

Urban Studies Concentration Worksheet

(Updated February 2026)

Name: _____ Expected Date of Graduation: _____

Advisor: _____ Engaged Scholar Certificate Y/N _____

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It is strongly encouraged that ALL concentration requirements be taken for a grade, with the possible exception of the research methods requirement.

Please use this worksheet to record your concentration requirements and bring it to your meeting with your advisor.

1. Introduction (1 course required)

- _____ POLS 0220 City Politics
- _____ URBN 0210 The City: An Introduction to Urban Studies
- _____ URBN 0230 Urban Life in Providence: An Introduction (1st Year Seminar)

2. Research Methods (1 course required)

- _____ ANTH 1940 Ethnographic Research Methods
- _____ APMA 0650 Introduction to Probability and Statistics
- _____ APMA 1650 Introduction to Probability and Statistics with Calculus
- _____ APMA 1655 Introduction to Probability and Statistics with Theory
- _____ APMA 1660 Statistical Inference II
- _____ CPSY 0900 Statistical Methods in Psychology
- _____ ECON 1620 Introduction to Econometrics
- _____ EDUC 1230 Introductory Statistics for Education Research and Policy Analysis (form. EDUC 1110)
- _____ IAPA 1500A Ethnographic Research Methods
- _____ PHP 1501 Essentials of Data Analysis
- _____ POLS 1600 Political Research Methods
- _____ SOC 1020 Methods of Social Research
- _____ SOC 1100 Introductory Statistics for Social Research
- _____ URBN 1100 Investigating the City: Hands-on Research Methods for Urban Analysis

3. Basic Curriculum

a) Core Courses (Total of 3 core courses required)

Of these courses, it is required that they are in at least 3 disciplines, such as American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, Education, History, History of Art and Architecture, Literature, Political Science, and Sociology.

- _____ ANTH 1201 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems and Spatial Analysis
- _____ ANTH 1236 Urban Life: Anthropology In and Of the City
- _____ ANTH 1255 Anthropology of Disasters
- _____ ANTH 1553 Energy and Power
- _____ ECON 1410 Urban Economics
- _____ EEPS 1320 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems for Environmental Applications
- _____ ENGL 0100N City Novels

Urban Studies Concentration Worksheet

- _____ ENGL 0700R Modernist Cities
- _____ ENGL 0710T Reading New York
- _____ ENGL 1711D Reading New York
- _____ ENVS 1105 Introduction to Environmental GIS
- _____ ENVS 1247 Clearing the Air: Environmental Studies of Pollution
- _____ ENVS 1400 Sustainable Design in the Built Environment
- _____ ENVS 1580 Environmental Stewardship and Resilience in Urban Systems
- _____ HIAA 0065 Introduction to the Built Environment
- _____ HIAA 0074 19th Century Architecture
- _____ HIAA 0081 Architecture of the House Through Space and Time
- _____ HIAA 0100 Introduction to Architectural Design Studio
- _____ HIAA 0710 The Other History of Modern Architecture
- _____ HIAA 0770 Architecture and Urbanism of Africa
- _____ HIAA 0850 Modern Architecture
- _____ HIAA 0860 Contemporary Architecture
- _____ HIAA 0861 City & Cinema
- _____ HIAA 1171 Cities, Landscapes, and Design in the Age of Pandemics
- _____ HIST 1533 Cities & Inequality Since 1920: The United States
- _____ HMAN 1973V How to do things with Maps: Cartography, Power and Political Imagination, from Gilgamesh to Google
- _____ POLS 0220 City Politics
- _____ POLS 1310 African American Politics
- _____ POLS 1320 Urban Politics and Urban Public Policy (was URBN 1270)
- _____ SOC 1330 Remaking the City
- _____ SOC 1340 Principles and Methods of Geographic Information Systems
- _____ URBN 0074 19th Century Architecture (History of Art & Architecture)
- _____ URBN 0214 The U.S. Metropolis: Cities and Suburbs in American History (American Studies or History)
- _____ URBN 0215 Urban Life in the Global South (Anthropology)
- _____ URBN 0217 Metropolis: The Architecture and Urban Design of Global Cities (History of Art & Architecture)
- _____ URBN 1000 Fieldwork in the Urban Community (Sociology)
- _____ URBN 1140 Urban Theory and Practice (History of Art & Architecture)
- _____ URBN 1250 The Political Foundations of the City (Sociology)
- _____ URBN 1251 Municipal Money (Sociology)
- _____ URBN 1260 Housing in America (Sociology)
- _____ URBN 1290 Race, Racism, and the Urban Environment (Sociology)

b) Seminars (3 Seminars required)

