

## Comprehensive Program Review

### Urban Studies Major/Minor

#### General and Overview

**1. Describe your program's most significant opportunities and significant challenges.**

We live in a global world; for the first time in human history, more than half of the world's population lives in urban areas, and the United Nation predicts that by 2050 this will increase to more than two-thirds of the world's population. Urban Studies is the major/minor for students who want to better connect with and understand the growing importance of this trend. We have been severely underfunded for the last decade, having lost two-thirds of our faculty due to retirement and positions that have gone unfilled. The potential for growth is both the most significant opportunity as well as significant challenge for Urban Studies.

**2. What are some things that would help make your program and its students more successful?**

Our students/graduates have been very successful in their post-graduate careers, as is demonstrated below. Because of a severe lack of faculty resources, we have been unable to offer several upper-level elective courses, and have fewer faculty to teach introductory courses where students might learn about the major; as a consequence, our student numbers have been in steady decline (commensurate with the loss of faculty positions). Clearly the most important thing to make Urban Studies successful once again is to increase faculty resources, which will allow us to recover courses that have been lost, and in a better position to grow our student numbers.

**3. What are some program accomplishments worth highlighting?**

A majority of our majors have worked at one or more internships in the local community during their time at UW-Green Bay, including Bay-Lakes Regional Planning, Brown County Planning Department, DePere Planning Department, Housing Allowance Office, Neighborhood Housing Services, and other public and non-profit organizations. (In fact, current directors of many of the organizations named here are graduates of the Urban Studies program.) Our students have had successful post-graduate careers, most have continued to work in the field, and have made significant contributions to the well-being the Green Bay community and the Northeast Wisconsin Region.

(Please see addendum for UW-INSIDE report on Urban and Regional Studies... while dated, this gives some idea as to the contributions of the Urban Studies program)

**4. Have there been any significant changes that have affected your program?**

(Narrative)

Urban Studies was one of the very few majors to survive from the founding of the university in the 1970s. The original model for the College of Community Sciences included interdisciplinary majors ranging from micro- to macros-level of social analysis: Human Development, Urban Studies, Regional Studies, and Social Change and Development. Early faculty in Urban Studies included three (3) positions in Political Science, three (3) positions in Psychology, and one position each in architecture and urban planning, economics, English literature, history, and sociology. Urban and Regional Studies faculty (2005-2018) included three (3) positions each in Economics, Geography, Political Science, and Psychology; and one each in Urban Planning and Sociology. As faculty retired and positions were not replaced, we were left with just three faculty (one each in Economics, Geography, and Sociology) when the urban studies program was brought into PEA (Public and Environmental Administration) in 2018.

The continual lose of faculty positions over the two-decade period described above had inevitable consequences: we were unable to place Urban Studies faculty into lower-level introductory (gateway courses), and unable to offer upper-level elective courses on a regular basis. The loss of faculty positions was followed by a loss of student majors and minors. What had been a viable and important major for the first several decades in our university history has been reduced to a backwater in the university,

**5. Where do you want your program to be 5 to 7 years from now? (Narrative)**

We need to grow the number of students (majors and minors) in the Urban Studies so that we will once again graduate 15-20 students each year. This is a relatively small number compared to the large majors on campus, but the program is both rigorous in content and significant faculty time in supervising student internships.

We feel that Urban Studies has made an important contribution to the university and to the broader community over the last several decades. We hope that we will be here to continue that work in the future.

**Demand**

*All data in this area is provided with the materials. (Graduates, majors, minors, etc.) This space is for any commentary you would like to apply to that material. (Narrative)*

As noted in the previous narrative, in the past Urban Studies regularly had 30-40 majors and graduate 10-15 students each year. Those numbers have declined substantially with our loss of faculty and inability to offer some courses on a regular basis. Each year we lose students interested in the major to Public Administration and other majors because of the lack of faculty and courses.

