

Certificate in Collaboration and Dispute Resolution

*“Diplomado: Colaboración y
Resolución de Disputas”*



*Department of
Urban and Regional Planning
FSU-Panama*



Program Overview

FSU offers a graduate certificate in Collaboration and Dispute Resolution which provides an opportunity for practitioners in urban and regional planning and other professions to develop expertise useful to moving public policy communities toward consensus and at helping stakeholders resolve impasse. Skills covered include bargaining, negotiation, facilitation, mediation, and the design of programs for consensus building, all oriented toward the creation and implementation of plans and public policies. The expectation is that Collaboration and Dispute Resolution Certificate studies will enhance the professional abilities of those working in urban and regional development activities. The Certificate is not intended to qualify students for licensed or regulated work as mediators or arbitrators, although course content may be useful to those who later wish to pursue such possibilities.

Program Requirements

To complete the certificate, students are required to complete 18 hours of class work in the following areas: comprehensive planning and growth management, real estate tools, land use and real estate law, design and development, market analysis, and investment and development. A project seminar in real estate investment serves as the capstone course for the certificate. The project seminar class will be the capstone class for the Certificate.

Transfer credits will not be accepted. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in certificate classes in order to receive the certificate.

Admission to the Program

The certificate is available to students who hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher learning in the United States or the equivalent from an institution abroad. No specific major is required.

The certificate is also available to admitted and enrolled students in either the master's program or Ph.D. program in urban and regional planning or other related programs. Students must be in good academic standing.

- Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher learning in the United States or the equivalent from an institution abroad. No specific major is required.
- The minimum criterion to be considered for admission is a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher for previous study or a combined verbal and quantitative score for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) of 1000. (The GRE exam is optional for applicants who meet the minimum GPA requirement.)
- Applicants whose native language is not English and who have not received a degree from a college or university in an English-speaking nation also must submit an official transcript of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum TOEFL score of 213 (computer-based), 550 (paper-based), or 80 (internet-based) is required for an applicant to be considered for admission.

Program of Study

Students are required to complete a minimum of eighteen (18) credit hours of collaboration and dispute resolution related coursework.



Courses

Dispute Resolution, Social Capital, and Mediation

URP 5122. Planning Dispute Resolution (3 credits).

URP 5504. Community Involvement and Citizen Participation (3 credits).

LAW 6312. Mediation (3 credits).

LAW 6310. Alternative Dispute Resolution (3 credits).



Urban and Regional Development

URP 5342. Advanced Planning Problems (3 credits).*

**With a particular focus on community participation and collaborative process components, as approved by the course instructor.*

Capstone Course

URP 5123. Collective Governance (3 credits).
(Prerequisite: URP 5122 or URP 5504).



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