(concentrators are required to take at least 2 of their 3 seminars in URBN-designated courses)

Indicate which seminar will be your capstone: _____

- _____ EDUC 1250 Policy Implementation in Education (formerly EDUC 1650)
- _____ EDUC 1620 Urban Schools in Historical Perspective (formerly EDUC 1720)
- _____ ENGL 1762 City Spaces, City Memories

Urban Studies Concentration Worksheet

- _____ ENVS 1875 The Nature of Cities
- _____ ENVS 1926 Wasted: Rethinking Chemical Environments
- _____ ETHN 1751F Race in U.S. Cities and Suburbs
- _____ HIAA 1121 Buildings, Space, Power: Postcolonial and Decolonial Histories of the Built Environment
- _____ HIAA 1850H Berlin: Architecture, Politics and Memory
- _____ HIAA 1910A Architecture of Downtown Providence from Late 19th Century to the Present
- _____ HIAA 1910H Memory, Monuments, and Identity in American Urbanism
- _____ HIST 1952C Latino Urban History
- _____ IAPA 1701F Wealth and Poverty in the New American Metropolis
- _____ IAPA 1800B Urban Ethnography and Public Policy
- _____ POLS 1820A American Political Development
- _____ POLS 1822S Politics of Urban Transformation
- _____ POLS 1824D Power and Prosperity in Urban America
- _____ SOC 0310 Theory and Practice of Engaged Scholarship (ESP Seminar ONLY)
- _____ SOC 1870Z Urban Sociology: Neighborhoods, Crime, and Punishment
- _____ SOC 1871W Geographical Analysis of Society
- _____ SOC 1871X Comparative Urban Political Economy
- _____ SOC 1873G The Geography of Urban Inequality
- _____ URBN 1870A American Culture and City
- _____ URBN 1870D Downtown Development
- _____ URBN 1870G Ancient Cities: From the Origins Through Late Antiquity
- _____ URBN 1870J The Politics of Community Organizing
- _____ URBN 1870K Jerusalem Since 1850: Religion, Politics, Cultural Heritage
- _____ URBN 1870M Urban Regimes in the American Republic
- _____ URBN 1870N The Cultural & Social Life of the Built Environment
- _____ URBN 1870Q Cities in Mind: Modern Urban Thought & Theory
- _____ URBN 1870T Transportation: An Urban Planning Perspective
- _____ URBN 1870X The Political Economy of Cities: American and Comparative Perspectives
- _____ URBN 1870Y American Political Development
- _____ URBN 1870Z Housing Justice
- _____ URBN 1871A Heritage in the Metropolis: Remembering and Preserving the Past
- _____ URBN 1871B Berlin: Global Metropolis (1945-2020)
- _____ URBN 1871E Urban Development and Governance in the Global South
- _____ URBN 1871F Urban Ecologies: Forms, Flows and Futures
- _____ URBN 1871G Urban Asia: Beyond Tradition, Modernity, and Crisis
- _____ URBN 1872 The Right to the City: Focus on Indonesia
- _____ URBN 1932 The Just City: Installment I, Comparative Perspectives on Juvenile Justice Reform
- _____ URBN 1934 The Just City: Installment II, Crossroads and Congregations
- _____ URBN 1936 The Just City: Installment III, Speculative and Animated Futures
- _____ URBN 1943 The Real Estate Development Process: An Entrepreneurial Lens

