URBAN STUDIES

CURRICULUM COMMITTEE:
James Burnell (Economics), Chair
Heather Fitz Gibbon (Sociology)
Eric Moskowitz (Political Science)

The Urban Studies program provides both an interdisciplinary major and an off-campus urban experience for non-majors. Urban Studies is sponsored by the departments of Economics, Political Science, and Sociology and administered by a faculty committee.

The Urban Studies major allows students to gain a perspective on the different urban phenomena that crucially affect the quality of life of most Americans, and to relate their liberal education to specific and real human concerns. The Urban Studies major provides a social-scientific core from which students may elect to branch out into various curricular tracks that either broaden the disciplinary bases of urban understanding or deepen competence within a particular discipline.

Major in Urban Studies

Consists of fourteen courses:

- URBN 10100
- ECON 10100
- One of the following courses: ECON 11000 or SOAN 24000
- URBN 20100
- PSCI 20500
- SOCI 20600
- One of the following courses: ECON 21000 or SOCI 34200
- ECON 26100
- URBN 29100
- URBN 29200
- URBN 29300
- Junior Independent Study: URBN 40100
- Senior Independent Study: URBN 45100
- Senior Independent Study: URBN 45200

Minor in Urban Studies

Consists of six courses:

- URBN 10100
- ECON 10100
- One of the following course: ECON 11000, SOCI 24000, or Urban Semester
- PSCI 20500
- SOCI 20600
- ECON 26100

Special Notes

- **Off-Campus Study:** The Urban Studies Program requires off-campus study – the Urban Semester. The off-campus program should consist of a city seminar and an urban related internship. Contact the chairperson of Urban Studies about the opportunities and arrangements for the Urban Semester.
- To be eligible for the Urban Semester, the major must complete either URBN 10100 or one of the following: ECON 26100, PSCI 20500, or SOCI 20600.

- For the Urban Semester, the students enroll in URBN 29100-29200 *Urban Field Study*. This is the field placement for which the students receive two course credits. In addition, they enroll in URBN 29300 *Urban Field Seminar*, a course designed to familiarize the student with the particular problems of the host city. URBN 29100, 29200, and 29300 are graded S/NC.
- Participation in the Urban Semester is also available to non-majors. The prerequisites for Urban Semester for the non-major are either URBN 10100 or two of the following courses: ECON 10100, 26100, PSCI 20500, SOCI 20600, or URBN 20100. The Urban Semester for the non-major consists of URBN 29100-29200 *Urban Field Study* and the additional options as provided for majors.
- S/NC evaluation is not permitted for courses in the major, except for URBN 29100, 29200, and 29300.
- Only grades of C- or better are accepted for the major or minor.

URBAN STUDIES COURSES

URBN 10100. CONTEMPORARY URBAN ISSUES
An interdisciplinary approach to issues and institutions present in American cities. Contemporary urban problems related to growth, housing, poverty, race, social relations, etc., and public policies designed to alleviate them are analyzed from a social science perspective. Alternative ideological perspectives are presented. *Annually. Fall. [HSS]*

URBN 20100-20103. SPECIAL TOPICS IN URBAN STUDIES
A seminar exploring the current theories and research regarding selected issues facing urban areas. Topics will be announced in advance by the faculty member teaching the course. *Prerequisite: URBN 10100 or any course in Economics, Political Science, or Sociology. Annually. Spring. [HSS]*

URBN 29100, 29200. URBAN FIELD STUDY
The city itself is the laboratory in which this learning experience takes place. The student becomes engaged in the activity of that "laboratory" through thirty or more hours a week of intern-type service in any one of a variety of public or private agencies. Placements are designed to meet the student's particular curricular and preprofessional interests. The field experience is supervised by a mature employee of the agency. On location in various cities. *(2 course credits)*

URBN 29300. URBAN FIELD SEMINAR
The cross-disciplinary analysis of the city as a political, social, and economic entity will draw upon and help interpret the student's experience in urban field study. Utilizing various resources, including local citizens and leaders, attention will focus on acquisition and analysis of information about the host city. Seminar directed by staff on location in the city.

URBN 40100. JUNIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY
This course will introduce Urban Studies majors to the process of conducting social scientific research in an urban context. Students will be exposed to the practical techniques for accomplishing an urban research project. This includes providing the appropriate theoretical framework and specification of methodology that will be used to test hypotheses on urban phenomena.

URBN 45100. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER ONE
The first semester of the Senior Independent Study project, in which each student undertakes a significant, independent, interdisciplinary analysis of an urban-related topic, and which culminates in a thesis and an oral examination in the second semester. *Prerequisite: URBN 40100.*

URBN 45200. SENIOR INDEPENDENT STUDY – SEMESTER TWO
The second semester of the Senior Independent Study project, which culminates in the thesis and an oral examination. *Prerequisite: URBN 45100.*