What can I do with a Major in **Urban & Regional Studies**?

**The Urban & Regional Studies (URS) Program at the University of Lethbridge**

URS delves into the physical, social, economic and political factors that shape our cities. It looks at the role of planning to manage dynamic forces of change such as immigration, global warming, aging populations, energy conservation, congestion, urban forests, homelessness and smog, to name just a few.

URS is a multidisciplinary major, leading to a Bachelor of Arts, that provides students with a broad range of conceptual and practical tools to understand cities and regions. URS draws upon a wide range of urban-related disciplines to provide a solid foundation in the study and analysis of the physical, social, economic, and political factors that shape cities and regions, as well as the role of urban and regional planning in managing these dynamic forces of change. Students in this Program also have the opportunity to declare a concentration in Geographical Information Science (GIS).

**Skills Developed**

- Awareness of the Importance of Social, Historical & Cultural Context
- Collect, Question & Synthesize Data
- Comprehend & Create Maps & Graphs
- Conceptualize & Plan Long-Term Projects
- Critical & Analytical Thinking
- Decision Making
- Knowledge of Diverse Needs of Communities
- Make Comparisons
- Oral & Written Communication
- Organizational
- Prepare Publications
- Problem Solving
- Report Writing
- Understand the Linkages of Physical, Economic, Natural & Social Dimensions of Communities.
- Viewing an Issue from a Variety of Perspectives
- Visualization

**Work Environments**

Graduates of the URS Program may choose to pursue advanced degrees in professional fields such as law, planning, or architecture. Others enter directly into technical or administrative career positions in government, industry, or consulting firms. Graduates may find employment in consulting firms, law firms, real estate companies, retail and service firms, governmental organizations, industry associations, social agencies, non-profit housing groups or community centres.
Key Areas of Specialization:

Entry Level Job Titles
These jobs are normally intended for new graduates and require 0 to 2 years of experience. It is important to note that many entry level positions require some related experience or demonstrated ability to perform job-related tasks. Even those positions that do not require experience will still prefer an experienced candidate, if one is available.

- Assistant Planner
- Assistant Policy Planner
- Associate Coastal Planner
- Bike Share Program Coordinator
- Environmental Planning Intern
- Fiscal/Economic Analyst
- Front Desk Ambassador (Urban Planning Organization)
- Graduate Planner
- Graduate Planning Officer
- Graduate Trainee Planner
- Planner (Country Highway District)
- Locations Associate
- Planning Technician
- Project Coordinator
- Research Project Coordinator
- Resource Development Planner
- Safety Education Outreach Internship
- Transportation Planner
- Transportation Planner for Policy & Programming

Related Job Titles
These jobs generally require extensive, relevant work experience and/or further education.

- Building Inspector
- City Councillor
- Columnist
- Community Planner
- Consultant
- Demographer
- Development Permit Technician
- Economic Development Officer
- Emergency Preparedness Planning Specialist
- Environmental Auditor
- Environmental Consultant
- Environmental Policy Analyst
- Housing Design & Policy Analyst
- Impact Assessment Officer
- Industrial Planner
- International Development Officer
- Land Appraiser
- Land Developer
- Land Use Analyst
- Land Use Planning Advisor
- Land Use Policy Analyst
- Lobbyist
- Local Government Administrator
- Market Research Analyst
- Natural Resource Specialist
- Neighbourhood Council Coordinator
- Parks Planner
- Politician
- Project Manager
- Public Policy Analyst
- Real Estate Appraiser
- Real Estate Developer
- Realtor
- Regional Development Manager
- Regional Planner
- Research Assistant
- Researcher
- Resource Manager
- Social Planner
- Social Policy Researcher
- Statistician
- Strategic Planner
- Sustainable Housing Policy Associate
- Tourism Researcher
- Transportation Officer
- Transportation Planner
- University Professor
- Urban Landscaper
- Urban Planning Technician
- Urban/Regional Planner
- Zoning Administrator
- Zoning Inspector
Thinking Outside the Box: Other Possible Job Titles

- Architect
- Cartographer
- City Service Administrator
- Community Development Worker
- Energy Manager
- Engineer
- Estate Agent
- Facilities Manager
- Financial Examiner
- Financial Planner
- Geographer
- GIS Technician
- Government Social Research Officer
- Harbour Attendant
- Historian
- Historic Buildings Inspector
- Historic Buildings Conservation Officer
- Librarian
- Survey Technician

Useful Resources

Recommended websites to assist in exploring the field of Urban & Regional Studies and its career opportunities.

Alberta Professional Planners Institute
http://www.albertaplanners.com

Canadian Institute of Planners
https://www.cip-icu.ca

Canadian Urban Institute
http://www.canurb.com

American Planning Association
https://www.planning.org

American Public Works Association
http://www.apwa.net

Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations
http://www.ampo.org

Community Development Society
http://www.comm-dev.org

The Environmental Design Research Association
http://www.edra.org

The National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
http://www.nahro.org/

National Community Development Association
http://www.ncdaonline.org

Planners Network – Organization of Progressive Planning
http://www.plannersnetwork.org

Urban Land Institute
http://uli.org

Global Planners Network
http://www.globalplannersnetwork.org

International Downtown Association
https://www.ida-downtown.org/

International Economic Development Council
http://www.jedconline.org
## Campus Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Website</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.uleth.ca/career-bridge">http://www.uleth.ca/career-bridge</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Academic Advising</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uleth.ca/ross/academic-advising">http://www.uleth.ca/ross/academic-advising</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>International Centre for Students</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uleth.ca/international/">http://www.uleth.ca/international/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Registrar Office &amp; Student Services</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uleth.ca/ross/">http://www.uleth.ca/ross/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>U of L Students’ Union &amp; Student Clubs</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ulsu.ca/">http://www.ulsu.ca/</a></td>
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## Campus Job Resources

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<tbody>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts &amp; Science Applied Studies</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uleth.ca/artsci/applied-studies/students">http://www.uleth.ca/artsci/applied-studies/students</a></td>
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<td>Arts &amp; Science Co-op Education &amp; Internship</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study Abroad &amp; Exchanges</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management Study Abroad &amp; Exchanges</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uleth.ca/management/study-abroad">http://www.uleth.ca/management/study-abroad</a></td>
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### Counselling & Career Services

AH153 Anderson Hall, Phone: 403-317-2845  
Mon- Fri: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.