

BA in Urban Studies

Program Codes:

20GP5490BA

Degree Requirements

To earn a Bachelor of Arts degree from UIC, students must complete university, college, and department degree requirements. The Department of Urban Planning and Policy degree requirements are outlined below. Students should consult the [College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs](#) section for additional degree requirements and college academic policies. Elective courses may have prerequisites.

Code	Title	Hours
Summary of Requirements		
General and Basic Education Requirements		32-34
Required for the Degree		33
Concentration Required for the Degree		12
Free Electives		41-43
Total Hours		120

General and Basic Education Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
Foreign Language (8 hours or equivalent in a single language)		8
Analyzing the Natural World course ^a		3
Exploring World Cultures course ^a		3
Understanding the Creative Arts course ^a		3
Understanding the Individual and Society course ^a		3
Understanding the Past course ^a		3
One elective course from any General Education Core category ^a		3
UPA 120	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar I ^b	1
UPA 121	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar II ^b	1
Total Hours		32-34

a See the [General Education](#) section of the catalog for a list of approved courses in this category.

b Required for new freshmen only.

Required for the Degree

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
US 101	Introduction to Urban Studies ^a	3
US 130	Principles of Urban Sustainability ^a	3
US 202	Social Justice and the City ^a	3
US 240	Urban and Community Economics	3
US 250	Analyzing the City	3

US 301	Political Economy of Urban Development	3
US 306	Urban Policy Analysis Methods	3
US 308	Globalization and Environmental Planning	3
UPP 403	Just and Sustainable Planning Practices for Great Cities	3
UPP 405	Researching the City	3
US 495	Senior Capstone Experience in Urban Studies	3
Total Hours		33

a This course is approved for the Understanding U.S. Society General Education category.

Concentration Required for the Degree

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
Students must complete four courses within one of the concentrations listed below. At least two courses should be at the 200, 300, or 400 level.		12
Total Hours		12

Urban Data Analytics

Code	Title	Hours
CS 111 or CS 113	Program Design I Program Design I in the Context of Law and Public Policy	
PPOL 105	Programming and Data Analysis for Public Policy I	
PPOL 205	Programming and Data Analysis for Public Policy II	
PPOL 220	Introduction to Civic Technology	
PA 402	Principles of Data Analysis	
PA 431	Civic Technology	
PA 434	Intermediate Data Management and Analysis	
PA 446	Coding for Civic Data Applications	
US 261	Mapping, Data, and Geographic Information Systems	
US 361	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems I	

Urban Environments and Climate Change

Code	Title	Hours
ANTH 319	Environmental Anthropology	
BIOS 365	Human Ecological Systems	
CME 311	Water Resources Engineering	
CME 421	Water Treatment Design	
EAES 101	Global Environmental Change	
EAES 285	Earth Systems	
EAES 473	Soils and the Environment	
ECON 370	Environmental Economics	
EOHS 411	Water Quality Management	

EOHS 418	Water Quality Analysis in Public Health
ENGL 253	Environmental Rhetoric
ENGL/UPP 452	The UIC Freshwater Lab Course
ENGL/UPP 453	Freshwater Lab in Practice: Environmental Research, Projects, and Internships
IE 118	Energy for Sustainable Society
PPOL 240	Environmental Policy
US 390	Sustainability Internship
UPP 493	Topics in Urban Planning and Policy

City Design and Infrastructure

Code	Title	Hours
AH 111	World History of Art and the Built Environment II	
AH 122	History of Chicago Architecture	
ARCH 210	Architecture as Archetype: Explorations of the City and Its Forms	
CME 111	The Art of Structural Form	
CME 112	Evolution of Infrastructure and Society	
CME 440	Cities and Sustainable Infrastructure	
DES 222	Human Experience in Design	
UPP 493	Topics in Urban Planning and Policy	
US 140	Introduction to Urban Transportation	

