

URBAN STUDIES

Urban Studies adopts an interdisciplinary approach to analyze the development, consequences, and sustainability of contemporary human settlements as both social and physical environments. Students in New College's Urban Studies Area of Concentration (AOC) cultivate their research and leadership skills in coursework that ranges from a focus on the challenges facing Florida's cities to comparative perspectives on urban development as a phenomenon of global scope and significance. Students should plan their program to cover the three dimensions of urban sustainability: ecological responsibility, economic viability, and social equity. The focus on connecting research to practice means that students will be expected to connect analysis of urban conditions to an understanding of political processes, social conflicts, and the possibilities for collaborative solutions.

The requirements for an Area of Concentration in Urban Studies are organized into four parts:

1. What is Urban Studies? (Core)
2. What are the tools? (Tools for Urban Analysis)
3. What disciplinary knowledge do I need? (Disciplinary Foundations)
4. How is Urban Studies put into practice? (Internship or Practicum)

The requirements are designed to insure that every student acquires a foundation in certain common courses, while retaining enough flexibility that each student can plan a course of study in consultation with their advisors that is tailored to their particular interests. Since specific courses may not always be available, and faculty often introduce new courses appropriate to students' interests within Urban Studies, students should expect to work with their advisor and discuss options with the Urban Studies faculty as they put together their plan to complete the area of concentration.

Core Faculty in Urban Studies

Carrie Beneš (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/carrie-e-benes/>), Professor of History (On Leave)

David Brain (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/david-brain/>), Professor of Sociology/Director of Urban Studies (On Leave)

Jack Reilly (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/jack-reilly/>), Associate Professor of Political Science (On Leave)

Maria D. Vesperi (<https://www.ncf.edu/directory/maria-vesperi/>), Professor of Anthropology

Requirements for the AOC in Urban Studies

A minimum of fifteen (15) academic units.

Code	Title
Core Requirements (3 courses)	
Introductory Course	
SOCI 2335	Introduction to Urban Studies
One Urban-Related Course in Social Sciences	
ANTH 3250	Urban Anthropology: Past, Present, and Future
or SOCI 2310	Urban Sociology
One Course in Urban History	
HIST 2285	Medieval Cities*

In addition to the core courses, every student must schedule a career exploration session with a counselor at the Center for Engagement and Opportunity.

Tools for Urban Analysis (3 courses)

One Spatial Analysis Course

GEON 2150	Introduction to GIS (GIS certificate encouraged.)
GEOG 2350	Introduction to Mapping for the Social Sciences (or equivalent)

One Quantitative or Qualitative Analysis Course

Quantitative

CSCI 2700	Dealing with Data I*
STAT 2125	Statistics for Economics and the Social Sciences*
POLS 2500	Quantitative Political Analysis I*

Qualitative

SOCI 3100	Sociological Research Methods
HIST 3100	Historical Methods
ANTH 4500	Ethnography: Theory and Practice

Research Methods in Political Science

SOCI 2310	Urban Sociology
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One Visual Communication Course (or an additional course in quantitative or qualitative analysis)

ART 2200	Drawing Fundamentals*
STAN 3230	Data Visualization and Communication
ART 2355	Going Viral: Making Video Art for the Internet*
ART 2490	Drawing Through Photography*

Disciplinary Foundations

(Five courses from the following list, including at least one advanced seminar with an urban focus). At least five courses from the list of courses eligible for credit (depending on the student's specific interests and focus). A key part of planning an individual student's program will be consideration of the foundational work necessary to prepare for an eventual career in the field. These courses can be drawn from the following areas:

Space and Place: Urban Geography

For example:	
SOCI 3034	Sustainable Cities
SOCI 3300	Space, Place, and Community
SOCI 3600	Social Movements
GEOG 2100	Space, Nature and Society: Introduction to Human Geography*
GEOG 2250	Geography of Globalization
POLS 3710	Public Opinion, Polarization, and the Politics of Identity in the United States

