A Major that Changes Lives

The Urban and Community Studies (UCS) major at the University of Connecticut is a Bachelor of Arts degree program in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The UCS major integrates the study of cities, suburbs, neighborhoods, and communities through core courses drawn from the fields of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, History, Political Science, Public Policy, Sociology and Urban Studies. It offers a solid foundation in analytical techniques, including quantitative and qualitative methods, survey research, geographic information systems and archival research.

The UCS major provides students with...

- a comprehensive education on the forces that transform communities and urban areas
- a flexible and interdisciplinary curriculum
- opportunities for service learning and community-based internships
- a solid foundation for many rewarding careers
- first-rate preparation for graduate school

UCS is an interdisciplinary major for students who seek meaningful career opportunities in public service, human services, urban and social change, as well as many other rewarding fields. Our flexible curriculum offers students the ability to take courses within the major based on their own personal career or graduate school aspirations. The program offers emphasis areas in Criminal Justice and Law, Nonprofit and Public Management, Public Health, Public Policy and Social Service and Community Organizing as well as a Fast Track to the Master of Public Administration or coursework information for those interested in pursuing a Pre-Med concentration. Students are welcome also to personalize their degree plan based on their academic interests.

UCS is a perfect major for those who are interested in pursuing a career in fields such as or graduate studies in...

Social Work  Law
Counseling  Education
Criminal Justice  Public Health
Public Policy  Survey Research

Public Administration  Community Organizing
Public Affairs Management  Urban & Regional Planning

Business Administration

&

many more rewarding fields

Students may earn a Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban and Community Studies at the Hartford, Storrs and Waterbury campuses. For the greatest variety, students are welcome to enroll in courses across campuses.

For more information please contact:

Our main office at 959-200-3771
or
Visit our website:

urban.uconn.edu
Degree Requirements

UCS MAJORS COMPLETE A TOTAL OF 36 COURSE CREDITS, 24 WITHIN THE MAJOR PLUS AN ADDITIONAL 12 RELATED, TOWARD THE MINIMUM 120 CREDITS REQUIRED TO GRADUATE FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT.

GROUP I: REQUIRED CORE COURSE
Two required core courses = 6 credits
1. Introduction to Urban & Community Studies URBN 2000 (W)  
2. Understanding Your Community or Urban Semester: Seminar URBN 4000 (W) or INTD 3594

GROUP II: CORE
Select three courses from three different departments = 9 credits  (Cross-listed courses count towards the non-URBN department)
- Urban Development & Policy ECON 2439
- Economics of Poverty ECON 2456
- Globalization GEOG 2000
- Sustainable Cities GEOG 2400
- Urban Geography GEOG/URBN 3200
- Urban & Regional Planning GEOG 4210
- History of Urban America HIST/URBN 3541 (W)
- Immigrants & the Shaping of American History HIST 3554
- African American History Since 1865 HIST/AFRA 3564

GROUP III: METHODS
Select one of the following courses = 3 credits
- Information Technology for Economics ECON 2327
- Introduction to Geographic Information Systems GEOG/CE 2500 (formerly GEOG 4500)
- Geographic Data Analysis GEOG 3500Q
- Quantitative Analysis in Political Science POLS 2072Q
- Survey Research Methods PP/URBN 2100
- Public Policy Research Methods I (Program Evaluation) PP 3010
- Methods of Social Research SOCI 3201
- Introduction to Statistics II STAT/AFRA 2425
- Research Methods & (Quantitative) Analysis in UCS URBN 2301Q
- Qualitative Analysis of UCS URBN 2302

GROUP IV: SUPPORTING
Select two additional courses from group II, group III or from the list below = 6 credits
- Migration ANTH 3150 (W)
- Applied Regional Analysis: The CT Economy ECON 2328 (W)
- Economics of Taxation & Government Spending ECON 2431
- Public Finance ECON 3431 (W)
- Urban & Regional Economics ECON 3439 (W) or URBN 3439
- Service Learning Through Sport & Physical Activity EDLR 3547 (W)
- Reading the American City ENGL 3235W
- Geographical Analysis of Urban Social Issues GEOG 4200W
- Crime, Policing, & Punishment in the US HIST 2810
- Topics in Public History HIST 3102
- Social & Cultural History of CT & New England HIST 3520
- Asian American Experience Since 1850 HIST 3530/AAAS 3578
- African American History to 1865 HIST/AFRA/HRTS 3563
- Hip-Hop, Politics & Youth Culture in America HIST/AFRA 3568
- History of Urban Latin America HIST/URBN 3650
- Diversity Issues in Human Dev. & Family Studies HDFS 2001
- Social & Community Influence on Children in the US HDFS 3110
- Planning & Managing Human Service Programs HDFS 3510
- Public Policy & the Family HDFS 3530
- Child Welfare, Law & Social Policy HDFS 3540 (W)
- Semester in Urban Problems (Urban Semester) INTD 3584
- State & Local Government POLS 2622
- Comparative Perspectives on Human Rights POLS/HRTS 3212
- Globalization & Political Change POLS 3406 (W)
- American Political Economy POLS 3617
- African American Politics POLS/AFRA 3562
- Latino Political Behavior POLS 3662/LAS 3270
- The Policy-making Process POLS 3847
- Public Policy PP 3001
- Cases in Public Policy PP 3020 (W)
- Race & Policy PP 3033/AFRA 3033/POLS 3633
- State & Local Fiscal Problems PP 4033
- Criminology SOCI 2301 (W)
- Sociological Perspectives on Poverty SOCI 3429 (W)
- Aging in American Society SOCI 3459/HDFS 3240 (W)
- Ethnicity & Race SOCI 3501 (W) or AFRA 3501
- Sociology of Religion SOCI 3521 (W)
- Sociology of Gender SOCI 3601 (W)
- Urban Problems SOCI/AFRA/HRTS 3825
- City Life SOCI 2907 (W) (formerly SOCI 2907 (W))
- Internship in UCS or Urban Semester: Seminar URBN 3981/3991* or INTD 3594 (W)
- Foreign Study URBN 3993
- Special Topics URBN 3995
- Variable Topics URBN 3998
- Senior Thesis URBN 4497W
- Independent Study (With instructor consent) URBN 4999

(If) = These courses may be offered by the university with or without a Writing Competency component.
* These courses are taken concurrently. Students may take up to 6 credits combined, but only 3 credits can be used toward the major.

RELATED COURSES (2000 OR ABOVE):
Select four courses related to the major = 12 credits
Students may take courses listed within the major as long as they are not URBN or cross-listed with URBN. Courses to be counted towards the related requirement must be pre-approved by the student's UCS advisor.

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES:
The program offers two General Education courses which meet Content Area requirements, both are strongly recommended for students interested in pursuing the UCS major.

URBN/GEOG 1200 - The City in the Western Tradition
A broad discussion of the role and structure of the city in the western tradition from the Classical period to contemporary America. Special emphasis will be placed on the mechanisms by which cities and ideas about them have been diffused from one place to another and on the changing forces that have shaped the western city. Meets Content Area 1 General Education requirement.

URBN 1300 - Exploring Your Community
Various aspects of urban and community life emphasizing the interplay of social justice, diversity, individual and social well being. Theories, concepts, and methods in community studies. This course may contain a service learning component and/or be offered with a "W" writing component. Meets Content Area 2 and 4 General Education requirements.