

COLLABORATIVE URBAN PROBLEM- SOLVING STUDIO



School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy
University of Memphis

CUPS: What & Why

- Timeframe: Academic Year (late-August-early May)
- Courses: UAPP 8012 fall semester & UAPP 8013 spring
- Required for PhD to meet 3 goals:
 - Provide an interdisciplinary research opportunity for students and community organizations;
 - Designed to allow students to learn and engage in local research that benefits the Memphis community;
 - Prepare doctoral students to address urban or metropolitan issues
 - Contribute to capacity of community organizations to use evidence-based programs, policies, and practices.

What to expect



Proposed projects should be in-depth and require 6-7 months of work.



Organizations should communicate a clear research issue/need and question



Proposed projects should rely on data that organization has, and data organization wishes to discover during the inquiry process.



Faculty and Organization work closely together prior to the semester to transform needs & question into a research design



Organizational Point person should be available throughout AY 2024-25 for consultation, classroom visits, and review of student progress.

Deliverables to Organizations



At the conclusion of the year, students will be required to present findings of their inquiry to the organization in the form of a policy report.

Organizations (and students) are required to complete a post-experience evaluation to allow for improvement to the course.

If the organization would like to request data used to develop the policy report, they can make the request to course instructor.

CUPS Timeline

- **Apply:** opens January 1st and the deadline is Feb 8th.
- **Select:** Organizational Partner will be chosen by the end of February.
- **Plan:** Faculty member & Organization partner will meet and begin planning in Summer.
- **Start:** Project starts late August and ends in April.
- **Complete:** Deliverables and Presentations in May.



Link to Online Application

https://memphis.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b2W5k6wmCzykf1Y

FAQs

Q: How many projects do the students work on?

A: 1 project will be chosen and students in CUPs course work on it as a team for the academic year.

Q: Is there a particular theme or challenge that makes for a more competitive application?

A: The issue and questions that are in the proposal should clearly have a clear connection to urban development. However, the specific focus or challenge is open.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Information:

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<https://www.memphis.edu/suapp/urban-affairs/cups.php>

