About the Multidisciplinary Major in Urban and Regional Studies

Students often wonder which major is right for them and whether any single major can provide them with the full range of conceptual and practical tools that they will need to satisfy their career ambitions. Problems such as urban growth and sustainable development are intrinsically multidisciplinary. Urban and Regional Studies provides a theoretical grounding in a variety of disciplines; experience in the collection, processing, and analysis of empirical data; and applied knowledge of urban and regional policy issues that will be central to the planning challenges of the 21st century. The multidisciplinary major in Urban and Regional Studies is housed in the Department of Geography but draws upon a wide range of social science disciplines.

Urban and Regional Studies Courses

The required core courses provide an intellectual foundation in the key disciplines of Urban and Regional Studies and an introduction to key research methods for urban and regional problems. Options courses encourage students to develop discipline-based areas of strength in the social sciences. Students may also choose to complete the concentration in Geographical Information Science (GIS) and gain a deeper understanding of the collection, processing, analysis, and presentation of georeferenced data.

Opportunities for Graduates with Urban and Regional Studies Majors

Graduates of the Urban and Regional Studies 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. Careers based on Urban and Regional Studies degrees may include specializations in regional planning, economic development and tourism, housing design and policy, environmental policy and resource management, international development, land appraisal, and local government administration.

Employment Outlook

In recent years, the employment market for our Urban and Regional Studies graduates has been buoyant. Some of our fourth-year students are interviewed and receive offers of employment several months before completing their degree requirements.

Undergraduate Thesis (‘Honours Thesis’ Designation)

Students majoring in Urban and Regional Studies may be eligible to complete an Undergraduate Thesis course (Urban and Regional Studies 4995). Students who complete all requirements and satisfy the academic standards for the undergraduate thesis course are eligible to receive the ‘Honours Thesis’ designation on their official transcript and degree parchment. Please see the 2010/2011 University of Lethbridge Calendar Part 7 - Arts and Science, Section 5.c. (p. 98) and Part 4 - Academic Regulations, Section 3.f. (p. 72), and please consult with the Urban and Regional Studies Coordinator for more information.

Combined Degrees

Students accepted into Combined Degrees programs (B.A./B.Ed. or B.A./B.Mgt.) must complete 15 of the 20 courses normally required for the multidisciplinary major in Urban and Regional Studies. At least six of the courses must be taken at the 3000/4000 level. Nine courses should be selected from the core list. The remaining six courses must include at least two disciplines.

Co-operative Education

A Co-op option, requiring three work terms, is available. Students interested in the Co-operative Education/Internship program should contact the Coordinator of Co-operative Education in the Career Resources Centre (B610 | phone: 403-382-7154) for further information.

High School Courses

Several university-level science courses have high school-level courses as recommended background or prerequisites. Students are advised to complete recommended background courses before registering in the university-level course; students must have successfully completed prerequisites before they may register in the university-level course. Students pursuing an Urban and Regional Studies major should note the following recommended/required high school courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UofL Science course</th>
<th>High School course</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>1620 Pure Mathematics 30*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>1770 Pure Mathematics 30*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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* Instead of Pure Mathematics 30, students may use UofL’s Mathematics 0500, or both Applied Mathematics 30 and a minimum grade of 75% in Athabasca University’s Mathematics 101.
**Program Requirements**

The B.A. degree with a major in Urban and Regional Studies requires 40 semester courses, including 20 courses in the major.

**Transfer Credit**

Remember that you may use both University of Lethbridge credit and credit transferred from another college or university to meet degree and major requirements. Transfer credit may be either specified or unspecified. Specified credit is indicated on your transcript by the subject name and the specific number of the course, e.g., Geography 2700. Unspecified credit (1XXX, 2XXX, etc.) is indicated by the subject name and level of the course in parentheses, e.g., Geography (2000 level).

