



URBAN STUDIES PROGRAMS



Fall 2007 Course Descriptions

You must refer to the Schedule of Classes website for the most accurate information on the Schedule of Classes for times and locations, cancellations, etc. The web address is: www.uwm.edu/schedule/.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

URB STD 250 Exploring the Urban Environment

001 - TBA	TBA	T-R	2:00-3:15
002 - TBA	TBA	M-W	11:00-12:15
003 - TBA	TBA	W	5:30-8:10

Today's urban form is the result of a long progression of demographic, economic and political processes. This multidisciplinary course will provide a broad overview of some of these changes in American cities with a particular focus on Milwaukee. The course will be divided into two parts. In the first half of the course, we will examine some of the basic "urban" theories. These will include elements of race, class, crime, geography, economics, etc. With this background in basic urban theories, we will move into the second half of the course which will look specifically at the Milwaukee experience. In this last half, we will explore the intersection of historical development and the earlier social theories, which will provide a more relevant and local perspective.

URB STD 289 Internship in Urban Studies, Lower Division

URB STD 360 Perspectives on the Urban Scene

001 - TBA	Paul Rivas	M-W	2:00-3:15
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"Crime and Violence in the City"

This course will explore the issues of crime and violence in American cities. The course will examine the historical issues of urban crime, ghettos, poverty, segregation, and social unrest. We will examine issues of criminology including violent crime, guns in society, gangs, hate crimes, riots, and terrorism. The last section of the course will look at the development of urban police forces and the new introduction of Homeland Security as a major component to urban safety. This will include the theoretical side of policing issues like protecting civil liberties, the broken windows theory, and community policing. This approach will thus address historical, social, criminological, and even future issues of urban violence and security in the U.S. cities.

002 - TBA	Gregory Carman	R	4:30-7:10
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"The History of Milwaukee Ethnic & Racial Communities"

This course will trace the development of the city of Milwaukee from its inception to the present time. Students will learn about Milwaukee's ethnic history and how it contributed to neighborhood development. Drawing on a variety of topical reading and case studies, students will consider immigration and residential settlement, issues of race, ethnicity, and industrialization. All areas of the city will be studied, including the Third Ward, Menomonee Valley, South Side, North Side, and East Side. Student will consider the significance of these issues as they potentially impact Milwaukee's future.

URB STD 489 Internship in Urban Studies, Upper Division

URB STD 699 Independent Reading

GRADUATE COURSES

URB STD 841 Health Policy in Urban Society

001 - TBA Ann Greer W 4:30-7:10

The course will review the major areas of health care reform that have dominated attention over the last two decades. The first involves the reorganization of the health care system to achieve cost-control. The second involves efforts to improve and standardized the quality of care by implementation of "evidence-based medicine." We will place these two large initiatives into historical focus, reviewing the forces that led to their identification as problems, the decision forums where policies were shaped, and the consequences and controversies that have ensued. We will also consider the paths not taken, particularly the U.S. failure to pursue programs directed to greater access and equity as embodied in U.S. foreign health systems where these values were established as priorities. Throughout the course we will consider health policy choices and dynamics in relation to the factors that make health care a unique social institution. Most prominently these include its origins as a voluntary (nonprofit) enterprise and its heavy reliance on a professional work force. We will be concerned with the frequent mismatch of old and new norms and the effect of conflict on implementation of reforms. Our strategy is to pursue a course of readings and discussion, individual research, discussion, and lectures from invited speakers who occupy important leadership roles in Wisconsin health care. The class will depend heavily on student participation in discussion.

URB STD 888 Candidate for Degree

This course is for USP master's students who must meet the minimum credit load requirement. Fee for 1 credit will be assessed. This will be changed to 0 credits on the grade report and permanent record.

URB STD 921 Seminar: Research Methods in Urban Affairs

001 - TBA Ann Greer M 5:30-8:10

This course provides an introduction to the research methods that are most often used in the field of urban studies. Topics include theory and causation, research design, sampling, survey research, field research, historical investigation, comparative research, case studies, and program evaluation. The emphasis is on qualitative rather than quantitative analysis.

URB STD 927 Urban Internship

URB STD 982 Methods of Research and Analysis for Urban Social Institutions II

001 - TBA Nancy Mathiowetz M 4:30-5:20

The focus of this course is on the application of statistical techniques to analyze social science data. Students will choose a data set and prepare a research paper based upon the data; the final product for the course will be an original research paper suitable for presentation at a professional conference or for publication in a scholarly journal. This is not a statistics course, per se, but rather a course in which statistical theories and techniques will be reviewed (and some new techniques introduced). The emphasis in this course will be on the appropriate use and interpretation of statistical techniques in the analysis of social science data. The material covered in this course will enable students to intelligently and critically read professional publications as well as prepare students to successfully complete the steps in the empirical research process, moving from a research idea through data analysis and presentation of findings.

URB STD 990 Master's Research or Thesis

This is a course for USP master's students doing research or thesis work. (1 - 3 credit course)

URB STD 991 Doctoral Researches or Dissertation

This is a course for USP doctoral students doing research or dissertation work. This course is ordinarily a 3-credit course but students take this course for 1 credit the semester they take prelims.

