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  Community Organizing  Law
Counseling  Public Administration  Education
Criminal Justice  Public and Nonprofit Management  Public Health
Public Policy  Urban & Regional Planning  Survey Research

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 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
Introduction to 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
EC 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

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 2323 (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/AASI 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)

(“W”) = These courses may be offered by the university with or without a Writing Competency component.

GROUP V: RELATED COURSES

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.

GROUP VI: 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.