**Unspecified Course Credit**

Unspecified course credit means that the University of Lethbridge does not offer the same course you transferred in, but we recognize it and treat it as a regular course. An unspecified course would count as one of your maximum of 20 from one department, but it could not meet a specific course requirement. For example, if Geography 2700 is required in your program, you could not use Geography (2000 level) to fulfill that requirement. Students with unspecified transfer credit need to consult an Academic Advisor to establish how the transfer credit fits in the degree program. This should be done as soon as possible after transfer credit is awarded.

**Program Worksheet**

Name: _____________________________  ID: _____________________________

**Structure of the Major**

The program has two components: (1) core courses and (2) options. Students take 10 courses from the core list and 10 from the options list, for a total of 20 courses. The 10 courses chosen from the options list must meet the following criteria:

1. At least two but no more than three disciplines must be represented.
2. At least six of the courses must be at the 3000/4000 level.

**1. Required Core Courses**

1-3. THREE of the following Introductory courses:

- Anthropology 1000 - The Anthropological Perspective
- Economics 1010 - Introduction to Microeconomics
- Economics 1012 - Introduction to Macroeconomics
- Geography 1000 - Introduction to Physical Geography
- Geography 1200 - Introduction to Human Geography
- History 1000 - Western Civilization
- Political Science 1000 - Introduction to Political Science
- Sociology 1000 - Introduction to Sociology

4-5. TWO of the following Urban Studies courses:

- Anthropology 3280 - Urban Anthropology
- Geography 3230 - Urban Social Geography
- Geography 3245 - Urbanization in Developing Countries

6-7. The following Planning courses:

- Geography 2535 - Introduction to Planning
- Geography 4500 - Contemporary Issues and Problems in Planning Series

8-9. ONE of the following Statistical Methods courses:

- Geography 2700 - Geographical Data and Analysis
- Sociology 2130 - Social Statistics
- Statistics 1770 - Introduction to Probability and Statistics

10. ONE of the following Research Techniques courses:

- *Anthropology 4500 - Series on Anthropological Methods
- Economics 2900 - Economics and Business Statistics OR Statistics 2780 - Statistical Inference
- Geography 2735 - Introduction to Geographical Information Science
- Sociology 2100 - Research Methodology
- Sociology 3110 - Survey Research
- Sociology 3120 - Qualitative Research Methods

*Prerequisite required: Anthropology 3000

10. Independent Study

One Independent Study course at the 3000/4000 level. This course must be (1) clearly related to Urban and Regional Studies and (2) approved by the Urban and Regional Studies Coordinator. Contact the Coordinator for approval and signature.
2. Options

The 10 options courses must draw from at least two and no more than three of the following disciplines. At least six of these courses must be at the 3000/4000 level.

### Anthropology
- Anthropology 3100 - Series on Regional Ethnography
- Anthropology 3280 - Urban Anthropology

### Economics
- Economics 2750 - Quantitative Methods in Economics
- Economics 2900 - Economics and Business Statistics
- Economics 3010 - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
- Economics 3012 - Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
- Economics 3750 - Economics of Public Spending
- Economics 3900/Management 3721 - Economic and Business Forecasting
- Economics 3950 - Econometrics

### Geography
- Geography 1200 - Introduction to Human Geography
- Geography 2210 - Spatial Organization of Economic Activity
- *Geography 3225/Management 3660 - Industrial Location and Globalization of Enterprise
- Geography 3230 - Urban Social Geography
- Geography 3235 - Quantitative Models for Geographic Analysis
- Geography 3245 - Urbanization in Developing Countries
- Geography 3750 - GIS Applications in Human Geography
- Geography 4220 - Series in Advanced Economic Geography
- Geography 4240 - Series in Advanced Urban Geography

*Prerequisite required: Environmental Science 2000

### History
- History 2001 - Main Themes in Ancient History

### Political Science
- Political Science 2210 - Canadian Politics and Government
- Political Science 2410 - Public Administration
- Political Science 2511 - Introduction to Political Theory
- Political Science 3210 - Local Government and Politics
- Political Science 3260 - Canadian Public Policy

