

# URBS R101: INTRODUCTION TO URBAN STUDIES

**Originator**  
amelidonis

**College**

Oxnard College

**Discipline (CB01A)**

URBS - Urban Studies

**Course Number (CB01B)**

R101

**Course Title (CB02)**

Introduction to Urban Studies

**Banner/Short Title**

Urban Studies

**Credit Type**

Credit

**Start Term**

Fall 2021

**Catalog Course Description**

This course serves as an introduction to the multi-disciplinary field of urban studies. It explores the nature of the city, how cities developed, and what the cities of the future will look like. Utilizing an interdisciplinary approach incorporating anthropology, geography, history, political science and sociology, the course examines the space of the city. Students will consider the city's origins, complexity, richness, challenges, social problems, and its physical, social and cultural characteristics. The class will explore the appeal of the city as a social and political space, and consider the cities of the future and what they mean for human culture and society.

**Taxonomy of Programs (TOP) Code (CB03)**

2201.00 - Social Sciences, General

**Course Credit Status (CB04)**

D (Credit - Degree Applicable)

**Course Transfer Status (CB05) (select one only)**

A (Transferable to both UC and CSU)

**Course Basic Skills Status (CB08)**

N - The Course is Not a Basic Skills Course

**SAM Priority Code (CB09)**

E - Non-Occupational

**Course Cooperative Work Experience Education Status (CB10)**

N - Is Not Part of a Cooperative Work Experience Education Program

**Course Classification Status (CB11)**

Y - Credit Course

**Educational Assistance Class Instruction (Approved Special Class) (CB13)**

N - The Course is Not an Approved Special Class

**Course Prior to Transfer Level (CB21)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Course Noncredit Category (CB22)**

Y - Credit Course

**Funding Agency Category (CB23)**

Y - Not Applicable (Funding Not Used)

**Course Program Status (CB24)**

1 - Program Applicable

**General Education Status (CB25)**

Y - Not Applicable

**Support Course Status (CB26)**

N - Course is not a support course

**Field trips**

May be required

**Grading method**

Letter Graded

**Does this course require an instructional materials fee?**

No

**Repeatable for Credit**

No

**Is this course part of a family?**

No

**Units and Hours**

**Carnegie Unit Override**

No

**In-Class**

**Lecture**

**Minimum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Maximum Contact/In-Class Lecture Hours**

52.5

**Activity**

**Laboratory**

**Total in-Class**

**Total in-Class**

**Total Minimum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Total Maximum Contact/In-Class Hours**

52.5

**Outside-of-Class**

**Internship/Cooperative Work Experience**

**Paid****Unpaid****Total Outside-of-Class****Total Outside-of-Class****Minimum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Maximum Outside-of-Class Hours**

105

**Total Student Learning****Total Student Learning****Total Minimum Student Learning Hours**

147.5

**Total Maximum Student Learning Hours**

157.5

**Minimum Units (CB07)**

3

**Maximum Units (CB06)**

3

**Student Learning Outcomes (CSLOs)****Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Students will demonstrate the ability to apply an interdisciplinary perspective to the study of urban spaces and their impact on human culture and society researching, problem solving, generating new ideas, reading, comprehending, and interpreting various types of published ideas while avoiding bias. |
| 2 | Students will identify, describe and apply major theoretical approaches and key concepts in urban studies including urban theory, space vs. place, identity, race and discrimination.   |

**Course Objectives****Upon satisfactory completion of the course, students will be able to:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Apply an interdisciplinary approach to the study of the city   |
| 2 | Describe the urban experience and the key historical, economic, political, social and cultural aspects of the city.  |
| 3 | Describe and apply urban theory.   |
| 4 | Demonstrate a heightened critical and civic consciousness of human community, physical environment, social inequity and uneven geographical development.                           |
| 5 | Recognize the city's importance in defining and reinforcing social difference, poverty, globalization, suburbanization, gentrification and other symbolic and structural phenomena |

**Course Content****Lecture/Course Content**

1. Introduction to Urban Studies
  - a. Understanding the City
    - i. What is the city?
    - ii. What are the particular problems and advantages of the city?
  - b. Urban Theory
    - i. Approaches on the city from Anthropology
    - ii. Approaches on the city from Geography
    - iii. Approaches on the city from Sociology
    - iv. Approaches on the city from History
  - c. Utilizing an Interdisciplinary Perspective

