

## **Major Concentration in Urban Studies**

The concentration in Urban Studies offers students the opportunity to explore the city, its social, economic, political, and cultural life. Urban Studies is an interdisciplinary academic field that examines the social, economic, political, and environmental aspects of cities, exploring issues like urban development, housing, infrastructure, poverty, inequality, organizing and resistance movements, arts, architecture, and environmental sustainability, aiming to understand how cities function and develop solutions to urban challenges through a combination of theoretical knowledge and practical application, including the incorporation of fieldwork and community engagement within local urban environments. Historically, sociology and anthropology have actively worked to understand the inequalities that structure and that are structured by urban life.

Appreciating the complex nature of the city and the different meanings of the urban, this concentration provides students with solid grounding in sociology and anthropology while at the same time providing them with the space to draw on other disciplines to further their understanding of the city, its past, present, and future and explore specific topics (such as space, place, gentrification, public policy, the carceral state, policing, consumption, education, migration, and mobility).

## **Major Concentrations in SOAN**

All concentrations in the SOAN Department are designed to help students with specific areas of interest navigate the curriculum in a particular thematic area or subfield of Sociology and Anthropology. Each concentration requires students to complete a total of ten credits at least eight of which must be in the department. Up to two courses can be counted from outside the department. Please note that no more than one credit from any single department will be counted toward the major. All majors in our department will have Sociology and Anthropology appear on their transcripts. Students who complete the requirements for a major concentration will receive a certificate from the SOAN department that verifies the focus they have charted through the curriculum.

### **Requirements (at least 10 credits)**

SOAN Core Requirements (Five credits):

ANTH 001. Foundations: Culture, Power, and Meaning

SOCI 001. Foundations: Self, Culture, and Society

At least one Methods course in the SOAN department

Senior Research Project (two credits)

Five elective credits:

At least three additional courses in SOAN and up to two courses outside the department in the thematic area. Students should consult with their advisor when selecting courses.

- Please note that no more than one credit from any single department will be counted toward this concentration.

**Recommended Courses:**

ANTH 39C: Food and Culture  
ANTH 122: Urban Ethnographies  
ANTH 123: Cities, Spaces, and Power  
SOCI 48I: Race and Place: A Philadelphia Story  
SOCI 48L: Urban Crime and Punishment  
SOCI 58C: Manufacturing Scarcity: The US Housing Crisis in Cities and the People's Fight for a Home  
ARTH 001D: First-Year Seminar: Architecture of Philadelphia  
ARTH 061: Art and Culture of Indigenous Philadelphia: From Shackamaxon to the Present  
ARTH 081: Uncovering Philadelphia's Asian Art  
ARTH 153: Modern Architecture and Urbanism: Honors Seminar  
ARTT 006I: ARCH Design: Civic Realm/Public Home  
ARTT 006J: ARCH Design: Cities, Territories Infrastructure: (Crum River Futures)  
BLST 007: Chester Semester Fellowship  
ECON 003: Behavioral Public Policy in the City  
ECON 044: The American City  
EDUC 068: Urban Education  
ENGL 009P: First-Year Seminar: Refuge: Resettled in Philadelphia  
ENGL 009Y: First-Year Seminar: Refuge: Metropolitan Forms and Fictions  
ENGL 052M: Armistead Maupin's Tales of the City and Queer Past and Futures  
HIST 001N: First-Year Seminar: Chinatowns: Then & Now  
HIST 114: Cities and Social Movements  
POLS 028: The Urban Underclass and Public Policy

Additionally, students are encouraged to explore course offerings in the Tri-co, especially the Philly Tri-co, [Growth and Structure of Cities Program at Bryn Mawr](#), and [The Urban Studies Program at Penn.](#)