**Internal**

1. **Program goals** (Mission, vision, learning outcomes; present as narrative/lists)

Urban Studies supports the mission of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay and the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences to “serve and stimulate society by developing in students heightened intellectual, cultural, and humane sensitivities; scientific, professional, and technological expertise; and a sense of value and purpose.” These goals are supported by our curriculum and coursework: “Inherent in this mission are methods of instruction, research, extended education, and public service designed to educate people and improve the human condition.” In addition, we aim to better serve the broader community by supporting student internships and student and faculty research with local organizations and public and non-profit organizations, and to support the broader university initiatives in regard to tolerance of diversity, enhance social inclusivity, and support methods of sustainability. Toward that end, the program encompasses faculty and coursework from several social science disciplines and intellectual traditions, including economics, geography, political science, and sociology.

Program goals / learning outcomes for Urban Studies include:

Understanding the importance of an interdisciplinary education to learn about people, groups, organizations, and social and political processes affecting urban areas.

Understand how the paradigms of different urban studies disciplines contribute to urban studies more generally.

Evaluate social and cultural factors that impact practices and attitudes toward public policy affecting urban areas

Recognize, explain, and critically evaluate quantitative and qualitative methods and theory in analyzing data about urban areas

Demonstrate knowledge of theory and methods by conducting and presenting empirical research about urban areas.

Encourage and engage service to the local community and to the region through research and service

Better prepare students to be civic minded and responsible citizens of their local and regional community, and of the persons and groups in the urban world beyond their personal experience.

2. **Curriculum development** (Lists, brief narrative if appropriate)

Courses in the Urban Studies program are regularly updated to include new developments in the core disciplines (Geography, Political science, and Sociology). In a recent curricular revision, an important interdisciplinary course (*The City Through Time and Space*) was added to required core course; this will highlight the interdisciplinary nature of the program.

With the replacement/recruitment of new faculty in the coming years, we will hope to replace courses lost over the years (for example, in architecture and literature) and to introduce new coursework in ethnic/racial studies and other areas.

**3. Connections to other programs** (Lists, brief narrative if appropriate)

Urban Studies has strong connections with several other programs in the social sciences, including shared courses (previously cross-listed) with the following:

Geography: one required core course, two upper-level elective courses

*Example: GEOG Urban Geography*

Political Science: one required core course, two upper-level elective courses

*Example: POLSCI Urban Politics*

Sociology: one required core course, two upper-level elective courses

*Example: SOC 310 Urban Sociology*

Economics: two upper-level elective courses

Public Administration: two upper-level elective courses

**4. Number of courses offered** (Overall number provided in materials. Chairs: short commentary if appropriate. Provide a sub-grouping of various modalities by percentage. For example, what percentage of your program is available online, hybrid, etc.?)

Two years ago revisions to the courses offered in the (new at that time) Urban Studies major-minor resulted transfer of courses from (old) Urban and Regional Studies major to the Environmental Planning & Policy major-minor. The resulting curriculum (required as well as elective courses for the Urban Studies major-minor) includes some

UR RE ST 100 Introduction to Urban Studies

UR RE ST 201 City Life and Globalizaion

UR RE ST 230 First Year Seminar

UR RE ST 313 The City Through Time and Space

POL SCI 305 Urban Politics and Policy

UR RE ST 310 /SOCIO 310 Urban Sociology

UR RE ST 341/GEOG 341 Urban Geography

POL SCI 312 Community Politics

PU EN AF 324 Transitioning to Sustainable Communities

PU EN AF 360 Immigration and Immigration Policy

PU EN AF 406 State and Local Government

PU EN AF 408 Public Policy Analysis

UR RE ST 323 Asian American Communities

UR RE ST 324 Latino Communities

UR RE ST 351 Transportation and the City

UR RE ST 412 Urban Planning

UR RE ST 461 Special Topics in Urban Studies

UR RE ST 497 Internship

UR RE ST 498 Independent Study

UR RE ST 499 Travel Course

At the present time, none of the above courses have been offered online on a regular basis.

**5. Diversity of students, faculty, and curriculum** (Overall number provided in materials. Chairs: short commentary if appropriate; provide examples from curriculum if appropriate.)

**Students:** In previous years, Urban Studies has had one of the largest representations of underrepresented students. For more than half a decade we were recipient of a major grant from the US Department of Housing and Development to train underrepresented students in urban planning and community development, and we have regularly placed our students in internships with community groups and governmental agencies that serve these groups. (Please note that No data was provided in regards to more inclusive gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, locality, socioeconomic status and other inclusive indices.