- i. What are the benefits of using an interdisciplinary approach?
  - ii. How do we integrate different disciplines in our analysis?
- 2. The City across Time
  - a. Urban Origins
    - i. The Historical Origins of the City
  - b. Ancient Cities
    - i. Why were ancient cities first established?
    - ii. Problems of the ancient city.
  - c. Industrial Cities
    - i. How does the industrial revolution impact the space of the city?
  - d. Post-Industrial Cities
    - i. The revitalization of the city space
    - ii. Gentrification and the marginalization of the city's poor.
- 3. The Space of the City
  - a. Public Space
    - i. What is Public Space?
    - ii. What is the difference between public and private space?
  - b. Streets and Urban Planning
    - i. Urban image and design
    - ii. Segregation of City Space
    - iii. Transportation and Sustainability
  - c. Space and Community
    - i. Is there an urban community?
  - d. Space and Resistance
    - i. The city as space of activism
    - ii. Occupation of city spaces
- 4. Culture, Society and Power
  - a. The Cultures of the City
    - i. The city as a space of diversity
    - ii. The challenges of diversity
  - b. Demographics of the City
    - i. Understanding the city through numbers
  - c. Residential Segregation
    - i. Racism and the city
    - ii. Inequality and the city
  - d. Urban Political Economy
  - e. Underground Economies
  - f. Urban Challenges
    - i. Overcrowding
    - ii. Inequality
    - iii. Urban Violence and Safety
    - iv. Sustainability
- 5. Cities of Today and Tomorrow
  - a. Global Cities
    - i. What is the role of the city in the global context?
  - b. Global Challenges, Local Responses
    - i. Are cities new places of activism and social change
    - ii. Will the city become the new nation?
  - c. Migration and Inequality
  - d. Urban Sustainability
    - i. How do we create sustainable cities?
    - ii. Urban gardens and sustainability projects
  - e. Urban Futures
    - i. What is the future of urban spaces?

**Laboratory or Activity Content**

None

## Methods of Evaluation

Which of these methods will students use to demonstrate proficiency in the subject matter of this course? (Check all that apply):

Written expression

Methods of Evaluation may include, but are not limited to, the following typical classroom assessment techniques/required assignments (check as many as are deemed appropriate):

Essay exams

Essays

Group projects

Objective exams

Quizzes

## Instructional Methodology

Specify the methods of instruction that may be employed in this course

Audio-visual presentations

Computer-aided presentations

Class activities

Class discussions

Distance Education

Demonstrations

Field trips

Instructor-guided interpretation and analysis

Instructor-guided use of technology

Internet research

Lecture

Small group activities

Describe specific examples of the methods the instructor will use:

1. The instructor will lead discussions on topics that may include urban theory, the history of the city, interdisciplinary approaches to the study of urban spaces, space vs. place, identity, racism and discrimination.
2. The instructor will utilize lectures, films, and internet materials to explore and critically analyze topics relevant to the understanding and application of urban studies.
3. Students will discuss topics relevant to the study urban studies.

## Representative Course Assignments

### Writing Assignments

1. Analytic papers based on interpreting reading assignments and lecture topics.
2. Essays based on research conducted on themes relevant to urban studies and the city
3. Discussion post assignments relevant to the course topics and course objectives.

### Critical Thinking Assignments

1. Participate in class, online and small group discussions regarding the importance of the city, urban theory, disciplinary approaches to the study of urban space.
2. Students will complete short writing assignments exploring topics related to urban studies such as how the design of cities has been utilized to segregate certain populations.

### Reading Assignments

1. Twenty to sixty pages per week from the course textbook and other relevant sources including ethnographies, scholarly articles and websites.

## Outside Assignments

### Representative Outside Assignments

1. Film viewing, documented by brief write-ups. Example: Watching a video clip of parkour in Paris and considering how moving through the city in different ways can be utilized as a tool of resistance.
2. Participating in online discussions related to the course materials for that particular week. Topics may include urban theory, the history of the city, different disciplinary approaches to the study of urban spaces, races and discrimination, etc.

