Urban and Inner-City Studies

Urban and Inner-City Studies is an interdisciplinary major concerned with the examination of the city, and particularly the inner city, as a dynamic environment. A special feature of this program is that most courses are offered at our North End Campus at 527 Selkirk Ave, in order to provide students with a deeper insight into the urban dynamics of the 21st century.

The rapid growth of urban poverty, typically associated with racism and inadequate housing and related problems, is an especially important problem in cities in Canada and throughout the world today. Urban and Inner-City Studies is a program that examines such issues especially closely, and will be of particular interest to students with a concern for social justice and positive social change. Our courses focus on such issues as: the urban Aboriginal experience, poverty and the law, community development, the refugee experience, the role of women in the inner city, and urban and community planning.

Cities in Canada continue to be centres of great challenges: from managing suburban growth to promoting inner-city revitalization; from responding to the opportunities and challenges created by rapidly changing demographics to those created by globalization and socio-economic change. Cities are home to increasing concentrations of poverty and social and political exclusion. The Department of Urban and Inner-City Studies provides an opportunity to examine the political, economic, social, and spatial context of these and many other important aspects of urban change from an interdisciplinary perspective. Students have the unique opportunity to learn about these issues at our North End Campus, in the heart of what is in effect a living laboratory for the study of important urban issues.

This program leads to a Bachelor of Arts (3-year, 4-year, or Honours) with a Major in Urban and Inner-City Studies.

Students taking an undergraduate degree in another Major may choose to add a Minor in Urban and Inner-City Studies as a secondary area of interest.

SAMPLE CAREERS

Students with a degree in Urban and Inner-City Studies can pursue a career in any of the following: city planning; law; government employment in departments dealing with such issues as housing or anti-poverty policies or gender equity or newcomer issues or community development; and employment with community-based organizations that are committed to social justice and that work in a wide variety of ways – women’s resource centres, community housing organizations, community development agencies, youth-serving agencies, for example.

SAMPLE COURSES

Introduction to Urban and Inner-City Studies is a first year course providing an overview of the dynamics that drive a city's growth and produce changes, both positive and negative, over time. It includes an introduction to how cities work, and to the “underside” of urban life.

Women and the Inner City is a course focussing on the economic, political and social conditions that influence the lives of various groups of women, including urban Aboriginal women, new immigrant and refugee women, underemployed women and street-involved women.

Poverty and the Law examines how certain laws act as barriers to the full participation of disadvantaged persons in a free and democratic society, and alternatively, how the law can be used to advance the interests of low-income and other disadvantaged individuals and communities.

Colonization and Aboriginal Peoples examines the impact upon indigenous peoples of the arrival in North America of Europeans, with a particular focus on contemporary implications. The course provides Aboriginal and
non-Aboriginal students with a much-deepened understanding of urban Aboriginal people in Canada today, and of the many ways in which they are working toward decolonization. **Urban Poverty Policy** examines the causes of urban poverty, and the many ways in which government policies can be used to reduce, or alternatively to worsen, the levels and adverse impacts of poverty. **Inner City Practicum** offers students the opportunity to gain valuable experiential knowledge and community-based research skills by working with a community organization in the inner city.

**MORE SAMPLE COURSES**
Urban and Community Planning
Introduction to Community Advocacy
Housing and the Neighbourhood

**SAMPLE FIRST YEAR**
*NOTE: This sample first year is representative of the courses you may take. For many of our programs, you may choose another set of courses and still be well on your way to a degree. Also, for most programs you do not have to take 30 credit hours (five full courses) in your first year.*

UIC-1001(3) Introduction to Urban & Inner-City Studies
RHET-1102(3) Academic Writing: Social Sciences or any other section of Academic Writing (if required)
UIC-2001(3) Community Development or
UIC-2020 (3) Colonization and Aboriginal Peoples or
UIC-2210 (3) Introduction to Community Advocacy

**REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL COURSES**
Students must meet The University of Winnipeg’s general admission requirements. No specific courses are required.

**An Innovative Option for non-High School Graduates**
Individuals who do not have grade 12, who are 21 years of age or older, and who are motivated to succeed at university may earn mature student status by way of a specially designed program offered at our North End Campus, called the Beginning University Successfully (BUS) program. Please contact Cheyenne Henry, Program Coordinator, Urban and Inner-City Studies for more information. Her contact information is below.

**HOW TO APPLY**
To find out more information on application requirements, deadlines, and to access the application, please visit uwinnipeg.ca/apply.

**CONTACT US**
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