Healthy Cities and Social Welfare

Code	Title	Hours
ANTH 216	Medicine, Culture, and Society	
BLST 104	Race, Place, and Schooling: Black Americans and Education	
BLST 271	Race and the Politics of Incarceration	
ECON 215	Health Economics	
IPHS 430	Epidemics of Injustice	
PSCH 231	Community Psychology	
PUBH 100	Health and the Public	
PUBH 110	Public Health and Global Societies	
PUBH 120	Public Health and the Study of Disease and Epidemics	
PUBH 320	Ecologies of Health and Modern Life	

Diverse and Just Cities

Code	Title	Hours
ANTH 244	Arab and Asian Connections in the U.S. and Globally	
ANTH 262	Constructions of Gender, Race, Health, and Human Rights	
BLST 249	Black Freedom Movements in the U.S.	
DHD 101	Disability in U.S. Society	
DHD 202	Disability, Health, and Society	
DHD 206	Disability, Inclusive Cities, and Environmental Accessibility	
DHD 303	Disability Activism: From the Local to the Global	
GLAS 300	Global Asia in Chicago	

HIST 240	Radicalism in America: From the Revolution to Occupy Wall Street
LALS 103	Introduction to Latino Urban Studies
LALS 233	Latinos in Chicago
UPP 493	Topics in Urban Planning and Policy

Urban Economics

Code	Title	Hours
ECON 311	Introduction to Urban Real Estate	
ECON 332	Urban Economics	
ECON 342	Regional Economics	
ECON 475	Urban Economics and Public Policy	
HIST 255	History of Chicago	
LALS/US 220	Latin American Cities in a Global Context: Environment, Employment, and Housing	
PPOL 300	Urban Policy and Metropolitan Governance	
RES 250	Real Estate Principles	
RES 420	Real Estate Market Analysis	

Community Building and Organizing

Code	Title	Hours
ENGL 389	Writing for Community Advocacy and Activism	
GLAS 250	Critical Issues in Community Engagement	
LALS 425	Urban Field Research in Latino/a Communities	
PA 467	Civic Engagement	
POLS 210	Introduction to Urban Politics	
POLS 211	Chicago's Future	
PPOL 230	Nonprofit Organizations and Civil Society	
PPOL 330	Introduction to Managing Public and Nonprofit Organizations	
PPOL 430	Fundraising and Development for Nonprofit Organizations	
PSCH 331	Laboratory in Community and Prevention Research	
PUBH 360	Local Citizenship and Community Health Initiatives	
ED 100	Introduction to Urban Education	
US 296	Special Topics in Urban Studies	

Urban Studies: Self-Designed

Code	Title	Hours
Students must receive prior approval for self-designed concentration from advisor and DUS. Four courses required, at least 3 must be 200-level and above.		

Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Courses		
Free Electives		41-43
Total Hours		41-43

Sample Course Schedule

Course	Title	Hours
Freshman Year		
Fall Semester		
US 101	Introduction to Urban Studies	3
UPA 120	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar I	1
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
Exploring World Cultures course		3
Foreign Language 101		4
Hours		14
Spring Semester		
US 130	Principles of Urban Sustainability	3
UPA 121	Urban and Public Affairs Seminar II	1
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
Understanding the Individual and Society course		3
Foreign Language 102		4
Hours		14
Sophomore Year		
Fall Semester		
US 202	Social Justice and the City	3
US 240	Urban and Community Economics	3
Understanding the Past course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Spring Semester		
US 250	Analyzing the City	3
Analyzing the Natural World course		4
Understanding the Creative Arts course		3
Electives		6
Hours		16
Junior Year		
Fall Semester		
US 301	Political Economy of Urban Development	3
Concentration Course		3
Concentration Course		3
Electives		7
Hours		16
Spring Semester		
US 306	Urban Policy Analysis Methods	3
US 308	Globalization and Environmental Planning	3
Concentration Course		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Senior Year		
Fall Semester		
UPP 405	Researching the City	3
UPP 403	Just and Sustainable Planning Practices for Great Cities	3
Concentration Course		3
Elective		3

Elective		3
Hours		15
Spring Semester		
US 495	Senior Capstone Experience in Urban Studies	3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Total Hours		120