice. The core course requirements in year two are The Economics of Government, Policy and Ethics, and Capstone Research Project and Briefing.

Additional information is available at the Master of Public Policy website (http://mpp.web.uci.edu).

**Master of Urban and Regional Planning**

The Master of Urban and Regional Planning (M.U.R.P) provides students with a rigorous intellectual foundation and critical analytical skills that prepare them to work in public, private, and non-governmental planning and related fields. The program is fully accredited by the national Planning Accreditation Board and has more than a dozen full-time core faculty. Students gain knowledge of planning problems and practices through a series of courses related to the environmental, economic, and social challenges in Southern California, and the United States, as well as other national contexts.

**Requirements**

A total of 72 graduate units are necessary to satisfy the master’s degree requirements—including 32 units of core courses and successful completion of a capstone project, thesis, or comprehensive examination. A normal course load is 12 units per quarter (three courses), which enables students to complete the degree in two years. Required core courses are History of Urban Planning (PP&D 202), Theoretical Foundations of Planning (PP&D 203), Design and Planning Graphics: Fundamentals (PP&D 204), Microeconomic Analysis for Urban Planning (PP&D 206), and Quantitative Analysis for Planners (PP&D 214). Students are required to take three additional courses from the subject areas of methods, law, and urban settlements, selected from a menu of courses approved to satisfy this requirement. The curriculum culminates with a capstone requirement that may be fulfilled through one of the following options:

1. Completion of a Professional Report (PR), which provides students an opportunity to prepare an independent planning project for a planning organization. This entails a two-quarter course sequence: Professional Report (PP&D 292), and four units of Independent Study in Urban Planning (PP&D 299) with a PR faculty advisor;
2. Completion of a Planning Practicum, which is a team-based course taught by a planning practitioner and conducted in conjunction with planning organizations. This entails a two-quarter course sequence: Urban Planning Practicum I (PP&D 294A) and Urban Planning Practicum II (PP&D 294B);
3. Completion of a master's thesis, which is an independent academic research project. Students must complete PP&D 297 Research Design before applying for the thesis option. If approved by the MURP faculty program director, thesis students must complete a two-quarter sequence of four units of Independent Study in Urban Planning (PP&D 299) with a thesis faculty advisor.
4. A comprehensive examination.

Students complete eight elective courses. Possible elective course topics include; housing and community development, international development planning, environmental planning, transportation planning, health and social service planning, economic development, regional growth management, state and municipal governance, and urban design. Students work with faculty members to define their concentration and identify appropriate electives. Elective courses are selected from within as well as outside the Department of Planning, Policy, and Design.

The program supports a diverse set of educational opportunities for master’s students including events and workshops sponsored by the department, student organizations, and the MURP Alumni Council. In addition, several students each year incorporate an international educational experience as part of their degree either through the University of California’s Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) or the Network for European and U.S. Regional Urban Studies program (NEURUS). Practical experience in planning in the form of part-time planning internships is also strongly encouraged.

The range of employment opportunities for planners in the public, private, and non-governmental sectors is expanding due to rapid urbanization, rising concerns over environmental issues, and increases in social inequality. Career paths exist in public entities dealing with urban planning, economic development, transportation, community development, regional growth management, air quality, water treatment, community health, community revitalization, and public infrastructure. Employment possibilities also exist with private firms that specialize in transportation, general plans, economic development, environmental planning, emergency management, and residential, commercial, and industrial development. Finally, planners are increasingly pursuing meaningful careers in the growing non-governmental sector. These career opportunities include working with affordable housing developers, environmental and conservation organizations, community-based organizations, advocacy groups, and labor unions.

**Concurrent Master’s Degree Program with Civil and Environmental Engineering**

The Department of Planning, Policy, and Design (PPD) in the School of Social Ecology and the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering (CEE) in The Henry Samueli School of Engineering offer a concurrent degree program that allows students to earn both a master of Urban and Regional Planning (M.U.R.P.) and a master of Civil Engineering (M.S.) in less than the three years required if the degrees were pursued sequentially. Students in the concurrent degree program must meet a minimum of twice with the PPD graduate coordinator and/or MURP faculty program director. The first meeting is at the start of the student’s concurrent program to review current requirements and devise a plan of study for the MURP. The second meeting is the start of the third quarter of the first year of the concurrent program to assess progress toward the MURP, identify the student’s Capstone choice, and review the plan for completion of MURP course work.

**Requirements**

The concurrent degree program involves a course plan that fulfills requirements in both programs. The engineering focus of the concurrent degree program is organized around two tracks: (1) transportation systems, and (2) environmental hydrology and water resources. The course load for the MURP is the same for both tracks; however, the number of CEE courses varies for the transportation systems and the environmental hydrology and...
water resources tracks. Students should check with the CEE graduate advisor to review course requirements for the appropriate track. Concurrent MURP-MSCE students must complete a Capstone requirement. Students choose among multiple options for the Capstone including professional report, practicum, thesis, and comprehensive exam. Capstone requirements will be reviewed with concurrent students in their initial meeting with the PPD graduate coordinator and/or MURP faculty program director at the start of the concurrent program.