Urban Studies Concentration Worksheet

4. Complementary Curriculum (Total of 2 courses required)

a) Any course from Sections 1 or 3 and not used to meet those requirements

OR

b) Any of the following from recent listings of courses around the University

- _____ AFRI 0600 Race, Gender, and Urban Politics
- _____ AFRI 1075 Providence Housing Ecosystem, Development, Displacement and Gentrification
- _____ AMST 1611A Making America: Twentieth-Century U.S. Immigrant / Ethnic Literature
- _____ ANTH 1301 Anthropology of Homelessness
- _____ ARCH 1900 The Archaeology of College Hill
- _____ EAST 0533 Beyond Gangnam Style: Seoul, Dislocation, and Search for Place
- _____ ECON 1370 Race and Inequality in the United States
- _____ EDUC 1240 Using Qualitative Research Methods (formerly EDUC 1100)
- _____ EDUC 1430 Social Psychology of Race, Class, and Gender (formerly EDUC 1330)
- _____ ENGL 1050S Writing the City
- _____ ENGL 1180Y City Journalism
- _____ ENGL 1710I Harlem Renaissance: The Politics of Culture
- _____ ENVS 0070C Transcending Transportation Impacts
- _____ ENVS 0705 Equity and the Environment: Movements, Scholarship, Solutions
- _____ ENVS 1410 Environmental Law and Policy
- _____ ENVS 1555 Urban Agriculture: The Importance of Localized Food Systems
- _____ HIAA 1307 Politics and Spectacle in the Arts of Ancient Rome
- _____ HIAA 1621 Abolition Architecture
- _____ HIST 0690C Cities of the Global South
- _____ HIST 1310 History of Brazil
- _____ HIST1961D Heaven Above, Suzhou and Hangzhou Below: Urban Culture in Early Modern China
- _____ HIST 1979L Urban History of Latin America
- _____ IAPA 0170K Geography of Uneven Development
- _____ IAPA 1201D Social Entrepreneurship (formerly IAPA 1803E)
- _____ PHUM 1805 Making the Invisible Visible: Global Urban Typologies in the 20th and 21st Century
- _____ POLS 1821V Democracy and Inequality in American Cities
- _____ POLS 1826A Space, Time, and Society
- _____ RUSS 1440 Imagining Moscow: Utopia and Urban Spaces in 20th-Century Russian Culture
- _____ SOC 1270 Race, Class, and Ethnicity in the Modern World

5. OR any RISD course approved by the Urban Studies Program each semester (two maximum)

6. OR any course taken at another university in the US or abroad and approved by the Urban Studies Program each semester (two maximum)

5. Honors (2 additional courses required)

Candidates for Honors must have above average grades (**3.8 GPA in concentration**) and shall apply for this distinction in writing to the Director of the Program by the middle of the second semester of their junior year. They shall include a cover letter with a brief statement of the intended research proposal as well as the name of the member of the Urban Studies faculty who would serve as their advisor and with whom they must work closely. Twelve courses are required for Honors concentrator, two in addition to the ten courses required for a standard program. During the Fall and Spring of the senior year, honors candidates must complete two additional courses beyond the ten courses required by the regular concentration: **URBN 1981 Senior Honors Thesis I in Urban Studies(S/NC)** and **URBN 1972 Senior Honors Thesis II in Urban Studies (grade)**. The candidate's final thesis must be of outstanding quality in order to qualify for honors.

Thematic Clusters in Urban Studies

The Urban Studies concentration does not have set tracks, but we do offer courses across a range of **thematic clusters** that enable students to hone their skills, deepen their knowledge, and discover new interests in our highly interdisciplinary program. There are currently eight thematic clusters: *Urban Communities and Social Movements*; *Built Environment, Architecture, Planning, and Design*; *Urban Ecologies*; *Historical Urbanism*; *Urban Politics, Policies, and Economies*; *Global Urbanisms*; *Urban Arts and Humanities*; and *Urban Education*.

Students are encouraged to take three or more of their concentration requirements in one of the thematic clusters that speaks to their primary interest in urban studies and two or more courses from two or more other thematic clusters. This helps to ensure that students will graduate with **both a breadth and depth of knowledge** in the field of urban studies.

For example, a student interested in *Urban Communities and Social Movements* might take 3 courses in this field to anchor their studies, complemented by 2 in *Urban Ecologies*, 2 in *Historical Urbanism*, and 1 in *Global Urbanisms* to craft a well-rounded degree. (You will also notice that some classes are grouped under more than one cluster.)

These thematic clusters are not requirements, but rather a **navigational tool** to help students and advisors understand – and make the most of – the diverse course offerings in our program.

