INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

The Urban Studies major educates students on the significance and implications of the global movement towards urbanization. The major trains undergraduates for a variety of future careers and fields of graduate study that are related to urban studies and planning. These include practice-oriented fields such as urban planning, law, non-profit management, and public policy, as well as research-oriented fields such as geography, sociology, and anthropology. Above all, the intent of the major is to produce urban citizens and global leaders.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Get involved with the college as a CED Admissions Ambassador or member of the Undergraduate Student Council or CED student organization such as the Berkeley Urban Studies Student Association.
- Complete a course thread in the Historical and Modern City or certificate in Global Urban Humanities.
- Study Urban Studies in international contexts through Berkeley Summer Abroad.

ADMISSION TO THE MAJOR

First-year applicants must declare the major at the time of application to the College of Environmental Design (CED). However, current UC Berkeley students may apply to change colleges into CED if admission requirements are met and space is available. Transfer applicants must complete lower division college and major requirements prior to Berkeley to be considered for admission to CED. The department offers a minor in City Planning. The minor is open to undergraduate students at UC Berkeley except those in the Urban Studies major.

CONNECT WITH US

Cal Day
Come to UC Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for information sessions, campus tours, special talks, and more.

Golden Bear Orientation
Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley orientation program for all new students.

Events
Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff. Visit ced.berkeley.edu/news-events for news and updates.

ADVISING

Advising for prospective and current students is available in-person at the CED Office of Undergraduate Advising in 250 Bauer Wurster Hall and virtually via Zoom. See ced.berkeley.edu/advising/connect-with-advising for the advising schedule.

Advising Hours:
Fall/Spring: Tuesday - Friday 10am-12pm, 1-4pm
Summer: Tuesday - Friday 10am-12pm, 1-3pm

Visit ced.berkeley.edu/advising/undergraduate-advising for more information or with advising questions.

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

“Urban studies is the perfect combination of my love for people, justice, and life. CED has taught me to be a global citizen and view the world through an interdisciplinary lens.”

–Sosseh Taimoonian, Urban Studies major

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
### Design Your Journey

#### First Year
- **Learn your major**
  - Meet your CED advisor in 300 Bauer Wurster Hall or virtually via Zoom.
  - Review the Urban Studies Major Handbook for degree requirements, sample study plans, and student resources.
  - Enroll in ENV DES 1 Intro to Environmental Design and ENV DES 5 Cities and Sites.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Meet the CED Info Hub, the central place for announcements and enrichment opportunities.
  - Discover new interests in a Sophomore Seminar or student-run DeCal course.
  - Visit the Office of Undergraduate Research and Scholarships.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Attend the Calapalooza student activities fair and get involved with a student organization.
  - Find service opportunities through the Public Service Center.
  - Explore study, internship, and research abroad options with Berkeley Study Abroad.
- **Reflect and plan your future**
  - Visit Berkeley Career Engagement and the Career Counseling Library.
  - Sign up for Handshake and CareerMark.
  - Explore career resources on the CED website.
  - Attend the CED Career Fair to learn about possible careers.

#### Second Year
- **Explore your major**
  - Complete your lower division major requirements.
  - Consider additional academic degree programs and whether you want to pursue any minors, certificates, or simultaneous degrees.
  - Consider doing a course thread in the Historical and Modern City or certificate in Global Urban Humanities.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Meet other CED students at a CED social event.
  - Find study groups, tutoring, and academic support at the Student Learning Center.
  - Join a CED student group such as the Berkeley Urban Studies Student Association.
  - Apply to be a CED Admission Ambassador, CED Community Fellow, or a member of the CED Undergraduate Student Council.
  - Attend college events like the CED Lecture Series and CED Circus.
  - Get to know professors and graduate student instructors during their office hours.
  - Explore campus beyond Bauer Wurster Hall.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Enroll in a Sophomore Seminar, Big Ideas Course or Discovery Course.
  - Browse faculty research taking place in CED.
  - Assist faculty in their research through URAP.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Attend seminars and workshops hosted by the Institute of Urban and Regional Development.
  - Check out CED research opportunities.
  - Find research and funding opportunities in the OIRS database.
  - Apply for CED prizes and awards to fund your studies and projects.
- **Reflect and plan your future**
  - Conduct informational interviews.
  - Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.
  - Update your resume, portfolio, and LinkedIn profile.
  - Attend career and graduate school fairs.

#### Third Year
- **Explore your major**
  - Continue following the graduation plan in your major handbook.
  - Check your degree progress in your Academic Progress Report (APR) in CalCentral.
  - Complement your major with a summer minor of CED minor such as History of the Built Environment.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Represent CED on the Student Advisory Council on Undergraduate Education or another campus advisory committee.
  - Become a Golden Bear Orientation Leader and welcome new students to UC Berkeley.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Attend seminars and workshops hosted by the Institute of Urban and Regional Development.
  - Check out CED research opportunities.
  - Find research and funding opportunities in the OIRS database.
  - Apply for CED prizes and awards to fund your studies and projects.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
  - Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad.
  - Get inspired by what others have done in the City & Regional Planning online gallery.
- **Reflect and plan your future**
  - Conduct informational interviews.
  - Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.
  - Update your resume, portfolio, and LinkedIn profile.
  - Attend career and graduate school fairs.

#### Fourth Year
- **Explore your major**
  - Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
  - Complete any “dream list” courses and finish remaining major, college, and university requirements.
  - Enroll in a required upper division capstone course, such as a thesis, research or planning studio, or field experience.
- **Connect and build community**
  - Join a professional association such as the American Planning Association (APA).
  - Connect with alumni groups and build your network as you prepare to graduate.
- **Discover your passions**
  - Attend seminars and workshops hosted by the Institute of Urban and Regional Development.
  - Check out CED research opportunities.
  - Find research and funding opportunities in the OIRS database.
  - Apply for CED prizes and awards to fund your studies and projects.
- **Engage locally and globally**
  - Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
  - Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad.
  - Get inspired by what others have done in the City & Regional Planning online gallery.
- **Reflect and plan your future**
  - Conduct informational interviews.
  - Discuss graduate school options with advisors and professors.
  - Update your resume, portfolio, and LinkedIn profile.
  - Attend career and graduate school fairs.

### What Can I Do With My Major?
- **Jobs and Employers**
  - Berkeley graduates.
  - Graduates find employment in a variety of fields, including nonprofit, government, and private sectors.
  - Many students pursue careers in urban planning, urban design, and related fields.
- **Graduate Programs**
  - Berkeley offers a wide range of graduate programs in urban studies and related fields.
  - Students can pursue master's, Ph.D., and professional degrees.
  - Popular programs include City and Regional Planning, Landscape Architecture, and Environment.
- **Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates**
  - Berkeley graduates work in various capacities, including planners, designers, researchers, and educators.
  - Some examples include:
    - Urban Planning Consultants
    - Environmental Planners
    - Sustainability Coordinators
    - Policy Analysts
    - Urban Designers

*Updated: 11.07.23*