

URBAN STUDIES (URBN)

URBN 114. Social Life of Cities. (4 Credits)

This course introduces students to the study of cities and their associated social phenomena, while crafting a biblically informed perspective upon various urban issues. Students engage a broad range of research upon cities in a variety of domestic and international contexts through class readings, lectures and multimedia presentations. Key concepts which have been used to characterize the distinctiveness of urban life are introduced and discussed, with attention to the comparative experiences of contemporary cities.

Tags: GP, SI

URBN 231. Chicago: An Introduction. (2 Credits)

Survey of the city's ethnic, economic, and institutional diversity will be presented through lectures, slides, and field trips. Special emphasis on the problems and promises of urban life. Legacy diversity designation.

URBN 233. Chicago. (4 Credits)

This course explores the social dynamics of Chicago, a city defined by its "elegant façade and deeply shadowed backstage," to quote one scholar. Students will learn about Chicago's history, as well as several contemporary issues and controversies, by focusing on economic history, race, race relations, ethnicity, and immigration, and environmental justice.

Tags: DUS, SI

URBN 296. Urban Studies Practicum. (2 or 4 Credits)

Supervised field placements and mentorship in urban contexts. Students must have sophomore standing to be eligible. Provides opportunities for vocational discernment and requires students to think through the ways in which their field experience will inform the coursework they will complete as juniors and seniors.

URBN 321. Urban Issues and Active Faith. (2 Credits)

An interdisciplinary course designed to help students integrate their internship, classroom, and daily life experiences while living in the city under the Wheaton in Chicago program.

URBN 352. Topics in Urban Studies. (2 Credits)

Selected topics, designed to give added breadth and depth to the understanding of cities and Urban Studies. May include such subjects as "The Chicago School" of Urban Studies, Urban Planning & Contemporary Environments, and The City in Film. Occasional.

URBN 354. Topics in Urban Studies. (4 Credits)

Selected topics, designed to give added breadth and depth to the understanding of cities and Urban Studies. May include such subjects as "The Chicago School" of Urban Studies, Urban Planning & Sustainable Environments, and The City in Film. Occasional.

URBN 362. Global Cities: Cities and the World. (4 Credits)

See IR 362.

URBN 371. Race, Poverty, and Reconciliation. (4 Credits)

This course examines the social, economic and spiritual factors involved in racial reconciliation and overcoming poverty and how people of faith are developing strategies to build bridges across racial and economic barriers.

URBN 373. The City in Popular Culture. (2 Credits)

Explores common representations of the city as they emerge within the media of popular culture. These characterizations of the city are critically considered within frameworks of anthropological analysis and therefore highlight issues of meaning, practice, history and human agency. (2)

URBN 383. Cities in the Global South. (2 Credits)

Cities in the global south today face a variety of challenges, requiring careful negotiation through policy and everyday practice. This course introduces students to the particular issues which colonial histories and peripheral participation in global markets have produced in some key cities of the global south. Strategies and innovations for future development are presented as possibilities for local agency and transformation.

URBN 385. Urban Politics. (2 Credits)

Legacy diversity designation. See PSCI 385.

URBN 391. Community Based Research and Public Health. (4 Credits)

See AHS 391.

URBN 393. Placemaking in Urban Contexts. (2 Credits)

Explores the processes by which particular configurations of history, identity and landscape are transformed into identifiable and meaningful places in the construction and development of cities. Case studies will be drawn from multiple cities around the world, including Scotland, China, and Africa and will examine the use of local and global narratives, images, and logics, highlighting the socially contested and constructed nature of this process.

URBN 399. Pre-field Preparation. (0 Credits)

Prepares students for undertaking a field experience in Chicago with the Wheaton In Chicago program. Through correspondence with a faculty member in Urban Studies, students are introduced to relevant practical issues and challenges, particularly related to cross-cultural competencies, as well as many resources which will be available to them through the duration of their experiential education program. This course equips students to maximize the impact of their urban field experience, develop practical intercultural skills, and positively and holistically contribute to life in a community.

URBN 455. American Urban History. (4 Credits)

See HIST 455.

URBN 494. Advanced Urban Studies Seminar. (2 Credits)

This capstone course requires integrative, interdisciplinary reflection upon emerging urban forms, urban field experiences, and vocation. Undergraduate students must have completed an urban field experience (e.g., Wheaton in Chicago) or internship prior to enrolling in the course, unless they secure the consent of the Urban Studies Program Director.

URBN 495. Independent Study. (2 to 4 Credits)

Directed reading and research during the student's urban field experience.

URBN 496. Internship. (2 to 8 Credits)

Supervised field experience in an urban setting, usually Chicago. The internship is designed to meet the particular interests of the student, as well as the needs of the host organization and neighborhood. Graded pass/fail.