## **District General Education**

### **A. Natural Sciences**

### **B. Social and Behavioral Sciences**

#### **B2. Social and Behavioral Sciences**

Approved

### **C. Humanities**

### **D. Language and Rationality**

### **E. Health and Physical Education/Kinesiology**

### **F. Ethnic Studies/Gender Studies**

Course is CSU transferable

Yes

CSU Baccalaureate List effective term:

Fall 2015

## **CSU GE-Breadth**

### **Area A: English Language Communication and Critical Thinking**

### **Area B: Scientific Inquiry and Quantitative Reasoning**

### **Area C: Arts and Humanities**

### **Area D: Social Sciences**

#### **D Social Sciences**

Approved

### **Area E: Lifelong Learning and Self-Development**

### **Area F: Ethnic Studies**

## **CSU Graduation Requirement in U.S. History, Constitution and American Ideals:**

## **UC TCA**

UC TCA

Approved

## **IGETC**

### **Area 1: English Communication**

### **Area 2A: Mathematical Concepts & Quantitative Reasoning**

### **Area 3: Arts and Humanities**

### **Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

#### **Area 4: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

Approved

## Area 5: Physical and Biological Sciences

## Area 6: Languages Other than English (LOTE)

### Textbooks and Lab Manuals

#### Resource Type

Textbook

#### Description

Macionas, J & Parillo, V. (2016). *Cities and Urban Life* (7th). Pearson NY (Latest Edition. 0205206379

#### Resource Type

Textbook

#### Description

Steinbacher, R Benson, V. (2012). *Introduction to Urban Studies* (4). New York Kendall Hunt (Latest Edition). 1465203079

### Distance Education Addendum

#### Definitions

##### Distance Education Modalities

Hybrid (51%–99% online)

Hybrid (1%–50% online)

100% online

#### Faculty Certifications

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will receive training in how to satisfy the Federal and state regulations governing regular effective/substantive contact for distance education. The training will include common elements in the district-supported learning management system (LMS), online teaching methods, regular effective/substantive contact, and best practices.

Yes

Faculty assigned to teach Hybrid or Fully Online sections of this course will meet with the EAC Alternate Media Specialist to ensure that the course content meets the required Federal and state accessibility standards for access by students with disabilities. Common areas for discussion include accessibility of PDF files, images, captioning of videos, Power Point presentations, math and scientific notation, and ensuring the use of style mark-up in Word documents.

Yes

#### Regular Effective/Substantive Contact

##### Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality:

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Students will post on discussion board topics such as on whether urban spaces are places of activism and important social change.
E-mail	Faculty will communicate with students via email regarding course information and concerns.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Faculty may record video lectures on the course content including videos on urban theory, the history of the city, urban culture, racism and discrimination, etc.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may utilize online live meetings with students to deliver lectures and have discussions on topics related to the course content.

**Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality:**

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Students will post on discussion board topics such as on whether urban spaces are places of activism and important social change.
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Video Conferencing	Faculty may utilize online live meetings with students to deliver lectures and have discussions on topics related to the course content.

**100% online Modality:**

Method of Instruction	Document typical activities or assignments for each method of instruction
Asynchronous Dialog (e.g., discussion board)	Students will post on discussion board topics such as on whether urban spaces are places of activism and important social change.
E-mail	Faculty will communicate with students via email regarding course information and concerns.
Other DE (e.g., recorded lectures)	Faculty may record video lectures on the course content including videos on urban theory, the history of the city, urban culture, racism and discrimination, etc.
Video Conferencing	Faculty may utilize online live meetings with students to deliver lectures and have discussions on topics related to the course content.

**Examinations****Hybrid (1%–50% online) Modality**

Online  
On campus

**Hybrid (51%–99% online) Modality**

Online  
On campus

**Primary Minimum Qualification**

ANTHROPOLOGY

**Additional Minimum Qualifications****Minimum Qualifications**

Sociology

Political Science

History

Geography

**Review and Approval Dates****Department Chair**

09/04/2020

**Dean**

09/07/2020

**Technical Review**

9/23/2020



**Curriculum Committee**

9/23/2020

**DTRW-I**

MM/DD/YYYY

**Curriculum Committee**

12/09/2020

**Board**

MM/DD/YYYY

**CCCCO**

12/17/2020

**Control Number**

CCC000562058

**DOE/accreditation approval date**

MM/DD/YYYY