Urban Communities and Social Movements

URBN0215 Urban Life in the Global South
URBN1000 Fieldwork in the Urban Community
URBN1260 Housing in America
URBN1280/1871A Heritage in the Metropolis
URBN1290 Race, Racism, and the Urban Environment
URBN1870J Politics of Community Organizing
URBN1870Z Housing Justice
URBN1871A Berlin
URBN 1871G Urban Asia
URBN1932-6 Just City I, II, III
ANTH1236 Urban Life: Anth in and of the City
SOC1330 Remaking the City
SOC1870Z Urban Sociology: Neighborhoods, Crime, and Punishment
SOC1873G The Geography of Urban Inequality

Urban Ecologies

URBN1871F Urban Ecologies: Forms, Flows, Futures
ENVS1105 Intro to Env GIS
ENVS1400 Sustainable Design in the Built Environment
ENVS1580 Environmental Stewardship and Resilience in Urban Systems
ENVS1926 Wasted: Rethinking Chemical Environments
ENVS 1875 The Nature of Cities

Built Environment, Architecture, Planning, and Design

URBN0074 19th Century Architecture
URBN1140 Urban Theory and Practice
URBN1870D Downtown Development
URBN1870N The Cultural and Social Life of the Built Environment
URBN1870T Transportation: An Urban Planning Perspective
URBN1943 Real Estate Development Process
HIAA0065 Introduction to the Built Environment
HIAA0074 19th Century Architecture
HIAA0081 Architecture of the House Through Space and Time
HIAA0710 The Other History of Modern Architecture
HIAA0770 Architecture and Urbanism of Africa
HIAA0850 Modern Architecture
HIAA0860 Contemporary Architecture
HIAA0861 City and Cinema
HIAA1850H Berlin: Arch, Politics, Memory
HIAA1910A Arch of Downtown Providence

Global Urbanisms

URBN0215 Urban Life in the Global South
URBN1870K Jerusalem Since 1850
URBN1871G Urban Asia
URBN1871A Heritage in the Metropolis
URBN1872 The Right to the City, Focus on Indonesia
ANTH1236 Urban Life: Anth in and of the City
HIAA0081 Architecture of the House Through Space and Time
HIAA0710 The Other History of Modern Architecture
HIAA0770 Architecture and Urbanism of Africa

Historical Urbanism

URBN0214 The US Metropolis
URBN1870A American Culture and the City
URBN1870G Ancient Cities
URBN1870K Jerusalem Since 1850
URBN1870N The Cultural and Social Life of the Built Environment
URBN1870Q Cities in Mind: Modern Urban Thought and Theory
ETHN1751F Race in U.S. Cities and Suburbs
HIAA0065 Introduction to the Built Environment
HIAA0074 19th Century Architecture
HIAA0081 Architecture of the House Through Space and Time
HIAA0710 The Other History of Modern Architecture
HIAA0770 Architecture and Urbanism of Africa
HIAA0850 Modern Architecture
HIAA0861 City and Cinema
HIAA1850H Berlin: Arch, Politics, Memory
HIST1533 Cities and Inequality Since 1920
HIST1952C Latino Urban History

Urban Education

EDUC1250 Policy Implementation in Education
EDUC1620 Urban Schools in Hist. Perspective

Urban Politics, Policy, and Economies

URBN1250 Political Foundations of the City
URBN1251 Municipal Money
URBN1251 Urban Politics and Urban Public Policy
URBN1870A American Culture and the City
URBN1870M Urban Regimes in the American Republic
URBN1870X Political Economy of Cities
URBN1870Y American Political Development
SOC1330 Remaking the City
SOC1871X Comparative Urban Political Economy
IAPA1701F Wealth and Poverty in the New American Metropolis
POLS1310 African American Politics
POLS1820A American Political Development
POLS1822S Politics of Urban Transformation

Urban Arts and Humanities

URBN1140 Urban Theory and Practice
URBN1870A American Culture and the City
URBN1870N The Cultural and Social Life of the Built Environment
URBN1870Q Cities in Mind: Modern Urban Thought and Theory
ENGL0100N City Novels
ENGL0700R Modernist Cities
ENGL0710T/1711D Reading New York
ENGL1762 City Spaces, City Memories
HIAA0861 City and Cinema
HIAA1850H Berlin: Arch, Politics, Memory