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

& 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:

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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)
   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
   History of Latino/as in the US
   HIST 3674/LLAS 3220
Economics of Poverty
   ECON 2456
   Urban Politics
   POLS 3632 (W) or URBN 3632W
Globalization
   GEOG 2000
   Public Admin. or Public Admin. in Theory & Practice
   POLS 3842 or PP 3031
Introduction to Sustainable Cities
   GEOG 2400
   Social Policy
   PP 4034
Urban Geography
   GEOG/URBN 3200
   Social Welfare & Social Work
   SOCI 3425
Urban & Regional Planning
   GEOG 4210
   Urban Sociology
   SOCI 3901/URBN 3275 (W)
History of Urban America
   HIST/URBN 3541 (W)
   Communities
   SOCI 3911
Immigrants & the Shaping of American History
   HIST 3554
   Urban Anthropology
   URBN 3000
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
   Public Policy Research Methods I (Program Evaluation)
   PP 3010
Introduction to Geographic Information Systems
   GEOG/CE 2500 (formerly GEOG 4500)
   Methods of Social Research
   SOCI 3201
Geographic Data Analysis
   GEOG 3500Q
   Introduction to Statistics II
   STAT 2125/Q
Quantitative Analysis in Political Science
   POLS 2072Q
   Research Methods & (Quantitative) Analysis in UCS
   URBN 2301Q
Survey Research Methods
   PP/URBN 2100
   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)
   American Political Economy
   POLS 3617
Applied Regional Analysis: The CT Economy
   ECON 2323 (W)
   African American Politics
   AFRA/POLS 3424
Economics of Taxation & Government Spending
   ECON 2431
   Latino Political Behavior
   POLS 3662/LLAS 3270
Public Finance
   ECON 3431 (W)
   The Policy-making Process
   POLS 3847
Urban & Regional Economics
   ECON 3439 (W) or URBN 3439
   Public Policy
   PP 3001
Service Learning Through Sport & Physical Activity
   EDLR 3547 (W)
   Cases in Public Policy
   PP 3020 (W)
Reading the American City
   ENGL 3235W
   Race & Policy
   PP 3033/AFRA 3033/POLS 3633
Geographical Analysis of Urban Social Issues
   GEOG 4020W
   State & Local Fiscal Problems
   PP 4033
Crime, Policing, & Punishment in the US
   HIST 2810
   Criminology
   SOCI 2301 (W)
Topics in Public History
   HIST 3102
   Sociological Perspectives on Poverty
   SOCI 3429 (W)
Social & Cultural History of CT & New England
   HIST 3520
   Aging in American Society
   SOCI 3459/HDFS 3240 (W)
Asian American Experience Since 1850
   HIST 3530/AASI 3578
   Ethnicity & Race
   SOCI 3501 (W) or AFRA 3501
African American History to 1865
   HIST/AFRA/HRTS 3563
   Sociology of Religion
   SOCI 3521 (W)
Hip-Hop, Politics & Youth Culture in America
   HIST/AFRA 3568
   Sociology of Gender
   SOCI 3601 (W)
Hispanic History of Urban Latin America
   HIST/URBN 3560
   Urban Americans & Social Protest
   SOCI/AFRA/HRTS 3825
Diversity Issues in Human Dev. & Family Studies
   HDFS 2001
   Urban Problems
   SOCI 3903W or URBN 3276 (W)
Social & Community Influence on Children in the US
   HDFS 3110
   City Life
   SOCI 2907 (W) (formerly SOCI 3907 (W))
Planning & Managing Human Service Programs
   HDFS 3510
   City & Community in Film
   URBN/AMST 2400
Public Policy & the Family
   HDFS 3530
   Internship in UCS or Urban Semester: Seminar
   URBN 3981/3991* or INTD 3594 (W)
Child Welfare, Law & Social Policy
   HDFS 3540 (W)
   Foreign Study
   URBN 3993
Semester in Urban Problems (Urban Semester)
   INTD 3584
   Special Topics
   URBN 3995
State & Local Government
   POLS 2622
   Variable Topics
   URBN 3998
Comparative Perspectives on Human Rights
   POLS/HRTS 3212
   Senior Thesis
   URBN 4497W
Globalization & Political Change
   POLS 3406 (W)
   Independent Study (With instructor consent)
   URBN 4999
*(W) = These courses may be offered by the university with or without a Writing Competency component.

RELATD 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.