

**Course:** PLN 100

**Credit Hours:** 3

**Prerequisite:** 12 hours.

**Course Title:** Introduction to Urban Studies

**Department:** Geography, Geology, & Planning

**General Education Area:**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS - Public Issues (*GEC 116*)

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*Information submitted by a department representative on 4/9/2021 5:45:46 PM – Compiled by Darren Wienberg, Academic Advising & Transfer Center*

**Typically Offered During:**

Fall Full Semester:	YES	Fall 1 <sup>st</sup> Block:	NO	Fall 2 <sup>nd</sup> Block:	NO
Spring Full Semester:	YES	Spring 1 <sup>st</sup> Block:	NO	Spring 2 <sup>nd</sup> Block:	NO
Summer:	NO				

**Typical Instructional Modality:**

Traditional (seated):	YES	Blended:	YES	Internet:	YES
Online Video:	YES	Web Conference:	NO		

**May Also Count Toward Department Offering:**

Major:	YES	Minor:	YES	Certificate:	YES
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*Please see online published semester class schedule and undergraduate catalog for detailed course offering information.*

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***How do you describe the course to students when they ask “What is this class about?” (Without using the catalog description)?***

The majority of people in the world live in cities and that trend is expected to continue. So this class is about the major issues facing cities but also focuses on solutions: if the future is cities, how can we make them great places? As course is offered through our Community and Regional Planning Program, it also covers what urban planning is and how that profession and process can help make cities better places. It's a Gen Ed, but students who are curious about what urban planners and related professions do and potentially interested in a major, minor or certificate in our program should check it out!

***Beyond meeting a General Education requirement, what benefits can students realize from choosing this course?***

If a student plans on living in a city, they will benefit from this class. Do you aspire to one day own a home? The class covers the basics of zoning and how cities regulate land. Students will discuss important issues impacting cities like gentrification, racial segregation, and sustainability concerns. Finally, the course is part of our Community & Regional Planning major/minor/certificate. The vast majority of our students that go on to be professional planners state that this is the class that drew them to the major!

***Other than your major/minor/certificate students, what groups of students could find this course relevant to their degree program or career path?***

Students interested in a wide array of careers in the social sciences will find this course relevant. There is overlap with Sociology, Economics, Architecture & Design, and Construction Sciences. Most importantly, students that are truly interested in making a positive impact in the world are often drawn to and benefit from, this course.

***Catalog Description (Fall 2022 Undergraduate Catalog)***

This course provides an introduction to understanding metropolitan issues from a variety of viewpoints. It will explore questions such as: What is a city? What is the relationship between the natural and built environments? How do planners create a sustainable city? How do people perceive cities? How do planners work with diverse communities? What are their current issues and problems? How will cities respond to a changing world economy and the globalization of culture? This course will help students recognize community needs and how to contribute knowledge and work within diverse communities to meet those needs.