

SOCIAL and COMMUNITY

Aging within the Community and Aging in Place

SPHL 498G - Lynn Cook

Students conduct a needs assessment of a Howard County neighborhood with a large aging population to determine what services and amenities would help residents age in place and address potential barriers to aging in place such as crime, transportation, affordability, and housing quality.

Neighborhood Stabilization Index

URSP 601 - Dr. Casey Dawkins GVPT 368K - Dr. Jim Gimpel

Students apply statistical and GIS analysis to data so as to construct a Neighborhood Stabilization Index which can identify neighborhoods "at risk" for future declines in property values and / or neighborhood stability.

Bridging the Benefits Cliff

ECON 454 - Ken Coriale

Students analyze modifications to existing policies to enable the County to better serve disadvantaged populations. These would help bridge the benefits gap where, for example, support from Food Stamps or Housing Assistance ends due to earnings increases, while the need persists.

Regional Impact on Howard County's Homeless Plan

GVPT 388 - Dr. Morris Irwin, Dr. Stella Rouse

This course would provide *best practice* recommendations for the prevention of future homelessness and the reduction of existing homelessness, based primarily on an assessment of existing practices in comparable and / or adjacent locales as identified by the County.

Development and Promotion of an App for Historic Sites

INFM 737 - Dr. Kathy Weaver BMGT 130 - Dr. Mary Beth Furst

UMDCP students create an app to include a walking tour of Ellicott City and a driving tour through the rest of the County. Deliverables include video production, maps, brochures and historic interpretive signage. Howard Community College students work closely with the Department of Recreation & Parks to develop a marketing plan for the new app.

Revitalization Focus: Older Neighborhoods

SWOA 705 - Dr. Lane Victorson

Groups of students assess four older neighborhoods (two in Columbia, two elsewhere in the county) accounting for metrics that signal overall neighborhood decline. Recommendations for interventions include mobilizing county resources and adopting best practices elsewhere.



Columbia Stories: Oral History Project

ANTH 468O/689O - Dr. Jen Shaffer, Dr. Tania Icaza, (HCC)

Environmental sustainability, community values and change in Columbia over the past half century is assessed through an anthropological lens. Oral history interviews and texts are analyzed for sustainability and change themes. UMDCP students partner with Howard Community College social science honors students producing a booklet and recordings.

Civic Engagement

GVPT 368K - Dr. Jim Gimpel INFM 600 - Dr. Andrea Wiggins
INFM 737 - Dr. Kathy Weaver SWOA TBD - Dr. Lane Victorson

These courses address civic engagement from various perspectives and at different levels. Projects include: using social media effectively; online public engagement methods; how to generate more civic engagement in Columbia by millennials, young families and English learners.

Evidence Based Practices for Corrections

INFM 737 - Dr. Kathy Weaver

Reducing the risk of recidivism requires an efficient way to gather information on what is working so as to adjust operations for the best outcomes. This deliverable is a model on how to collect and analyze data that helps the Department of Corrections implement best practices.

Get Benched: Identifying Needs and Placing Benches

GVPT 368K - Dr. Jim Gimpel

Best practices for the placement of park benches are applied to the current distribution of benches along county trails and bike paths using GIS and other techniques.

PALS is part of the National Center for Smart Growth and is funded by a modest charge per course from the participating jurisdiction and a grant from the UMD's Office of the Provost. PALS covers all course-related travel expenses and provides additional incentives for participating faculty.

PARTNERSHIP for ACTION LEARNING in SUSTAINABILITY



PALS is harnessing the knowledge and experience of University of Maryland faculty along with the energy and ingenuity of the University's students to advance environmental, economic and social sustainability in Maryland's communities. For the 2015-2016 academic year, UMD has joined forces with Howard County, MD and Columbia Association to build on their sustainability efforts. This involves 34 courses, 500 students, and 10 schools across College Park and two courses with Howard Community College.



County Executive Kittleman in Historic Ellicott City

For more information please contact

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Visit the PALS website @ www.smartgrowth.umd.edu/pals

Economic Development

The Farming Industry: Profitable Models

[SmithX MBA - Neta Moye](#)

[AREC 489N - Phil Gottwals](#)

As farming transitions into new hands and new products, this course will develop models for profitable farming for small farms and for successful food hubs in collaboration with the Extension Service and Soil Conservation Service.