Understanding Power and Inequality: Race, Class, Gender

For example:	
SOCI 3160	Social Inequality: Race, Class, Gender and Power

Urban Politics and Public Policy

For example:	
POLS 2850	Sustainable Development*

POLS 2870	Climate Change: Science, Policy, Media, and Politics
POLS 3500	Research Design Workshop in Political Science
POLS 4110	Citizenship, Political Authority and the Public Sphere in the U.S.
POLS 4710	Advanced Seminar: Social Networks and the Context of Political Behavior
POLS 4810	Political Geography

Urban History

For example:

HIST 2285	Medieval Cities*
HIST 2450	Early Modern Europe: The World in Maps*
HIST 2260	Ancient Rome: History and Legacy*
ARTH 3640	The Gothic Cathedral*
HIST 4515	Death, Hell, and Capitalism: Medieval Italy in the Age of Dante and Petrarch

Culture and Place

For example:

ANTH 3150	Cultures of the Contemporary USA*
ANTH 2200	Heritage: History and the Past Today*
ANTH 3435	Tourism: Culture, Power, Place
ANTH 3420	Landscapes: Past and Present*
ANTH 3520	Approaches to Visual Anthropology
ANTH 3400	Race and Ethnicity in Global Perspective*
ARTH 2250	Public Art and Its Public(s) in the United States* (Art History)
LITR 4660	The City in World Literature: Globalized Gentrification

Urban Economics

For example:

ECON 2100	Introductory Microeconomics*
ECON 2150	Introductory Macroeconomics*
ECON 2400	Environmental Economics
ECON 3100	Public Finance: Government Expenditures

Urban Ecology

For example:

BIOL 2100	Foundations of Biology I*
BIOL 4600	Biology of Urbanization
or ENV 4600	Biology of Urbanization
BIOL 3550	Introduction to Microbiology
BIOL 3560	Introduction to Microbiology Laboratory

Urban Planning

For example:

SOCI 3034	Sustainable Cities
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Internship or Urban Lab (Practicum)

The Urban Lab is a practicum in which students participate in a group project in collaboration with local community partners

Thesis Studio

Students will be required to participate in a capstone thesis workshop

Requirements for the Joint AOC in Urban Studies

A minimum of eight (8) academic units.

In order to combine Urban Studies with another AOC, students will be required to complete 8 courses in Urban Studies (including a practicum or internship), in addition to related foundational work in the other area of concentration.

Code	Title
Required Courses	
1. Core Courses (3)	
2. Spatial Analysis (e.g., GIS, Introduction to Mapping)	
3. Urban Analysis (e.g., Statistics, research methods, quantitative or qualitative analytical skills)	
4. Urban Lab or Internship	
5. Relevant disciplinary coursework. In addition, it is expected that students will take courses in another concentration that contributes to the development of research and analytical skills relevant to Urban Studies.	

In addition, it is expected that they will take courses as part of the other AOC that contribute to the development of critical perspectives and communication skills relevant to Urban Studies. A member of the Urban Studies faculty will serve on the baccalaureate committee and the thesis or senior project will reflect the joint nature of the concentration. (For example: Biology/Urban Studies. Data Science/Urban Studies. Economics/Urban Studies.)

Representative Senior Theses in Urban Studies

- Agenda Setting in Cities: Relative Actor Efficacy Across City Government Form
- Ceasefire: How Efforts to Curb the Supply and Presence of Guns in Urban Areas Can Reduce Gun Violence
- Footprints in the Atmosphere: Quantitative Analysis of Carbon Emissions to Identify the Potential of Community Climate Action
- From Overtown to Rosemary: Exploring Race and Space through Oral Histories of Sarasota's First African American District
- The Homeless in Sarasota Housing: Policy and Practice
- Historic Preservation in Sarasota
- Land Capitalization in Dynamic Tiebout Model with Agglomeration Economies
- Multi-Criteria Suitability Analysis of Green Infrastructure Targeted at Groundwater Recharge and Flood Mitigation in Sarasota, FL
- New Genre Public Art and Participatory Planning for Urban Futures
- Reconnecting People and Place: A Case Study of the Finger Lakes' Local Food Movement
- Thermal Comfort Through Vernacular Architecture
- Tremé Marks the Spot: A GIS Framework for Locating a Historic New Orleans Neighborhood