What is Urban Studies and Community Development?

• Urban Studies and Community Development relates the past to the future of cities. It explores their politics and economics, and environmental and cultural trends. Multidisciplinary and experiential, it builds applied skills highly prized in urban and community development professions through teaching, engagement and research.

• Our graduates are trained as urban analysts who combine strong communication and analytical skills with deep, applied knowledge about how cities, communities, and regions function.

What can I do with this degree?

• Our students work in government, law, business, conservation, advocacy and urban planning. We also nurture a life-long passion for civic engagement.

• An Urban Studies degree also prepares students for law school and many graduate programs.

What kind of real-world experience will I receive?

• We build on experiential learning from the first to the last class through service-learning projects, internships, Investigate Boise and the culminating professional Capstone project.

• Urban Studies uses Boise, a booming mid-sized city, to illustrate metropolitan and global trends.
Urban Studies combines applied research, flexibility and hands-on learning

Requirements for Urban Studies Major:

Content Areas
- URBAN 200 Introduction to Urban Studies
- URBAN 201 Planning and Environment
- URBAN 300 Urban Infrastructure
- SOC 425 Urban Sociology
- ECON 432 Urban Economics
- POLS 404 Urban Politics

Applied Research and Tools
- SPS 240 Playing with Public Data
- SPS 300 Communication in Public Service
- GEOG 360 Introduction to Geographic Information Systems

Select 3 credits from the following short courses:
- URBAN 340 Public Participation and Civic Engagement
- URBAN 341 Grant and Proposal Development
- URBAN 342 Survey Design
- URBAN 343 Public/Private Partnerships
- URBAN 344 Public Finance and Budgeting
- URBAN 345 Data Visualization
- URBAN 346 Community Development Strategies
- URBAN 347 Real Estate Development
- URBAN 348 Historic Preservation
- URBAN 349 Leadership in Community Development
- URBAN 350 Greening Strategies for the City

Experiential Learning
- SPS 200 Careers in Public Service
- URBAN 493 Internship or
- URBAN 496 Independent Study
- URBAN 491 Project Seminar
- URBAN 492 Capstone

Students may select 3 courses from a menu of urban and community development electives.

Requirements for Urban Studies Minor:

- SPS 240 Playing with Public Data
- SPS 300 Communication in the Public Sphere
- URBAN 200 Intro to Urban Studies & Community Development
- Choose two of the following:
  - ECON 432 Urban Economics
  - POLS 404 Urban Politics
  - SOC 425 Urban Sociology
  - URBAN 300 Urban Infrastructure

*These courses have a prerequisite that is not for the minor, but is required prior to taking this course.

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Boise State’s School of Public Service

Boise State University’s School of Public Service is dedicated to excellence in innovative teaching, cutting edge scholarship and meaningful community outreach, serving the State of Idaho, region, nation and global communities. The School is comprised of rich and diverse academic programs, as well as talented affiliated faculty from departments and programs across the university.

The School prepares students, public servants, and leaders to think both regionally and globally in an interdependent world. The bridging of disciplines across the university and the larger community enhances the education of students, allowing them to apply their knowledge and skills to the critical challenges facing the public, private and non-profit sectors.

sps.boisestate.edu/urban