Revitalizing the Route 1 Corridor

[URSP 705 - Dr. Jim Cohen](#)

This is a priority redevelopment corridor for Howard County. Issues to address include the balance of industrial, housing and commercial land use as well as workforce availability and training, and highway vs transit options, including several Transit Oriented Developments.



Howard Community College rain garden

Fostering Economic Vibrancy in Historic Ellicott City

[Summer Workshop - Uri Avin](#)

[ARCH 470 - Matt Bell, Jana VanderGoot](#)

Can this historic gem increase its critical mass and become a regional tourist magnet? A review of the market aspects of this question is followed by a design studio that looks at the overall context and the potential of specific properties for redevelopment, including flood mitigation.

Innovation Networks: Potential and Locations

[URSP 708 - Dr. Scott Dempwolf](#)

New network-based methods of modeling and measuring innovation activities and their impacts are used in combination with existing methods of analysis to yield new insights and suggest new economic development strategies for the selected target areas.

Oakland Mills Village Redevelopment

[RDEV 688I - Margaret McFarland](#) [ARCH 407 - Jana VanderGoot](#)

Students in ARCH 407 develop a series of revitalization site plans with accompanying rendered presentation images. Students in RDEV 688I create development proposals addressing the market analysis, entitlement process, design, construction and financing for the project

Regional Patapsco Greenway

[INFM 737 - Dr. Kathy Weaver](#)

Students explore the economic impact of developing a high quality, shared use path connecting Ellicott City to Elkrigde, including extending connections to the City of Baltimore, Catonsville and the BWI trail. The project includes the impact on tourism in Ellicott City and Oella.

Video Storytelling and Feature Writing

[JOUR 368v/688v - Bethany Swain](#) [JOUR 371 - Marlene Cimos](#)

Journalism students create in-depth video stories and feature articles around Howard County and Columbia which highlight sustainability issues and efforts through character-driven pieces, representing a variety of voices.

Environment

Weather Related Hazard Mitigation and Feasibility

[BSCI 215 - Dr. Keryn Gedan](#) [PUAF---- - Dr. Anand Patwardhan](#)

These projects address the risk of flooding to Howard County and how it will change with climate change and sea level rise. They also examine the cost/benefit, funding and implementation aspects of alternative approaches. Flooding in Ellicott City is one of several focus areas for students interacting with the fall studio in Architecture (ARCH 470) in Ellicott City.

Lake Kittamaqundi Masterplan

[LARC 471 - Dr. Vikki Chanse](#)

Students develop designs for Columbia's Lakefront and land along the 27-acre, man-made lake's environmentally-sensitive edge to enhance this central gathering place and promote views and connections to the lakefront.

Private Sector Energy Conservation

[CPSP 249E - Nicole Mogul, Mira Azarm, Sean Williamson](#)

Students recommend how to best encourage commercial customers to embrace energy conservation as part of their normal practices. Students draw on successful public sector practices and profile best practices in private sector energy conservation to create and test prototypes for adoption.

Green Infrastructure Network and Enhancement

[LARC 452 - Dr. David Myers](#)

Invasive species cause ecological damage by outcompeting native species, reducing biological diversity, and changing ecosystem functions. Students will document invasive species in selected hubs of the Howard County green Infrastructure Network and support the county's effort to understand forest quality.

Rails to Trails Conversion

[LARC 341 - Dr. Chris Ellis](#)

This project evaluates the feasibility of a shared-use pathway on the unused CSX right-of-way on a corridor from Oakland Mills Road to Route 1 including the development of materials for the trail, preliminary engineering, signage concepts, visualization material and connections to potential redevelopment areas, existing and potential transit.



Downtown Columbia, MD

Management of Urban Forest Edges in Columbia

[PLSC 480 - Dr. Lea Johnson](#)

Students apply their research on the ecological values of urban forest patches to the specific challenges facing such patches in Columbia's extensive open space system. They cull science-based best management practices to create fact sheets and reports on these topics.

South Fulton Park Master Plan

[LARC 642 - Dr. Chris Ellis](#)

Students develop a master plan for an 84-acre community park with varied topography and ecological features. Tasks include natural/environmental resource inventory, site analysis, circulation/access, parking, natural trails/pathways, active/passive recreational facilities and equestrian usage.