

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		39
Selectives for the Degree		21
Free Electives		26-28
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 304	Visualizing the City: Methods and Tools for Representing the City	3

US 306	Urban Policy Analysis Methods	3
US 308	Globalization in Urban Studies	3
PPOL 309	Public Budgeting and Financial Management	3
UPP 403	Planning Practices for Great Cities	3
UPP 405	Researching the City	3
US 495	Senior Capstone Experience in Urban Studies	3
Total Hours		39

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

Selectives for the Degree

Code	Title	Hours
Courses		
Select 21 hours from the list of courses below or from the US or UPP rubrics. Students are encouraged to work with an advisor to take a cluster of three courses in a specialization of their interest.		21
US 130	Principles of Urban Sustainability	
US 140	Introduction to Urban Transportation	
US 199	Independent Study in Urban Studies	
US 205	Cinema and the City	
US/GEOG 208	Mapping the Urban: Cartography and its Alternatives	
US/LALS 220	Latin American Cities in a Global Context: Environment, Employment, and Housing	
US 230	Practices for Sustainable Cities	
US 261	Mapping, Data, and Geographic Information Systems	
US 361	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems I	
US 390	Sustainability Internship	
US 491	Internship Experience in Urban Studies	
UPP 302	Great Cities Internship	
UPP 460	Introduction to Geospatial Analysis and Visualization	
UPP 461	Geographic Information Systems for Planning and Policy	
UPP 462	Intermediate GIS for Planning and Policy	
UPP 463	Complexity-based Models for Planning and Policy	
UPP 464	Advanced Visualization Techniques	
UPP 465	Topics in Geospatial Analysis and Visualization	
UPP 493	Topics in Urban Planning and Policy	
US 498	Independent Study in Urban Studies	
ANTH 411	Urban Cultural Problems	
AH 122	History of Chicago Architecture	
BLST 258	Race and Urban Life	
EAES 101	Global Environmental Change	
ECON 353	Economic Demography	
GEOG 100	Concepts in Geography	
GEOG 477	Remote Sensing of the Environment	
GEOG 481	Geographic Information Systems I	

GEOG 482	Geographic Information Systems II
HIST 106	The World Since 1400: Converging Worlds, New Circulations
HIST 255	History of Chicago
LALS 103	Introduction to Latino Urban Studies
LALS 233	Latinos in Chicago
PPOL 210	Introduction to Public Policy
PPOL 230	Nonprofit Organizations and Civil Society
PPOL 300	Urban Policy and Metropolitan Governance
PPOL 303	Bureaucracy and Public Policy
PPOL 305	Policy Analysis
PPOL 307	Policy Analysis III: Identifying and Developing Alternatives
PA 421	Public Management
POLS 101	Introduction to American Government and Politics
POLS 210	Introduction to Urban Politics
POLS 211	Chicago's Future
SOC 100	Introduction to Sociology
SOC 276	Urban Sociology
SOC 471	Population

Total Hours 21

Electives

Code	Title	Hours
Courses		
Free Electives		26-28
Total Hours		26-28

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
Selective for the degree		3
Analyzing the Natural World course		4
Understanding the Creative Arts course		3
Elective		3
Hours		16

Junior Year

Fall Semester

US 301	Political Economy of Urban Development	3
US 304	Visualizing the City: Methods and Tools for Representing the City	3
Selective for the degree		3
Selective for the degree		3
Elective		4
Hours		16

Spring Semester

US 306	Urban Policy Analysis Methods	3
US 308	Globalization in Urban Studies	3
Selective for the degree		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15

Senior Year

Fall Semester

UPP 405	Researching the City	3
UPP 403	Planning Practices for Great Cities	3
Selective for the degree		3
Selective for the degree		3
Elective		3
Hours		15

Spring Semester

US 495	Senior Capstone Experience in Urban Studies	3
PPOL 309	Public Budgeting and Financial Management	3
Selective for the degree		3
Elective		3
Elective		3
Hours		15
Total Hours		120