Undergraduates seeking admission to the concurrent master’s degree program should have a strong record of course work in disciplines related to urban planning and civil engineering, and they must meet the requirements for admission in both departments. For more information about these requirements, visit the CEE Graduate Admissions (http://www.eng.uci.edu/dept/cee) and PPD Graduate Admissions websites (http://ppd.soceco.uci.edu/pages/admissions).

**Ph.D. in Planning, Policy, and Design**

Today’s complex urban, social, and environmental issues can best be understood by researchers who can work across disciplinary boundaries, and who understand the relationship of research to action. For example, efforts to control transportation problems by building neighborhoods that encourage alternatives to the automobile require an understanding of travel behavior and human interactions with the built environment. Understanding how to reduce tobacco use requires an appreciation of how behavior is shaped by programmatic interventions, community settings and norms, and policy tools. Environmental cooperation across national borders often requires understanding of political processes, infrastructure systems, and metropolitan structure and governance in regions, such as the U.S.-Mexico border, where population is concentrated in urban settlements that span the border. And, issues of public safety are increasingly related to the design of public and private spaces, and how those spaces are used and regulated.

In all of these areas, public and private officials are increasingly working on topics that span the boundaries of several traditional academic disciplines. The Planning, Policy, and Design (PPD) doctoral program at the University of California, Irvine trains scholars for national and international prominence in the analysis of social problems related to the built, natural, and institutional environments. Faculty members and students combine perspectives from urban planning, public policy, and design behavior. The Planning, Policy, and Design Ph.D. is based on the Department’s internationally prominent research and teaching strengths, including design-behavior research, environmental policy, health promotion and policy, and urban and community development. Students in the Ph.D. program take a common core of classes, and then specialize in study related to their research interests. Students may design their own specialization or may follow the guidelines provided to specialize in Policy and/or Urban and Regional Planning. In either case, the elective courses must be approved by the student’s faculty advisory committee.

**Program Details**

The Ph.D. program consists of four components: course work, comprehensive exams, advancing to candidacy, and dissertation research, writing, and defense. Each component is described below. A typical pattern for completion of requirements is the following:

**Years 1 and 2:** Take required departmental courses supplemented by electives.

**September after year 2:** Take comprehensive exams.

**Year 3:** Finish required course work, write and defend dissertation prospectus, advance to candidacy.

**Years 4–6:** Dissertation research and writing (students are expected to complete and defend their dissertations within nine quarters of advancing to candidacy).

Students must also TA for at least one quarter. The normative time for completion of the Ph.D. in Planning, Policy, and Design is six years, and the maximum time permitted is seven years.

**Requirements**

The following courses are required of all students and must be completed before advancement to candidacy:

A. Complete the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 297</td>
<td>Research Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCECOL 200</td>
<td>Seminar in Social Ecology</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Select two of the following three research methods courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PP&amp;D 209</td>
<td>Qualitative Research Methods: Overview (or equivalent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCECOL 264A</td>
<td>Data Analysis (or equivalent)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOCECOL 264B</td>
<td>Data Analysis (or equivalent)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Complete one advanced research methods course

D. Two courses providing disciplinary/theoretical orientation

E. Two quarters of PP&D 298 or PP&D 299

F. Nine electives
Graduates with a doctorate degree in Planning, Policy, and Design are employed in a wide array of activities, ranging from university teaching and research, to administrative and research—oriented positions in governmental agencies, international organizations, nonprofit organizations, and private consulting practices.

**Program in Law and Graduate Studies**

Highly-qualified students interested in combining the study of law with graduate qualifications in Urban and Regional Planning are invited to undertake concurrent degree study under the auspices of UC Irvine’s Program in Law and Graduate Studies (PLGS).

Students in this program pursue a coordinated curriculum leading to a J.D. degree from the School of Law in conjunction with a Masters degree in Urban and Regional Planning. Contact the PLGS Director’s office for additional information at 949-824-4158, or by email to plgs@law.uci.edu. A full description of the program, with links to all relevant application information, can be found at the School of Law Concurrent Degree Program website (http://www.law.uci.edu/academics/interdisciplinary-studies/concurrent-degrees.html) and in the Law School section of the Catalogue.

