



Urban Studies Major

www.UrbanStudies.Pitt.edu

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The Urban Studies Program offers a major for students who have an interest in unraveling the complexities of the urban world. The major is interdisciplinary, meaning that students learn about cities as historical, social, cultural, economic, and political phenomena. The major is real world, meaning that students take this learning with them and apply it to the world beyond the classroom. Finally, the major is career-oriented, meaning that students attempt to find a role for themselves in the urban environment. To accomplish all of these goals, the Urban Studies Program has designed a curriculum which integrates knowing with doing. The urban studies major combines courses offered by the program itself with courses offered through other social science departments. Students are encouraged to take URBNST 0010 Introduction to Urban Studies as early as possible, ideally in the fall or spring of the freshman year, and to develop a broad background in the social sciences among lower-level social science courses.

Required courses for the Urban Studies major

The urban studies major requires the completion of 36 credits distributed as follows.

Urban Studies core courses

All of the following courses; these courses should be completed early in the student's academic program

URBNST 0010 Introduction to Urban Studies

URBNST 0030 Introduction to GIS

URBNST 0050 Introduction to Urban Research

URBNST 0070 Urban Social Theory

Intermediate-level elective courses

Students must take at least four courses according to the following guidelines.

At least two of the following Urban Studies courses

URBNST 0100 World Urban Patterns

URBNST 0108 Urban Economic Geography

URBNST 0112 Social Justice and the City

URBNST 0114 Urban Sustainability

URBNST 0120 Urban Geography

URBNST 0130 Applied GIS

URBNST 0140 Crime and Punishment

URBNST 0150 GIS & Community Data

URBNST 0160 Data Visualization

At least one of the following courses

URBNST 0200 Internship

URBNST 0400 'Global City' Study Abroad Courses

URBNST 0413 Sustainable Cities 1

URBNST 0415 Sustainable Cities 2

URBNST 0600 Independent Research

URBNST 0810 Field Analysis of Global Urbanism

URBNST 0820 Advanced International Field Placement

ARC 0110 Approaches to the Built Environment

COMMRC 1103 Rhetoric and Culture

ECON 0230 Introduction to Public Economics

ENGLIT 0628 Working Class Literature
FR 0017 Paris: Urbanism Past and Present
HIST 1019 Cities in Historical Perspective
PUBSRV 0030 Public Policy Process
SOC 0444 Urban Sociology

Advanced elective courses

Students must take three courses according to the following guidelines.

Advanced Urban Studies courses; choose two courses

URBNST 0300 Remaking Cities

URBNST 0320 US Housing & Property

URBNST 0340 Urban Ethnography

URBNST 0360 International Urbanism

URBNST 0380 Field Research Seminar

URBNST 0710 Urban Culture: Special Topics

URBNST 0750 Urban Methods: Special Topics

URBNST 0770 Urban Theory: Special Topics

Advanced courses from another discipline; choose one course

ANTH 1530 Origins of Cities

ARC 0300 Intro to Historic Preservation

ARC 1180 World Cities

ARC 1181 Pittsburgh Arch. & Urbanism

HIST 1135 Berlin: History of a European Metropolis

JS 1160 Jerusalem: History and Imagination

PS 1251 Urban Government and Politics

PUBSRV 1100 Practices in Public Administration

SOC 1286 Race and the City

SOCWRK 1000 Introduction to Social Work

SOC 1476 Urban Policy and Planning

Capstone course

URBNST 0900 Urban Studies Research Seminar

Note: All four of the Urban Studies core courses must be completed prior to enrolling in URBNST 0900.

Grade requirements

A minimum GPA of 2.0 in departmental and concentration courses is required for graduation.

Satisfactory/No Credit option

There is no limit to the number of courses in the major that can be taken on an S/NC basis.

Writing (W) requirement

Students must complete one W-course in the major. URBNST 0900 Urban Studies Research Seminar fulfills this requirement.

Study Abroad

It would be desirable for students to add an international dimension to their undergraduate education through their participation in a study abroad program.

Urban Students Association

The Urban Students Association (U.S.A.) is an official student organization formed by students in the Urban Studies Program. Through U.S.A., students have been actively involved in issues related to the major throughout the Pittsburgh region. U.S.A. has invited guest speakers to appear on campus, organized field trips, and participated in numerous community projects.

Advising note: Students considering the urban studies major are encouraged to speak with the major advisor as early in the decision-making process as possible.

Advising

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Checklist for the Urban Studies major

Urban Studies core courses

All of the following courses

____ URBNST 0010
____ URBNST 0030
____ URBNST 0050
____ URBNST 0070

Intermediate-level elective courses

Students must take at least four courses according to the following guidelines.

At least two of the following Urban Studies courses

____ URBNST 0100
____ URBNST 0108
____ URBNST 0112
____ URBNST 0114
____ URBNST 0120
____ URBNST 0130
____ URBNST 0140
____ URBNST 0150
____ URBNST 0160

At least one of the following courses

____ URBNST 0200
____ URBNST 0400
____ URBNST 0413
____ URBNST 0415
____ URBNST 0600
____ URBNST 0810
____ URBNST 0820
____ ARC 0110
____ COMMRC 1103
____ ECON 0230
____ ENGLIT 0628
____ FR 0017
____ HIST 1019
____ PUBSRV 0030
____ SOC 0444

Advanced elective courses

Students must take three courses according to the following guidelines.

Advanced Urban Studies courses; choose two of the following courses

____ URBNST 0300
____ URBNST 0320
____ URBNST 0340
____ URBNST 0360
____ URBNST 0380
____ URBNST 0710
____ URBNST 0750
____ URBNST 0770

Advanced courses from another discipline; choose one course

____ ANTH 1530
____ ARC 0300
____ ARC 1180
____ ARC 1181
____ HIST 1135
____ JS 1160
____ PS 1251
____ PUBSRV
____ SOC 1286
____ SOCWRK
____ SOC 1476

Capstone course

____ URBNST 0900