**Faculty:** Urban Studies has sought to include diverse faculty through the recruitment of new faculty (it should be noted that there has not been a new faculty position in the program for eight years, during which time three faculty in underrepresented groups have or left the university). Among current faculty teaching in the program, one is a member of under-represented groups, and a second has throughout their career conducted and published research on ethnic/racial issues, and is Director of the Center for Hmong Studies.

**Courses:** Given the relatively small number of courses in the Urban Studies program, our curriculum includes a respectable number of courses that “contribute to inclusion, diversity and an engagement with other cultures” including

UR RE ST 323 Asian American Communities  
UR RE ST 324 Latino Communities  
PU EN AF 360 Immigration and Immigration Policy  
UR RE ST 461 Special Topics in Urban Studies  
UR RE ST 499 Travel Course

We should note that for many years the earlier Urban and Regional Studies program offered an area of emphasis in Ethnic Studies; this was the first (and only) social science major-minor to offer such an area of emphasis.

**6. Gen Ed, FYS/GPS, CCIHS (Lists)**

***General Education***

UR RE ST 100 Introduction to Urban Studies  
UR RE ST 201 City Life and Globalizaion  
UR RE ST 324 Latino Communities  
GEOG / UR RE ST 341 Urban Geography  
SOCIO / UR RE ST 310 Urban Sociology

## *First Year Seminar*

URS 230 First Year Seminar

### **7. Program support and staffing**

As noted earlier, original faculty placement for Urban Studies included positions in Architecture and Planning, Economics, History, Literature, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology. (The background here is difficult, as Urban Studies was later merged (1987-1996) with Public Administration (which added three positions in Political Science) and later with Regional Studies (which added additional positions in Economics, Geography, and Psychology, before forming a separate Urban and Regional Studies program (1996-2016) with three (3) faculty positions each in Economics and Geography, two (2) positions each in Political Science and Psychology, and one (1) position each in Sociology and Urban Planning.

When faculty moved to administration, or retired, the positions were not replaced, and by 2018 there was just one economist, one geographer, and one sociologist teaching in the program, and one of our required course sources was taught by faculty from outside the program. These changes had a drastic impact on our program, ability to offer introductory as well as required courses, and upper-level electives as well, greatly handicapping our ability to recruit and retain students.

Future needs for the program are obvious, and will require new faculty positions to recover important areas within an interdisciplinary urban studies program, including areas in urban history, urban literature (arts and culture more broadly), urban psychology, and urban planning. Important new areas in the field, including environmental justice and urban sustainability, will need to be incorporated within those faculty positions. We look forward to the challenges of rebuilding the Urban Studies to its once prominent role in the university.

#### **1. Cost per credit hour (TBD)**

### **External**

- 1. Outreach:** student/faculty partnerships, collaborations, participation with organizations or individually (Lists)

Students regularly work with faculty on research, independent study, and studio courses; and are scheduled with internships with public and non-profit organizations and government.

**Marcelo Cruz:** community research projects, undergraduate research symposium

Contributor to Neville Public Museum exhibit on Latinos in Northeast Wisconsin  
Consultant to and directed student workshops active in revitalizing the Broadway commercial district

Extensive travel courses in Switzerland and Andean and Amazonian Ecuador  
Students worked alongside Brown County planning staff on University Avenue redevelopment project(s)

Directed student workshop(s) on redevelopment of Kidney Island in the bay of Green Bay

**Ray Hutchison:** student-faculty research, undergraduate research symposium

Hmong Community Research: course offered each semester (as overload) to provide students with an opportunity to learn more about research methods; both independent study as well as group projects; presentations at UW-Green Bay Research Symposium as well as UW-System Undergraduate Research Symposium.

**Aaron Weinschenk:** student-faculty research, research laboratory, undergraduate research symposium

Professor Weinschenk recently started the UWGB Political Science Research Lab, which involves a dozen students each year in ongoing research relating to voting and politics. This past year they collected data, wrote report, and had their peer-reviewed paper published in *The Justice System Journal* (Routledge)

## 2. **Contributions to regional infrastructure** (Lists)

Each year, students participate in community projects, often in conjunction with local government and agencies. Several projects under direction of Marcelo Cruz have won awards, including most recently plans for the redevelopment of the Broadway commercial district and development of Kidney Island in the bay of Green Bay.

