Urban Studies

Director, School of Planning and Public Affairs
• Lucie Laurian

Coordinator, Urban Studies
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Undergraduate minor: urban studies (effective beginning spring 2022 semester)
Undergraduate certificate: urban studies (no longer available)
Faculty: https://sppa.uiowa.edu/faculty-staff
Website: https://sppa.uiowa.edu/future-students/undergraduate/certificate

The Certificate in Urban Studies is no longer available. Students earning the Certificate in Urban Studies may choose to complete that certificate or instead decide to earn the minor in urban studies.

The minor is available beginning in the spring 2022 semester.

Minor

The minor in urban studies is offered for undergraduate students who seek to understand and address urban issues; want to work in urban communities; and are interested in community well-being, social justice, sustainable development, climate change, mobility and access, public health, and economic prosperity.

It is well-suited for students in a wide range of majors, including but not limited to education, political science, sociology, economics, criminology, pre-law, human rights, social justice, social work, geography, sustainability, environmental policy and planning, civil and environmental engineering, health and public health, business, anthropology, history, journalism and mass communication, African American studies, Native American and Indigenous studies, international studies, and gender, women’s, and sexuality studies.

Students who complete the minor will have an understanding of urban issues, urban policies, and innovative urban practices. They will be prepared to improve the quality and sustainability of the built and natural environments, to promote equity and justice, and to make communities more resilient, inclusive, and prosperous.

The minor in urban studies is awarded by University College.

Certificate

The Certificate in Urban Studies is for undergraduate students at the University of Iowa who seek to understand and impact urban issues through a planning perspective. Students learn urban policy and planning concepts and skills that enhance their ability to succeed in their chosen field. Urban policy planning principles, theories, applications, and methods are essential for students who seek to improve the quality and sustainability of the built and natural environments, and to promote equity and justice.

Certificate students will have an understanding of enduring and emerging urban issues and will be prepared to apply policy and planning concepts to making communities more resilient, inclusive, and prosperous.