### Sociology
- Sociology 2010 - Canadian Society
- Sociology 2020 - Social Problems
- Sociology 2200 - Classical Sociological Theory
- Sociology 2210 - Contemporary Sociological Theory
- Sociology 2600 - The Individual and Society
- Sociology 3050 - Minority Group Relations
- Sociology 4200 - Seminar in Classical Sociological Theory
- Sociology 4210 - Seminar in Contemporary Sociological Theory

Note: Many of the options courses require prerequisites, thus students should choose courses with this in mind.

Applied Studies, Independent Study and Special Topics courses in any of the above disciplines may be counted toward the major provided (1) they are clearly related to urban and regional studies and (2) they are approved by the Urban and Regional Studies Coordinator.

### Concentration: Geographical Information Science

Urban and Regional Studies majors in the B.A. degree program may declare a Concentration in Geographical Information Science. For students who complete all requirements, the Concentration in Geographical Information Science will be acknowledged on the official transcript. Please note that the Concentration in Geographical Information Science is specifically excluded from Combined Degrees programs.

The five required courses for the Concentration in Geographical Information Science must be completed in addition to the 20 courses required for the Urban and Regional Studies major, and include the following:

#### Geographical Techniques:
1. ONE of:
   - *Geography 3700 - Cartography
   - Geography 3720 - Remote Sensing
   - *Geography 3740 - Geographical Information Systems
   - **Geography 4730 - Spatial Statistics

*Prerequisite required: Geography 2735.

**Prerequisites required: Geography 2700 and Geography 2735

#### Geographical Information Science:
2-4. THREE of:
   - Geography 4700 - Advanced Computer Mapping

#### Required Cognate:
5. Computer Science 1620 - Fundamentals of Programming I
Sample Sequencing Plan

Shown below is a sample sequence of courses for your degree. If you follow this plan, you should be able to graduate in four years, provided you complete five courses per semester. This is just one example of how you could complete your major and degree requirements; you may find that a different sequence works as well as this one.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 1, Fall</th>
<th>Year 1, Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Core introductory course</td>
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<td>Core introductory course</td>
<td>Options course</td>
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<tr>
<td>GLER course</td>
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<th>Year 2, Fall</th>
<th>Year 2, Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Geography 2535</td>
<td>Core Urban Studies course</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core Statistical Methods course</td>
<td>Options course</td>
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<td>Options course</td>
<td>GLER course</td>
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<td>GLER course</td>
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<th>Year 3, Fall</th>
<th>Year 3, Spring</th>
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<tr>
<td>Core Urban Studies course</td>
<td>Options course 3000/4000 level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Core Research Techniques course</td>
<td>Options course 3000/4000 level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Options course 3000/4000 level</td>
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<th>Year 4, Fall</th>
<th>Year 4, Spring</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Independent Study 3000/4000 level</td>
<td>Geography 4500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Options course 3000/4000 level</td>
<td>Options course 3000/4000 level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
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Terms Used

GLER course: A course that could count toward the General Liberal Education Requirement. You may use courses in your major towards this 12-course requirement. See the 2010/2011 University of Lethbridge Calendar, Part 4 - Academic Regulations (p. 85) for complete information.

The Faculty of Arts and Science offers Liberal Education 1000 and 2000, specifically designed to introduce first-year students to the wide scope of human knowledge and teach essential university success skills, critical thinking, and integrative thinking (see the 2010/2011 University of Lethbridge Calendar, Part 14 - Courses, p. 306). LBED 1000 and 2000 may be used toward satisfying the GLER.

Elective: A course that you may choose freely from all those available and applicable to your program. Use courses inside or outside your major, bearing in mind any restrictions that may apply (e.g., a maximum of 20 courses from any one department).