Student Internships: Brown County Planning Department, Green Bay Housing Authority, Green Bay Housing Allowance Office, others

## 3. **Scholarly activity of faculty** (Lists that are not all-inclusive; maybe seek to highlight the different areas/types of activity)

**Marcelo Cruz** (selected activities)

- *“Gestión y uso turístico del patrimonio en centros históricos: estudio comparado en Quito (Ecuador) y La Habana Vieja (Cuba)”* co-authored with Dr. Francisco Javier Jover Martí

- “Transformation of intermediate size cities in the U.S. and Spain: the cases of Green Bay (USA) and Albacete (Spain) co-authored with Dr. Francisco Cebrián Abellán
- “Una Alternativa Visión Urbana/Regional del Cantón Tena” presented at the International Conference I Foro Contested Cities Ecuador, Amazonic State University, El Puyo, Ecuador, 2020
- “Planning with Indigenous Communities: Agropolitan Planning revisited in Tena, Ecuador” NCCLA Conference, Madison WI, October, 2017
- Research in Aid Grant for \$900.00 from the UW- Green Bay Research Council for research conducted in the state of Wisconsin on the urban Latino experience, 2019-2020.
- Project Manager for a grant for \$10,000 from the National Endowment of the Arts and the American Library Association to organize activities around the documentary series Latino Americans: 500 years of History, 2015-2016

#### **Ray Hutchison** (selected activities)

- Series Editor, *Research in Urban Sociology* (18 volumes published)
- Co-author, *The New Urban Sociology* (3 editions)
- Editor, *Encyclopedia of Urban Studies* (SAGE Publications)
- Director, *Hmong Studies Center*
- Director and author, Great Lakes Feasibility Study
- Author: more than 25 research articles in scholarly and refereed journals and book chapters
- Chair, Community and Urban Sociology Section, American Sociological Association
- Organizer, *Everyday Life in the Contemporary City* (three conferences), Romauldo Del Bianco Foundation, Florence

#### **Aaron Weinschenck** (selected activities)

- Weinschenck, Aaron C. and Christopher T. Dawes. Forthcoming. “Civic Education in High School and Voter Turnout in Adulthood.” *British Journal of Political Science*.
- Weinschenck, Aaron C., and Christopher T. Dawes. 2019. “The Effect of Education on Political Knowledge: Evidence from Monozygotic Twins.” *American Politics Research* 47(3): 530-548.
- Panagopoulos, Costas and Aaron C. Weinschenck. 2016. *A Citizen’s Guide to U.S. Elections: Empowering Democracy in America*. New York, NY: Routledge
- Weinschenck, Aaron C., Amanda Baker, Zoe Betancourt, Vanessa Depies, Nathan Erck, Quinne Herolt, Amanda Loehrke, Cameron Makurat, Hannah Malmberg, Clarice Martell, Jared Novitzke, Bradley Riddle, Tara Sellen, Leah Tauferner, and Emily Zilliox (all UWGB undergraduates). Forthcoming. “Have State Supreme Court Elections Nationalized?” *Justice System Journal*.
- Weinschenck, Aaron C., and David J. Helpap. 2015. “Political Trust in the American States.” *State and Local Government Review* 47(1): 26–34.

## **Student Success**

### **1. High-impact practices and individualized-learning opportunities**

2.

All Urban Studies majors and minors engage in high-impact, problem focused activities through their required core and upper-level elective courses, and through internships scheduled with public and non-profit groups and organizations in the local and regional community.

Urban Studies faculty regularly work with student on student-faculty research, in studio courses, research laboratory, independent study, student internships and other individualized-learning opportunities.

Faculty have also taught numerous sections of First Year Seminar courses, led travel courses, and offered special topics courses in urban studies and in their home disciplines.

### **3. Retention (TBD. Note: if program-level data is not provided, maybe list some things your program does that you believe aid in retention)**

Urban Studies faculty have participate in campus preview day events, and in the campus majors fair events each semester.

Faculty have taught many sections of FYS courses

Majors/minors are sent a note at the beginning of each registration period, informing them of courses available, and encouraging them to meet with faculty to plan their course schedule.

