

What are Planning Departments looking for in new assistant planners with a Bachelor's degree?

1. *Skills* – technical, GIS, Remote Sensing, statistics, data visualization, and Qualitative/Mixed-Methods Research (e.g. focus groups, interviews, participatory mapping, survey design)
2. *Project-based experience* – group/team work, reports, community-based research, service-learning.
3. *Strong writing* – analysis, descriptive narratives, literature reviews, reports, blogs, websites, social media, press releases
4. *Conceptual & empirical content* – understanding relations between people and the built- and natural environments; thinking critically about society and space, social justice/marginalized populations, and how the political economy works; familiarity with urban and rural contexts, community development, urban hierarchies, globalization, and environmental/climate challenges.
5. *Analytical abilities* – able to integrate multiple forms of data into a coherent understanding of phenomena, synthesize information and experiences from multiple perspectives, understand approaches to the interaction of political, economic, social/cultural, and environmental processes.