Urban Studies and Community Development

Build the Future. Inspire.

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.

sps.boisestate.edu/urban
Urban Studies combines applied research, flexibility and hands-on learning

Content Areas
URBAN 200 The Urban Metropolis
URBAN 300 Urban Infrastructure
SOC 425 Urban Sociology
ECON 432 Urban Economics
POLS 404 Urban Politics

Applied Research and Tools
URBAN 240 Urban Data and Community Evaluation
SPS 3000 Communication in Public Service

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
URBAN 493 Internship or
URBAN 496 Independent Study
URBAN 491 Project Seminar
URBAN 492 Capstone

Students may select 5 courses from a menu of urban and community development electives.

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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.

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