## **Mission Relevant**

### **1. Relevance to mission**

The student coursework, student-faculty research experience, and service offered by faculty associated with the Urban Studies program is relevant to the university mission: “The culture and vision of the University reflect a deep commitment to diversity, inclusion, social justice, civic engagement, and educational opportunity at all levels. Our values embrace community-based partnerships, collaborative faculty scholarship and innovation.”

We would further highlight our commitment to Interdisciplinary education and broader values of citizenship in an increasingly diversity community as exemplifying our commitment to the university mission, and highlight our early and continuing contribution to workforce development not just in northeast Wisconsin, but across the region and state.

2. **Cultural enrichment** (Narrative or lists as appropriate)

Our coursework provides cultural enrichment for the general student population in several areas, including but not limited to course content in the following classes:

UR RE ST 100 Introduction to Urban Studies

Includes reading and discussion on art, architecture, and design

UR RE ST 230 Cities and Globalization

Includes reading and discussion of urban cultures around the world

UR RE ST 310 Urban Sociology

Includes discussion of ethnic and racial issues in urban neighborhoods, housing, planning, and social exclusion

UR RE ST 303 The City Through Time and Space

Each section of the class includes extensive reading and discussion of art, architecture and culture of cities from ancient and classical cities to renaissance and modern cities.

- Professor Cruz has supervised travel courses every year since his arrival at UW-Green Bay
- Professor Cruz was consultant for the Neville Museum exhibit on Latinos in Northeast Wisconsin
- Professor Hutchison directed and wrote original study of *Acculturation in the Hmong Community* in Green Bay
- Professor Hutchison has supervised student travel courses to Florence, Italy and has organized two international conferences with the Del Bianco Foundation in Florence, Italy
- Professor Weinschenk co-created and co-organized TEDx-Green Bay
- Professor Weinschenk was the keynote speaker for the League of Wisconsin Municipalities “Urban Policy Forum.” Appleton, WI, June 7, 2018
- Urban Studies hosted Prof Yang Gao (Ginzhou University) for week of research and presentations on *Hmong Culture and Textiles*
- Urban Studies faculty have provided talks and presentations to numerous community groups and have served as experts for interviews with local and statewide media

3. **Access** (Does the program have any agreements with other institutions? For example, a transfer agreement with a technical college.)

Not applicable

## ADDENDUM

UWGB Inside (November 2006) featuring Urban and Regional Studies program



### **At a Glance: Urban and Regional Studies**

**Professors:** Ray Hutchison (chair), Kumar Kangayappan, William Laatsch, Ismail Shariff and Associate Professors Ronald Baba, Francis Carleton, Marcelo Cruz, Thomas Nesslein, Georjeanna Wilson-Doenges.

**Claims to fame:** Several, but disproportionate representation among Alumni Association award winners. Also, program graduates frequently return as ad hoc instructors; some "legacies" — second-generation students — are currently enrolled; internships are encouraged; and a senior seminar is required.

**History and trends:** Today's program took shape with an early-1990s merger of Urban Studies and Regional Analysis.



Hanrahan

Burr

Pamperin

**Distinguished Alumni Awards:** William Hanrahan '82, assistant attorney general; John Huegel '71, attorney, authority on contract, construction law; Keith Pamperin '70, housing administrator, Green Bay and Brown County; John Stoll '73, professor, public and environmental affairs.

**Outstanding Recent Alumni:** Naletta Burr '98, director, On Broadway Inc.

**Current enrollments:** Steady at about 30 majors per year; many others majoring or minoring in related disciplinary fields including economics, geography.

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## ***A report from Urban and Regional***

*Not long ago, an editor of these and other pages commented on a fairly pronounced trend:*

*"Ever notice how many graduates of the Urban and Regional Studies program earn UW-Green Bay alumni awards? Get their names in the newspaper for positive achievements? Or just seem to be at the center of important community initiatives?"*

*Well, yes, we have noticed. Here's a snapshot of what a few grads are up to these days, including additional notes which did not appear in the print version of the magazine.*

**John S. Bain '78** has joined Huron Consulting Group in Boston as a higher ed and healthcare manager. Huron addresses regulatory, financial and litigation issues for organizations including Fortune 500 companies and leading colleges.



