

Dr. Talya D. Thomas is currently an Associate Professor in Urban and Regional Planning, and is currently serving as the Coordinator for the Master of Arts Program in Urban and Regional Planning. She has over 10 years of teaching experience in public administration, planning, and policy. She currently teaches History of Planning, Politics of Planning in Local Government, and Planning in Local Government. With her passion being policy and planning, she is actively involved in various organizations that promote equalization of home ownership among African Americans, as well as promoting food security.

Dr. Thomas received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology with a minor in Business Administration along with her Master's Degree in Public Administration with a concentration in Community and Economic Development from Clark Atlanta University. Her Doctoral Degree in Urban Planning and Environmental Policy with a concentration in Community Development and Housing was obtained at Texas Southern University, Houston, Texas. Some of her research interests are: Transportation Policy, Historic Preservation, Community/Economic Development & Housing, Environmental & Public Policy, and Food Security. Her teaching Interests include; Public Administration, Public Policy and Politics, Principles of Community and Economic Development, Non-Profit Administration, Theory, History, and Practice in Community Development, Sustainable Communities, Citizen Participation in Planning Processes, and U.S. Housing, Planning and Policy.

Dr. Thomas has received numerous awards for her dedicated service as well as written articles that were published in several journals and a chapter in a book.