

ABOUT THE MAJOR

Urban ecology involves the study of the relationships between humans and nature in urban environments. If you're interested in enhancing the vitality and sustainability of various communities by exploring the interrelationships among social, environmental, and economic systems, then a degree in Urban Ecology at the U is for you! It is designed to respond to problems and opportunities that exist in cities, suburbs, small towns, and rural places. These include environmental management, fragile landscape protection, recreation and tourism, public lands planning, rapid population growth, regional transportation, energy production, and sprawl.

As a student of the Urban Ecology program, you will take classes in planning, field studies, economics, law, and social justice. Explore a variety of elective topics such as green infrastructure, sustainable development, community leadership, and cities in literature. In your senior year, you will take the Ecological Planning Workshop, which involves tackling real world problems through completing an internship. The undergraduate program in Urban Ecology will prepare you for a professional career in environmental and sustainability planning, public health, public policy, or community development and planning. U graduates have used analytical and technical skills to pursue work as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysts, planning consultants, conservationists, community organizers, environmental outreach, and project engineers. With further education, Urban Ecology graduates can pursue a career in architecture, law, real estate development, social work, urban design, and urban & regional planning.




LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Explore the relationships between social, environmental, and economic systems and grasp their role in shaping and managing human settlements.
- Analyze spacial, qualitative, and quantitative data to address real world problems.
- Gain competence in written, visual, and oral presentation skills.
- Examine the scientific basis of the environmental challenges and opportunities of human settlements in the 21st Century.
- Collaborate effectively across multiple planning, design, and scientific disciplines.
- Understand the history, form, and theory of human settlements.

PLAN & PREPARE

At the U, we plan for our students to have an Exceptional Educational Experience identified by four broad categories we call the Learning Framework: Community, Knowledge & Skills, Transformation, and Impact. This major map will help you envision, explore, design, and plan your personalized Exceptional Educational Experience with the Learning Framework at the core. In addition to assisting you in planning your coursework and navigating the requirements of your major, this map will help you incorporate other kinds of experiences to expand your knowledge, support your development, and prepare you for the future you want.

GET STARTED TODAY

-  Schedule an appointment with an advisor advising.utah.edu
-  Visit ugs.utah.edu
-  Learn more about the Learning Framework ugs.utah.edu/learning-framework



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CMP

URBAN ECOLOGY

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE

 Community

 Knowledge & Skills

 Transformation

 Impact

"The University of Utah's Urban Ecology program gave me the theoretical and technical skills that I apply daily to my work at the intersection of planning and conservation."

*>> Josh Carlberg
Product Business Manager, Paoli LLC*

URBAN ECOLOGY

Use this map to explore, envision, design, and plan your Exceptional Educational Experience.

GETTING STARTED

MAKING PROGRESS

FINISHING UP

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER GRADUATION?

COURSES

- Take the DF¹ core courses: CMP 2010: Design Ecologies, DES 2630: Design Contexts, ARCH 2630: DF Workshop

- Complete first step courses in the major: CMP 3100 - Planning Theory & Practice, CMP 3270 - Visual & Oral Communication, CMP 3200 - Ecology of Human Settlements, & CMP 3400 - Economy of Cities

- Advance into upper-division major courses: CMP 4260 - Land, Law, & Culture, CMP 4450 - GIS for Urban Ecologists, & CMP 4010 & 4020 - Field Studies in Urban Ecology I & II

- Cap off your degree with CMP 4280 - Ecological Planning Workshop, CMP 4954 - Internship in Urban Ecology, & CMP 4600 - The Just City

- Affordable Housing Management & Development
- Alternative Energy Development
- Architecture
- CIS Systems Management
- Civic Engineering
- Civil Rights Law
- Community Design
- Community Development
- Design
- Economic Development
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Advocacy
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Planning
- Government Administrator
- Graduate School in Planning or a related field
- Historic Preservation Specialist
- Housing
- Internal Development
- Journalism
- Landscape Architecture
- Municipal Planning
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning & Development Surveyor
- Professor
- Public Administration
- Public Art Management
- Public Health
- Public Interest Law
- Public Land Management
- Public Services
- Public Transit Administration
- Resiliency Planning
- Rural Development
- Social Justice Advocacy
- Transportation Planning
- Urban Designer
- Urban Ecologist
- Urban Planner
- Urban Planning Analyst
- Urban Planning Researcher

COMMUNITY

- Join the DF-themed community at Sage Point
- Meet with a DF Peer Mentor
- Sign up for an outing with Campus Rec

- Join SCAPE or Point B
- Volunteer at one of the campus edible gardens
- Go on a Jane's Walk
- Join the Planning Department's social media feeds

- Volunteer for a CA+P² of CMP³ Committee
- Buy some veggies at the U's farmers' market
- Bike the Jordan River Trail
- Cheer for one of the Utes sports teams

- Lead a Jane's Walk tour of your neighborhood
- Run for ASUU⁴
- Go to a concert at Gardner Hall

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

- Meet with a CA+P Student Success Advisor
- Complete a personality profile
- Take DF-related Gen Ed courses
- Download and try out the Adobe Suite

- Attend a Green Bag Lecture at the Wallace Stegner Center
- Observe a city planning commission meeting
- Go to the Utah Bike Summit

- Go to a GCSC⁵ seminar
- Meet with a professor to talk about careers
- Check out the U's Capstone Program

- Present a project at the Undergraduate Research Symposium
- Sign up to work on a GCSC research project
- Write an honors thesis

TRANSFORMATION

- Conduct an informational interview with a professor
- Look into minors
- Take a music, art, or dance class

- Attend Plazafest
- Study another language
- Spend a semester at our campus in Songdo, South Korea

- Visit the Utah Museum of Fine Arts
- Become a Community Engaged Scholar
- Spend a semester in Volterra, Italy

- Join a team in the Real Estate Challenge
- Finish an e-portfolio
- Take a yoga class

IMPACT

- Volunteer with the Bennion Center
- Mentor students from your old High School
- Develop an academic plan

- Apply for an internship through the Hinckley Institute
- Take a CEL⁶ course
- Attend a MUSE⁷ Casual Friday

- Propose a project to the U's SCIF⁸ sustainability program
- Go on an alternative fall/spring break
- Get involved with a neighborhood council

- Become a DF Peer Mentor
- Volunteer with Red Butte Garden
- Go on a Career Trek trip

CAREER

- Meet with a Career Services Coach
- Activate & customize your Handshake account
- Apply for a DF externship
- Go to a CA+P special lecture

- Go to the U's Annual Career Fair
- Meet with a Career Coach
- Create/update a LinkedIn profile

- Talk with employers at the CA+P Firm Fair
- Conduct an informational interview with a local professional
- Attend the state APA⁹ conference

- Check out grad schools at the U's Grad School Fair
- Attend the National APA8 Conference
- Complete an internship with an organization or firm