

URBAN STUDIES

The Urban Studies Programs (USP) are an interdisciplinary set of programs in the College of Letters and Science. Our 25-plus faculty are drawn from 13 disciplines across 6 schools and colleges. USP offers an undergraduate certificate and major (BA), an accelerated BA-Urban Studies & Master of Urban Planning (MUP), a coordinated degree program (Master of Science in Urban Studies/Master of Library and Information Science), and master's and PhD degree programs in Urban Studies. USP is affiliated with the UWM Center for Economic Development, and is the institutional home for the Urban Affairs Association (UAA), the international professional association for urban scholars, researchers, and public service professionals..

Urban studies is about understanding the nature of urban society and change through a variety of disciplinary lenses and methods at different scales, from neighborhoods to cities and suburbs to metropolitan regions and beyond. Urban studies encompasses many different fields that are often associated with a particular discipline, such as urban politics or culture, economic development and urban revitalization; or it is focused on a particular area, like public housing or gentrification, racial inequality and segregation, environmental sustainability and urban agriculture, transit and urban planning, and the list goes on. Few academic fields offer such a variety of areas to study or so many lenses and methods to make sense of our urban world.

For undergraduates, completing the certificate or majoring in Urban Studies allows students to explore and study neighborhoods, cities, suburbs, and metro regions with a flexible and interdisciplinary approach drawn from over 75 courses, so students can align their studies with professional career goals. In addition, there are community placements in service learning, internships, and study-abroad opportunities in Cuba and Dublin to complement learning in the classroom. For students interested in a professional graduate degree while an undergrad, the accelerated program allows a student to complete their BA in Urban Studies in three years and earn a professional planning master's degree in two.

For graduate students, the Master of Science degree provides students with a broad understanding of urban society and trains them in research techniques appropriate to the study of metropolitan communities and valued in a variety of professional fields. The PhD program emphasizes history, research methodology (across six tracks), and social science theory, and prepares students to conduct sophisticated research in the field of urban studies suitable for academic, research, and leadership positions.

Beyond the classroom, we offer a wide array of extracurricular, urban-themed activities designed to complement theoretical knowledge with hands-on experience, such as our public speaker series, online journal (*e.polis*), the Student Research Forum, and the annual Urban Studies State of Milwaukee Summit. Our over 800 alumni have gone on to distinguished careers in academia, research institutions, all levels of government, and across the nonprofit sector, providing leadership in community, human service, and advocacy organizations, locally as well as across the country and internationally. We invite you to visit our website (<http://uwm.edu/urban-studies/>).

Programs

- Urban Studies, BA (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/urban-studies/urban-studies-ba/>)
- Urban Studies, MS (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/urban-studies/urban-studies-ms/>)
- Urban Studies, MS/Library and Information Science, MLIS (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/urban-studies/urban-studies-ms-library-information-science-mlis/>)
- Urban Studies, PhD (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/urban-studies/urban-studies-phd/>)
- Urban Studies, Undergraduate Certificate (<https://catalog.uwm.edu/letters-science/urban-studies/urban-studies-undergraduate-certificate/>)

Faculty

Name	Rank	Degree	School	Graduate Faculty	Emeritus Faculty
Margo J. Anderson	Distinguished Professor Emerita (History)	PhD			✓
Anne Bonds	Associate Professor (Geography)	PhD	University of Washington	✓	
Marcus Britton	Associate Professor (Sociology)	PhD	Northwestern University	✓	
Tina L. Freiburger	Professor (Criminal Justice & Criminology)	PhD	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	✓	
Rina Ghose	Professor (Industrial & Manufacturing Engineering)	PhD	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	✓	
Donald E. Green	Associate Professor Emeritus (Sociology)	PhD			✓
Derek Handley	Assistant Professor (English)	PhD	Carnegie Mellon University	✓	
James Harris	Senior Teaching Faculty (Urban Studies)	PhD	University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee		
Kirk Harris	Associate Professor (Urban Planning)	PhD	Cornell University	✓	

Ryan Holifield	Associate Professor (Geography)	PhD	University of Minnesota	✓	
Douglas M. Ihrke	Professor (Political Science & Public and Nonprofit Administration)	PhD	Northern Illinois University	✓	
Jennifer R. Jordan	Professor (Sociology)	PhD	University of California-San Diego	✓	
Linnea Laestadius	Associate Professor	PhD	Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	✓	
Marc V. Levine	Professor Emeritus (History)	PhD			✓
Genevieve McBride	Professor Emerita (History)	PhD			✓
Linda McCarthy	Professor (Geography)	PhD	University of Minnesota	✓	
Stacey J. Oliker	Professor Emerita (Sociology)	PhD			✓
Joel Rast	Director (Urban Studies) & Professor (Political Science)	PhD	University of Oregon	✓	
Lex Renda	Associate Professor (History)	PhD	University of Virginia	✓	
Aki Roberts	Associate Professor (Sociology)	PhD	University of New Mexico	✓	
Joseph A. Rodríguez	Professor (History)	PhD	University of California-Berkeley	✓	
Marie Sandy	Associate Professor (Educational Policy and Community Studies)	PhD	Claremont Graduate University	✓	
Robert Schneider	Professor (Architecture)	PhD	University of California-Berkeley	✓	
Aaron Schutz	Professor (Educational Policy and Community Studies)	PhD	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	✓	
Amanda Seligman	Professor (History)	PhD	Northwestern University	✓	
Arijit Sen	Associate Professor (History)	PhD	University of California-Berkeley	✓	
Kristin Sziarto	Associate Professor (Geography)	PhD	University of Minnesota	✓	
Chia Youyee Vang	Associate Vice Chancellor (Division of Global Inclusion & Engagement) & Professor (History)	PhD	University of Minnesota	✓	
William Vélez	Professor Emeritus (Sociology)	PhD			✓
Frank H. Wilson	Professor Emeritus (Sociology)	PhD	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor		✓
Erin Winkler	Associate Professor (African and African Diaspora Studies)	PhD	University of California-Berkeley	✓	
Lynne Woehrle	Associate Professor and MSP Program Director (Nursing)	PhD	Syracuse University	✓	
Hyejin Yoon	Associate Professor (Geography)	PhD	The Ohio State University	✓	