**Faculty**

Victoria Basolo, Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, *Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Scott A. Bollens, Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, *Drew, Chace and Erin Warmington Chair in the Social Ecology of Peace and International Cooperation and Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Kenneth S. Chew, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, *Senior Lecturer with Security of Employment of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Ross F. Conner, Ph.D. Northwestern University, *Professor Emeritus of Planning, Policy, and Design*

William J. Cooper, Ph.D. University of Miami, *Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Planning, Policy, and Design* (environmental chemistry, advanced oxidation processes for water treatment, aquatic photochemistry of carbon cycling)

David Feldman, Ph.D. University of Missouri-Columbia, *Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Political Science*

Martha S. Feldman, Ph.D. Stanford University, *Roger W. and Janice M. Johnson Chair in Civic Governance and Public Management and Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Paul Merage School of Business; Political Science; Sociology* (organization theory and behavior, stability and change in organizations, decision-making and information processing, public management, qualitative research methods)

Ajay Garde, Ph.D. University of Southern California, *Associate Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Douglas Houston, Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, *Associate Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Helen Ingram, Ph.D. Columbia University, *Professor Emerita of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Jae Hong Kim, Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, *Assistant Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Raul P. Lejano, Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, *Professor Emeritus of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Nicholas J. Marantz, Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Assistant Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; School of Law*

Richard Matthew, Ph.D. Princeton University, *Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Political Science*

Sanjoy Mazumdar, Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Asian American Studies; Religious Studies*

Walter Nicholls, Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles, *Associate Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Sociology* (urban sociology, politics and policy, social movements, immigration, comparative urbanism, theory, planning conflicts)

Judith Olson, Ph.D. University of Michigan, *Donald Bren Professor of Information & Computer Sciences and Professor of Informatics; Paul Merage School of Business; Planning, Policy, and Design* (interactive and collaborative technology, human-computer interaction, computer-supported cooperative work)

Seth D. Pipkin, Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Assistant Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Maria G. Rendón, Ph.D. Harvard University, *Assistant Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Sociology* (urban sociology, immigration, race/ethnicity, sociology of education and social policy)

Michael Ruane, M.A. University of California, Los Angeles, *Lecturer of Planning, Policy, and Design*

David M. Snow, J.D. Loyola Marymount University, *Lecturer of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Daniel Stokols, Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Wilmington, *Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Social Behavior; Planning, Policy, and Design; Program in Public Health; Religious Studies*
Luis Suarez-Villa, Ph.D. Cornell University, *Professor Emeritus of Planning, Policy, and Design*

Rodolfo D. Torres, Ph.D. Claremont Graduate University, *Professor of Planning, Policy, and Design; Political Science*

### Affiliate Faculty

Graeme T. Boushey, Ph.D. University of Washington, *Associate Professor of Political Science; Planning, Policy, and Design*

Tim-Allen Bruckner, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, *Associate Professor of Program in Public Health; Planning, Policy, and Design*

Jan K. Brueckner, Ph.D. Stanford University, *UCI Chancellor's Professor of Economics; Planning, Policy, and Design*

Damon Clark, Ph.D. Oxford University, *Associate Professor of Economics; Planning, Policy, and Design*

Joseph DiMento, Ph.D. University of Michigan, *Professor of School of Law; Criminology, Law and Society; Paul Merage School of Business; Planning, Policy, and Design* (planning, land use and environmental law, use of social science in policy making, legal control of corporate behavior)

John R. Hipp, Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, *UCI Chancellor's Fellow and Professor of Criminology, Law and Society; Planning, Policy, and Design; Sociology* (community context of crime, household decisions and neighborhood change, research methods)

Richard D. McCleary, Ph.D. Northwestern University, *Professor of Criminology, Law and Society; Planning, Policy, and Design* (criminal justice, research methodology, statistics)

Michael G. McNally, Ph.D. University of California, Irvine, *Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Planning, Policy, and Design* (travel behavior, transportation systems analysis)

David S. Meyer, Ph.D. Boston University, *Professor of Sociology; Planning, Policy, and Design; Political Science* (social movements, public policy, peace and war, social justice)

Sylvia Nam, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley, *Assistant Professor of Anthropology; Planning, Policy, and Design*

Mark P. Petracca, Ph.D. University of Chicago, *Associate Professor of Political Science; Planning, Policy, and Design*

Brett F. Sanders, Ph.D. University of Michigan, *Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Planning, Policy, and Design* (environmental hydrodynamics, computational fluid dynamics, coastal water quality)

Jean-Daniel M. Saphores, Ph.D. Cornell University, *Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering; Economics; Planning, Policy, and Design* (transportation economics, planning and policy, environmental and natural resource economics and policy, quantitative methods)

David A. Smith, Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, *Professor of Sociology; Planning, Policy, and Design* (world systems analysis, urbanization, development, comparative-historical sociology, dependent development in east Asia)

George E. Tita, Ph.D. Carnegie Mellon University, *Professor of Criminology, Law and Society; Planning, Policy, and Design* (criminology, community context of violence, urban youth gangs, homicide studies)

Kerry Vandell, Ph.D. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *Professor Emeritus of Paul Merage School of Business; Planning, Policy, and Design; School of Law*

Linda T. Võ, Ph.D. University of California, San Diego, *Professor of Asian American Studies; Planning, Policy, and Design; Sociology* (race and ethnic relations, immigrants and refugees, gender relations, community and urban studies)