HIST 595**Quantitative Analysis of Historical Data**

001

Lex Renda

On-Line

The objectives of this course are to familiarize history majors and other interested students with a social science approach to history and to give them the ability to test hypotheses with historical data using statistical techniques. The course involves both theory and method. Students will become aware of the advantages and limitations of statistical (as well as non-statistical) approaches, the use and misuse of historical data, and the achievements and goals of quantitative historians. There is a heavy mathematical component to the course, but the course does not presume or require students to have any mathematics background beyond basic algebra.

Note: Master's students taking this course will fulfill the core requirement in quantitative analysis. Doctoral students with a background deficiency in quantitative analysis should consider taking this course.

POL SCI 791**Nonprofit Advocacy and Public Policy**

001 - TBA

Mordecai Lee

T

4:00-6:40

This graduate-level seminar provides an overview of the public policy process from the perspective of the American nonprofit sector, with the dual goals of understanding it and being able to participate in it. First, we will review American public policy: how is it made, who makes it and where is it made? Second, nonprofit advocacy will be studied as it relates to government relations and lobbying, with especial attention to the constitutional and legal environment. Third, nonprofit advocacy will be analyzed as a form of public relations, including media relations and grassroots campaigns. The course concludes with an identification of trends in public policy and nonprofit advocacy for the foreseeable future.

POL SCI 792**Decision Making for Nonprofit and Public Organizations**

001 - TBA

John Bohte

R

4:30-7:10

The course focuses on research methods including research design, measurement, and analysis, qualitative and quantitative decision-making methods, understanding and using basic statistical concepts and techniques in decision making.

POL SCI 972**Interest Groups and Public Policy**

001 - TBA

Marcus Ethridge

R

4:30-7:10

This class explores the issues raised by the influence of interest groups in the American political system. The study of interest groups in political science involves a wide range of scholarly approaches, including survey research, rational choice theory, institutional analysis, and case studies. Our discussions will explore the contributions and limits of each of the major approaches to interest group research. The readings, class discussions, and assignments are intended to help the student establish a comprehensive understanding of interest group research.

SOCIOL 750**Research Methods in Sociology**

001 – BOL 778B

Thomas Moore

R

4:30-5:20

This course has two principal objectives. The first is to help you recognize and critically evaluate different research designs. The best way to learn to evaluate research designs is to read published research. In addition to the book by Stern and Kalof, which presents numerous examples of research studies, I have included a number of published articles in the weekly readings and assignments. The second goal is to help you pose researchable sociological questions and develop research proposals that describe how you will answer those questions. The best way to learn how to write research proposals is to write one. The book by John Creswell describes how to develop research proposals, and the weekly assignments will include exercises from that book to take you through the steps of proposal development. During the course we will discuss some of the data collection methods used in both qualitative and quantitative studies. However, the review of data collection methods is not comprehensive. Our primary concern is the logic underlying different research designs. The discussions of experiments, survey research, field research and in-depth interviewing are intended to illustrate different research strategies and to provide examples for your proposed research.

SOCIOL 927**Seminar in Sociology of Contemporary Institutions**

001 – BOL 778B

Jennifer Jordan

W 4:30-7:10

“Sociology of Culture”

The sociology of culture encompasses a tremendous array of substantive areas, methodological approaches, and theoretical foundations. This course will serve as an introduction to key aspects of the sociology of culture, but cannot begin to cover the true scope of the field. My hope is that you will take away from this class a basic knowledge of the possibilities of the sociology of culture, and that the ways in which sociologists ask (and answer) questions about culture can inform and deepen your own approaches to sociological research.

002 - TBA

William Mayrl

R 12:00-2:40

“Sociology of Religion”

The seminar will explore the theoretical underpinnings of various sociological approaches to the social institution of religion. We will start by considering some early ideas about the origins of belief in the supernatural (e.g. fetishism and animism) in light of recent evolutionary theories. Then we will turn to religion proper, considering its role in the development of society and its relationship to other social institutions. Included in this section will be the classic writings of Weber, Troeltsch, and Niebuhr among others on the varieties of religious organizations and their historical relation to different social strata. Our consideration of the contemporary religious landscape will take place within the context of what is known as the secularization hypothesis. Central to this discussion is the debate over why the U.S. is arguably the most religious of the industrial and post-industrial societies. Other contemporary issues to be taken up in the seminar include the nature and sources of religious fundamentalism, the social dynamics religious conversion and cult formation, and the role of religion in the promotion and justification of modern terrorism. Participants will develop research papers that will be presented to the seminar for discussion and critical analysis. The seminar grade will be based on class participation throughout the semester, the oral report on the research project, and the final version of the research paper.

URBPLAN 857**Urban Design As Public Policy**

001 – AUP 191

Carolyn Esswein

TR 10:30-11:45

Orients students in urban planning to urban design problems as matters of public policy with focus on the analysis and implementation of urban design proposals rather than on the techniques used to generate such proposals. Not open to students who have credits in Arch 749 which is identical to UrbPlan 857.