Urban Studies

The Urban Studies program teaches students to analyze the city, urban life, and urbanization through a variety of disciplinary lenses. Students learn where cities come from, how they grow, thrive, and decline, how they are organized, and how to construct meaningful, inclusive, secure, and sustainable places. The curriculum examines how urban problems arise, how they have been previously addressed, and how to plan cities of the future. Concentrators enjoy the breadth of courses in American Studies, economics, history, literature, history of art and architecture, political science, sociology, and planning as well as provide in-depth courses integrating those perspectives. We introduce the fundamentals of Urban Studies scholarship as well as intense examination of an urban problem in focused seminars. These advanced seminars offer opportunities to write extensive and synthetic interdisciplinary analyses that serve as capstones to the concentration. The program’s 10-course curriculum provides sufficient flexibility to allow students to pursue specific urban interests or to take courses in urban focus areas of Built Environment; Humanities; Social Sciences; and Sustainable Urbanism. The Program insures that students master at least one basic research methodology and perform research or fieldwork projects, which may result in an honors thesis. Fieldwork training includes working with local agencies and nonprofit organizations on practical urban problems. Capstone projects entail original research papers in Urban Studies seminars; academically supervised video, artistic, or community service projects; and Honors Theses for eligible concentrators.

Concentrators who are especially interested in making deeper connections between their curriculum and long-term engaged activities such as internships, public service, humanitarian and development work, and many other possible forms of community involvement might consider the Engaged Scholar Program (https://www.brown.edu/academics/urban-studies/curriculum/engaged-scholars-program) in US. The program combines preparation, experience, and reflection to offer students opportunities to enhance the integration of academic learning and social engagement.

For a concentration, the program requires ten courses selected from four course groups:

**Introduction (choose one):**
- POLS 0220 City Politics
- URBN 0210 The City: An Introduction to Urban Studies
- URBN 0230 Urban Life in Providence: An Introduction

**Research Methods (choose one):**
- APMA 0650 Essential Statistics
- APMA 1650 Statistical Inference I
- APMA 1660 Statistical Inference II
- CLPS 0800 Statistical Methods
- ECON 1620 Introduction to Econometrics
- EDUC 1110 Introductory Statistics for Education Research and Policy Analysis
- PHP 1501 Essentials of Data Analysis
- POLS 1600 Political Research Methods
- SOC 1020 Methods of Social Research
- SOC 1100 Introductory Statistics for Social Research

**Core Courses (3 courses required, in at least 3 disciplines, such as American studies, anthropology, economics, education, English, history, history of art and architecture, political science, and sociology, as well as urban planning when staffing allows):**
- AMST 1612D Cities of Sound: Place and History in American Pop Music
- ANTH 1201 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis
- ANTH 1236 Urban Life: Anthropology in and of the City

**Seminar courses (choose three) 3**
- AMST 1903E City of the American Century: The Culture and Politics of Urbanism in Postwar New York City
- EDUC 1650 Policy Implementation in Education
- HIAA 1850H Berlin: Architecture, Politics and Memory
- HIAA 1910A Providence Architecture
- SOC 0310 Theory and Practice of Engaged Scholarship (ESP Seminar)
- URBN 1870A American Culture and the City
- URBN 1870D Downtown Development
- URBN 1870G Ancient Cities: From the Origins Through Late Antiquity
- URBN 1870I The Changing American City
- URBN 1870J The Politics of Community Organizing
- URBN 1870K Jerusalem Since 1850: Religion, Politics, Cultural Heritage
- URBN 1870M Urban Regimes in the American Republic
- URBN 1870N The Cultural and Social Life of the Built Environment
- URBN 1870Q Cities in Mind: Modern Urban Thought and Theory
- URBN 1870S The City, the River, and the Sea: Social and Environmental Change at the Water’s Edge
- URBN 1870T Transportation: An Urban Planning Perspective
- URBN 1870V City Senses: Urbanism Beyond Visual Spectacle
Complementary Curriculum (Total of 2 courses required):

1. Any course from the Introductory or Core Curriculum options above not used to fulfill another requirement
2. OR Any of the following:
   - Any course from the Introductory or Core Curriculum
   - URBN 1941
   - URBN 1871B

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>URBN 1941</td>
<td>How to Shape a City: An Introduction to Real Estate Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1967R</td>
<td>History of Rio de Janeiro</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 1979J</td>
<td>London: 1750 to the Present</td>
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<td>HIST 1979L</td>
<td>Urban History of Latin America</td>
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<td>HIST 1980T</td>
<td>Modernity, Jews, and Urban Identities in Central Europe (JUDS 1718)</td>
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<td>ITAL 1580</td>
<td>Word, Image and Power in Early Modern Italy</td>
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<td>JAPN 0910B</td>
<td>Japanese Cities: Tokyo and Kyoto</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUDS 1718</td>
<td>Modernity, Jews, and Urban Identities in Central Europe</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLCY 1200</td>
<td>Program Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLCY 1700Q</td>
<td>Urban Policy Challenges: Spatial Inequality in Metropolitan America</td>
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<td>PLCY 1700R</td>
<td>Urban Revitalization: Lessons from the Providence Plan</td>
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<td>PLCY 1701W</td>
<td>Race, Gentrification, and the Policing of Urban Space</td>
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<td>PLCY 1910</td>
<td>Social Entrepreneurship</td>
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<td>POLS 1760</td>
<td>Infrastructure Policy</td>
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<td>POLS 1824D</td>
<td>Power and Prosperity in Urban America</td>
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<td>RUSC 1440</td>
<td>Imagining Moscow: Utopia and Urban Spaces in 20th-Century Russian Culture</td>
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<td>STS 1701Q</td>
<td>The Fate of the Coast</td>
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<td>SOC 0130</td>
<td>American Heritage: Democracy, Inequality, and Public Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 1270</td>
<td>Race, Class, and Ethnicity in the Modern World</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 1540</td>
<td>Human Needs and Social Services</td>
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3. RISD courses approved by the Urban Studies Program each semester as applicable to the Urban Studies concentration.

4. Any course taken at another university in the US or abroad and approved by the Urban Studies Program each semester (2 maximum)

Total Credits: 10

1. There are also other statistics courses offered by other departments (e.g., Applied Mathematics, Cognitive Sciences, and Psychology). On occasion, an alternative research skills course may be approved for a specific concentration.
2. The courses provide opportunities to undertake research or fieldwork projects and all qualify as "capstone" experiences.
3. No more than two may be used to satisfy the requirements of this concentration. The RISD course is identified in the student's record at Brown by a RISD course code.

Off-Campus Courses: Some courses taken outside Brown (e.g., in study abroad programs) may be used for credit towards the concentration if the material covered directly corresponds to that taught in Brown courses, or is relevant to the complementary curriculum. Such courses will be approved each semester by the concentration advisor.

Honors

Candidates for Honors must have above average grades and shall apply for this distinction in writing to the Director of the Program by the middle of the second semester of their junior year. They shall include a cover letter with a brief statement of the intended research proposal as well as the name of the member of the Urban Studies faculty who would serve as their advisor and with whom they must work closely. Twelve courses are required for Honors concentrator, two in addition to the ten courses required for a standard program. During the Fall and Spring of the senior year, honors candidates must complete two additional courses beyond the ten courses required by the regular concentration: URBN 1971 Senior Honors Thesis I in Urban Studies (S/NC) and URBN 1972 Senior Honors Thesis II in Urban Studies (S/NC).
Thesis II in Urban Studies (grade). The candidate's final thesis must be of outstanding quality, in order to qualify for honors.
Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Helvetica was used instead of Arial.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.