

Urban Studies

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studies and related fields. The mission of this organization is to promote academic excellence and enrich the educational experience of undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees related to urban studies.

Majors

The Major in Urban Studies

Total required units: 33 units, 21 of which must be at the 300 level or above. Of these 21 advanced units, no more than 6 units may be from independent study courses. All courses for the major must be taken for a letter grade, and students must obtain a passing grade of B or better.

Required courses:

- URST 299 The Study of Cities and Metropolitan America
- One introductory course in math or applied statistics
- One 400-level independent study or an internship located locally, nationally, or internationally
- A senior thesis (or senior seminar, if offered)

Elective courses:

There are five subject area concentrations in Urban Studies: neighborhoods and community development; urban education; cities of the world; public policy/social policy; and public health. Once a student declares a major in urban studies, they will be assigned a major advisor who will help the student formulate the area concentration.

Because of the nature of the major and the requirements of the nonresidential components, majors are strongly encouraged to declare by their third semester in residency.

Additional Information

Study Abroad: The program offers study abroad opportunities in conjunction with the International Urban Scholars Study Abroad Program through Oxford University, the London School of Economics and Political Science, the University of Cape Town in South Africa, and Fudan University in Shanghai, China, among others.

Senior Honors: Urban Studies majors are encouraged to work for Senior Honors, for which they may apply during the junior year. Acceptance into the program is based on the student's previous academic performance and a proposal to a core (not affiliated) faculty member in Urban Studies who agrees to supervise the honors research. The honors candidate must complete honors thesis research, which is evaluated by a three-member faculty committee. Meritorious theses can be awarded the Senior Thesis in Urban Studies with Distinction award.

Upsilon Sigma: Upsilon Sigma is an international multidisciplinary honor society that was established by the Urban Affairs Association in 2018. Upsilon Sigma is dedicated to recognizing and encouraging excellence in scholarship, leadership, and engagement in urban