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 0890 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ANTH 1255</td>
<td>Anthropology of Disasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECON 1410</td>
<td>Urban Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EEPS 1320</td>
<td>Introduction to Geographic Information Systems for Environmental Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 0010N</td>
<td>City Novels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 0700R</td>
<td>Modernist Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 1711D</td>
<td>Reading New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVS 1400</td>
<td>Sustainable Design in the Built Environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENVS 1580</td>
<td>Environmental Stewardship and Resilience in Urban Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIAA 0100</td>
<td>Introduction to Architectural Design Studio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIAA 0710</td>
<td>The Other History of Modern Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIAA 0770</td>
<td>Architecture and Urbanism of Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIAA 0850</td>
<td>Modern Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIAA 0860</td>
<td>Contemporary Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIAA 0861</td>
<td>City and Cinema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1550</td>
<td>American Urban History, 1600-1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1551</td>
<td>American Urban History, 1870-1965 (HIST 1550: American Urban History to 1870)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 0220</td>
<td>City Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POLS 1310</td>
<td>African American Politics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 1330</td>
<td>Remaking the City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 1340</td>
<td>Principles and Methods of Geographic Information Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOC 1640</td>
<td>Social Exclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBN 0074</td>
<td>Nineteenth-Century Architecture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBN 1000</td>
<td>Fieldwork in the Urban Community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBN 1200</td>
<td>The United States Metropolis, 1945-2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBN 1250</td>
<td>The Political Foundations of the City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBN 1260</td>
<td>Housing in America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>URBN 1270</td>
<td>Urban Politics and Urban Public Policy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Seminar courses (choose three)

- 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
- 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
URBN 1870Z  Housing Justice
URBN 1871B  Berlin: Global Metropolis (1945-2020)
URBN 1941  How to Shape a City: An Introduction to Real Estate Development

Complementary Curriculum (Total of 2 courses required): 2

1. Any course from the Introductory or Core Curriculum options above not used to fulfill another requirement
2. OR Any of the following:
   - AFRI 0600  Race, Gender, and Urban Politics
   - AFRI 0620  African-American Life in the City
   - AMST 1611A  Making America: Twentieth-Century U.S. Immigrant/Ethnic Literature
   - AMST 1903G  Oral History and Community Memory
   - AMST 1904M  Charles Chapin and the Urban Public Health Movement
   - ANTH 0450  Inequality, Sustainability, and Mobility in a Car-Clogged World
   - ANTH 1301  Anthropology of Homelessness
   - ARCH 0317  Heritage in the Metropolis: Remembering and Preserving the Urban Past
   - ARCH 0400  City and Sanctuary in the Ancient World
   - ARCH 1150  Cities and Urban Space in the Ancient World
   - ARCH 1155  Cities, Colonies and Global Networks in the Western Mediterranean
   - ARCH 1200F  City and the Festival: Cult Practices and Architectural Production in the Ancient Near East
   - ARCH 1600  Archaeologies of the Near East
   - ARCH 1720  How Houses Build People
   - ARCH 1900  The Archaeology of College Hill
   - ECON 1370  Race and Inequality in the United States
   - EDUC 1100  Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods
   - EDUC 1150  Education, the Economy and School Reform
   - EDUC 1430  Social Psychology of Race, Class, and Gender
   - EDUC 1720  Urban Schools in Historical Perspective
   - ENGL 1710I  Harlem Renaissance: The Politics of Culture
   - ENGN 1930S  Land Use and Built Environment: An Entrepreneurial View
   - ENVN 0520  Wild Literature in the Urban Landscape
   - ENVN 1410  Environmental Law and Policy
   - ENVN 1555  Urban Agriculture: The Importance of Localized Food Systems
   - HIAA 0550  Gold, Wool and Stone: Painters and Bankers in Renaissance Tuscany
   - HIAA 0560  Constructing the Eternal City: Popes and Pilgrims in Early Modern Rome
   - HIAA 1560C  Renaissance Venice and the Veneto
   - HIST 1140  Samurai and Merchants, Prostitutes and Priests: Japanese Urban Culture in the Early Modern Period
   - HIST 1741  Capitalism, Land and Water: A World History: 1848 to the present
   - HIST 1961B  Cities and Urban Culture in China

URBN 1967R  History of Rio de Janeiro
URBN 1979J  London: 1750 to the Present
URBN 1979L  Urban History of Latin America
URBN 1980T  Modernity, Jews, and Urban Identities in Central Europe (JUDS 1718)
IAPA 1700A  Program Evaluation
IAPA 1803E  Social Entrepreneurship
ITAL 1580  Word, Image and Power in Early Modern Italy
JAPN 0910B  Japanese Cities: Tokyo and Kyoto
JUDS 1718  Modernity, Jews, and Urban Identities in Central Europe
POLS 1760  Infrastructure Policy
POLS 1824D  Power and Prosperity in Urban America
RUSS 1440  Imagining Moscow: Utopia and Urban Spaces in 20th-Century Russian Culture
STS 1701Q  The Fate of the Coast
SOC 0130  American Heritage: Democracy, Inequality, and Public Policy
SOC 1270  Race, Class, and Ethnicity in the Modern World
SOC 1540  Human Needs and Social Services

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 (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.