



**Master of Science in Community Development  
Kansas State University**

**Curriculum Guide**

**Core Requirements**

**16 credit hours**

Successful completion of the following courses with a minimum overall grade requirement of 3.0:

CDPLN 705	Principles and Strategies of Community Change	3
CDPLN 710	Community Analysis	3
CDPLN 715	Organizing for Community Change	3
CDPLN 720	Community and Regional Economic Analysis	3
CDPLN 725	Community and Natural Resource Management	3
CDPLN 601	Community Development Orientation	1

**Elective Courses**

**15-20 credit hours**

**(depending on the completion option chosen – thesis, masters report or specialization paper/comprehensive exam)**

**Total Credit Hours Required**

**36 credit hours**

Completion of this Community Development Specialization will require that the student complete a minimum of 15 credit hours of elective courses within two of the four tracks (taking a minimum of six credit hours per track) available within the Community Development specialization, as described below:

**Working with Native Communities Track:** This track is designed for students working within or in partnership with native communities. The purpose is for students to understand the unique characteristics of native communities, culture and governance which affect community development. This track incorporates a variety of methods for understanding and working in native communities including historical analysis, case studies, asset-based approaches, talking circles, narratives, GIS and other mapping techniques, and Appreciate Inquiry. Students will utilize team learning and cross cultural comparisons throughout the track. Topics covered in one or more courses include partnerships with native communities, effective community development strategies within native communities, and wellness approaches to community economic development. Special topics may include youth, natural resources, and health.

**Natural Resource Management Track:** This track provides specific tools that enhance the ability of community development professionals engaged in planning, water and wastewater, forest, park or range management, recreation, and similar areas to work with their communities to plan, develop and monitor the conservation and development of natural resources with multiple functions.

**Building Economic Capacity Track:** The purpose of this track is to strengthen the competencies of students interested in community economic capacity building. This will be accomplished through five courses that include information strategies, and appropriate tools and will include courses on: Building institutional capacity for community economic development, Economic development strategies/programs, Cost-benefit analysis, Community economic base study, and Impact analysis.