Carasik

**Karen Carasik '77** was recently featured as "Someone You Should Know," a feature in *Lifestyles Magazine*. The artist has been represented in galleries in Florida, the Midwest and California. Following law school at Illinois Institute of Technology-Chicago Kent College of Law, she was a successful corporate finance lawyer until 1993. She then became an entrepreneur, and in 2000 began producing a series of paintings and opened a gallery.

**Sandra Baenen Chope '77** is a graphic designer and owner of Artwerks, in Markleeville, Calif. She says she works "from wherever she can get wireless." She resides in the Lake Tahoe region in the summer and in Tubac, Ariz. in the winter.

**Bryan Schacht '78** is the director of application software research in the Document Systems Group, Sharp Labs of America. He frequently travels to India and Japan to work with remote development groups. He recently finished his private pilot instrument rating and enjoys flying around the American Southwest.

**Julie (Licht) Cayo '96** is the community development planner for the city of West Bend. She received her master's degree in urban planning from UW-Milwaukee's School of Architecture and Urban Planning.

**Quasan Shaw '97** was featured in the May issue of *Green Bay Cities Magazine*. In 2005, Governor Jim Doyle appointed Shaw to the Council on Affirmative Action. He is also active in the youth mentoring and economic development efforts. His degree is in urban and regional studies.

**Ann Saari '04** is assistant property manager for Lamar Companies, a property development firm in Charlotte, N.C.



Blohm

**Jason Blohm '01** is assistant director of recruitment services for the University of Nebraska-Omaha. He is pursuing a master's degree in public administration and is recently engaged.

**Ker Vang '98** is transitioning from a leadership role with the Hmong Association of Green Bay to a new position with the Bay-Lake Regional Planning Commission.

**Jim Schlies '81** is vice president of economic development for the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He served previously in economic development positions with cities including Green Bay, where he helped develop the I-43 business park.



Manser

**John Manser '93**, a double major in geography and regional analysis, is director of operations for The Salvation Army in Green Bay. With its share of a national grant and generous community support, the Salvation Army will expand its operations locally and serve additional clients with a new community center.

**Peter Strzyzewski '89**, has worked 16 years for what is now the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. He currently serves as executive officer for the Office of Asia/Pacific at the Washington (D.C.) Navy Yard.

**Stephanie (Gauthier) Phillips '97** is executive director of The Greater Oconomowoc Chamber of Commerce.

**Martin Tirado '95** is an account coordinator for Svinicki Association Services of Milwaukee.

**Lara Vande Walle '93** is president of the Washington D.C. Technology Council.

**Jamie Simon '02** works in Boston for Hellmuth, Obata + Kassabaum.

**Chavonne James '02** is a community planner for the City of Racine.

**Adrian Gershom '95** is Creative Director at Go2Call.com, Chicago, and also a principal of Offshoot Design.

**Michael Glime '00** directs the Main Street program in Algoma.

**Jeff Witte '97** is a GIS specialist with the Oneida Tribe of Indians.

**J.P. Grom '97** attended architecture school at Texas A&M, and has been made a principal in the firm Brown Reynolds and Watford.

**Lynn Oliver '97** is a senior planner for the city of Alpharetta, Ga.

**Leann Doxtator '89** is a community planner for the Oneida Tribe.

**Craig Tebon '95** is director of the Main Street redevelopment program in Ripon.

**Noel Halvorsen '92** is executive director of Neighborhood Housing Services in Green Bay.

**Leon Mitchell '74** is dean of students at the Notre Dame High School for Boys in Niles, Ill. He spent 23 years in law enforcement before retiring from the Evanston Police Department.

**Adrian Gershom '95** is Creative Director at Go2Call.com, Chicago, and also a principal of Offshoot Design.

**Chris Jensen '98** is in charge of building inspection for the city of Appleton.

**Hiep Nguyen '00** was profiled in a recent issue of *Bay Cities Magazine* as one of a dozen "movers and shakers" on the rise in the Green Bay community. Nguyen is community impact manager for Brown County United Way. He is also a youth mentor and an active volunteer with the Multicultural Center of Greater Green Bay.

**Jeff Sanders '95** is a designer with OMNI Associates, Appleton.