The Urban Studies & Planning (USP) major in the School of Public Affairs & Civic Engagement offers an interdisciplinary curriculum in urban planning and policy and reflects a social science education with an applied, problem-solving focus, training in research methods, and practical hands-on experience in a carefully supervised internship and a practicum (senior seminar). Core courses integrate social science, planning and policy perspectives into the study of cities, develop the research and analytic tools necessary for urban planning and policy analysis, and offer hands-on applied research experience. Elective courses are designed to apply the basic core course content to urban planning and policy areas of interest.

COMPLEMENTARY STUDIES

Students completing a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies & Planning must complete 12 units in complementary courses bearing a prefix other than USP, and not cross listed with USP. The units used to satisfy Complementary Studies may be in a minor (or a partial minor if the minor requires more than 12 units), a foreign language, or a coherent group of courses from the following departments/college: Political Science, Geography, History, Sociology, Environmental Studies, Economics and the departments in the College of Ethnic Studies.

All complementary studies units must be approved by an advisor in the major.

Any courses with prefixes other than USP counted toward the major can also count toward the Complementary Studies Requirement.

FOCUS OF INTEREST

Upper division electives chosen by each student with the approval of a faculty advisor. The electives are courses focusing on particular urban planning and policy issue areas in which the theoretical and analytic approaches developed in the core courses are applied to critical contemporary issues. This allows students to develop familiarity and some expertise in a public policy area. Major urban planning and policy areas include housing and community development, land-use planning, transportation, sustainable development and social policy.
SUGGESTED FIRST- AND SECOND-YEAR COURSE SEQUENCE

FALL 2018
- Area A1 Oral Communication
- Area A2 Written Communication I*
- Area B1* or B2: Physical or Life Science and B3 Science Lab**
- Area C1 or C3 Arts or Literature

SPRING 2019
- Area A3 Critical Thinking
- Area A4 Written English Communication II*
- Area B1* or B2: Physical or Life Science and B3: Science Lab (if science lab was not completed in first semester)**
- Area B4 Quantitative Reasoning*

FALL 2019
- Area C1* or C3 Arts or Literature
- Area D1 USP/SOC 200
- Area D2 U.S. History
- Elective
- Elective

SPRING 2020
- Area C1 or C2*: Arts or Humanities
- Area D3 U.S. Government
- Elective
- Complementary Studies
- Complementary Studies

*AP and IB exam scores as well as courses taken at a community college can also impact the suggested course sequencing. If you are not sure how this will affect your scheduling, please contact an SRC advisor.

**Must match a Science Lab course with one Physical or Life Science class taken, and be taken concurrently or after lecture.

ADDING, DROPPING & WITHDRAWING FROM CLASSES AFTER START OF SEMESTER

Please be aware of all deadlines. You may add courses via your Gateway until before the first day of instruction, provided there is space available. Once classes start, you will need permission numbers from your instructor to add classes via Gateway.

Dropping courses via your Gateway without it noted on your official records must occur within the first three weeks of each semester. After this three-week period, you are no longer allowed to drop courses via your Gateway. You must have a serious and compelling reason to withdraw from a course and submit a petition with objective supporting documentation. If approved, a “W” will appear on your transcript. All withdrawal petitions that lack serious and compelling reasons and/or viable supporting documentation will be denied within the College of Health & Social Sciences. Be conscientious about withdrawing from classes, as you are allowed a maximum of 18 units for withdrawal, and “W”s on your transcript can reflect poorly. Also, keep in mind that you are only allowed to repeat a course once for a maximum of two times.

Lastly, it is ALWAYS students’ responsibility to ensure that they are in the appropriate classes — always check your schedule!

RESOURCES:

URBAN STUDIES & PLANNING PROGRAM
School of Public Affairs & Civic Engagement
HSS 261 | dusp@sfsu.edu | (415) 405-4129
pace.sfsu.edu/usp

CHSS STUDENT RESOURCE CENTER
HSS 254 | srccenter@sfsu.edu | (415) 405-3740
chss.sfsu.edu/src

ASSIST
assist.org