OVERVIEW

33/34 Total Hours (excluding prerequisites) and a thesis

15 hours of required courses
15-16 hours in a substantive area of concentration
3 hours thesis research
At least 15 credit hours must be taken in courses numbered 6000 or above.

During the first academic year or 15 credit hours, whichever comes first, each student must submit to the MSUS Coordinator a written substantive area of concentration for their academic plan of study. The student may choose from the list of approved substantive areas listed below or petition for an individually designed concentration. Students should decide upon their concentrations during the first year of study.

PREREQUISITE COURSES (3 credit hours each)

1) A 3 hour undergraduate economics course is a prerequisite for the MSUS program. A student who has not met the economics prerequisite must take one of the following courses during his or her first semester of study. The courses may only be taken for undergraduate credit and will not apply to a student’s graduate degree program.

   ECON 4400 Economic Foundations for Managers (pre-MBA course)
   OR ECON 1203 Principles of Microeconomics
   OR ECON 1204 Principles of Macroeconomics
   OR GEOG 2254 Economic Geography

2) A graduate level statistics course is also required to complete the program. At UNO, the graduate level statistics courses have an undergraduate statistics course as a prerequisite. Some possibilities include:

   MATH 2314
   OR MATH 2785
   OR PSYC 1310
   OR SOC 2707

REQUIRED COURSES (12 to 15 credit hours)

Quantitative Methods:

   URBN 6005 Statistics for Urban Analysis
   OR SOC 4788G Social Statistics
   OR GEOG 6801 Advanced Quantitative Methods in Geography

History:

   MURP 4200G American City Planning
   OR HIST 4543G U.S. Urban History
Social Issues:  (Urban Anthropology students are required to take both courses)
   MURP 4030G Social Policy Planning
   OR  ANTH 4070G Qualitative Research

Professions and Professional Techniques:  (Geography students are required to take either MURP 4160G or URBN 6000 and one GEOG course)
   MURP 4160G Development & Environmental Management
   OR  URBN 6000  Theory and Practice of Planning
   OR  MURP 4081G Information Technology for the Planning Profession
   OR  GEOG 4805G Fundamentals of Mapping and GIS
   OR  GEOG 4810G Introduction to Remote Sensing

Research Methods:
Students who have a 12 credit hour core must take one additional research methods course.

Note: All students will be required to have participated in a course or project in which they have made (or participated in as a team member in making) an oral presentation. Several of the MURP courses such as MURP 4160G focus on team projects, and may be used to fulfill this requirement.

SUBSTANTIVE AREAS (15/16 credit hours)
Students must choose five courses (15/16 hours) from one of the following categories.

- Applied Urban Anthropology
- Urban Planning
- Geography

With the graduate coordinator’s written consent, a student may design a unique substantive area.

Applied Urban Anthropology
In this track only, students must complete both MURP 4030G and ANTH 4070G for a 15-hour core.

Required courses:
   ANTH 4772G (Applied Anthropology)
   ANTH 4775G (Urban Anthropology)

Three courses (9 hours) that can include but are not limited to:
   ANTH 4090G Advanced Special Topics in Cultural Anthropology
   ANTH 4210G Cultural Adaptation to the Mississippi River Delta
   ANTH 4400G Religion, Magic and Witchcraft
   ANTH 4454G Social Structure
   ANTH 4565G Language and Culture
   ANTH 4721G Cultural Resource Management & Preservation Archeology
   ANTH 4723G Historic Site Anthropology
   ANTH 4761G Medical Anthropology
   ANTH 4765G Ethnicity in Contemporary Society
   ANTH 4767G Race & Racism
   ANTH 4768G Anthropology and Policy
   ANTH 4770G Contact, Change and Cultural Survival
   ANTH 4777G Transnational Processes:  Migrations, Borderlands, Globalization
   ANTH 4780G Exploring Visual Anthropology:  Critical Perspectives and Interpretation
   ANTH 4801G The History of Anthropological Theory
ANTH 4825G Contemporary Archeological Theory
ANTH 4888G The Anthropology of the Body
ANTH 4898G Studies in Anthropological History and Theory
ANTH 4991G Advanced Field Research in Anthropology
ANTH 6091 Advanced Research Problems in Applied Urban Anthropology
MURP 6130 Urban Development: A Social Perspective
SOC 6813 Urban Sociology

Note: Special topics courses of interest to Urban Anthropology students may be taught under URBN 4800 (Special Topics) and URBN 6000 (Seminal Research in Urban Studies). Students interested in taking courses other than those listed above should check with Department of Planning & Urban Studies or the Anthropology Department

**Urban Planning**
In this track, students must take one additional research methods course.

*Five courses (15 hours) that can include but are not limited to:*

- MURP 4050G Urban Land Use Planning & Plan Making
- MURP 4160G Development and Environmental Management
- MURP 6180 Site Planning (*MURP 4710G is a prerequisite for MURP 6180*)
- MURP 4081G Information Technology & the Planning Profession
- MURP 4145G Coastal Zone Planning & Administration
- MURP 6175 Case Studies in Land Development
- SOC 6871 Environmental Analysis
- SOC 4871G Sociology of the Environment
- MURP 6051 Housing & Community Development
- MURP 6450 Local Economic Development
- FIN 6635 Seminar in Financial and Economic Analysis for Real Estate
- MURP 6140 Citizen Participation
- MURP 6010 Planning for Neighborhoods & Small Communities
- MURP 6130 Urban Development: A Social Perspective
- MURP 4010G Intro to Historic Preservation
- MURP 4071G Historic Preservation Law
- MURP 4400G Introduction to Preservation Planning

**Geography**
In this track only, students must complete GEOG 4805G or GEOG 4810G for a 15-hour core.

*Required courses (4 hours)*
GEOG 6001 Problems in Land Use and Environmental Analysis *(1 hr)*
GEOG 6887 Geographic Thought and Research Methods

*Four courses (12 hours) that can include but are not limited to the following: (two must be at the 6000 level (or above) and one course must be a seminar)*
GEOG 4150G The Geography of Hazards & Disasters
GEOG 4158G Environmental Impact Assessment
GEOG 4230G Geography of Manufacturing
GEOG 4310G Political Geography
GEOG 4513G Meteorology
GEOG 4514G Climatology
GEOG 4523G Hurricane Meteorology
GEOG 4530G Biogeography
GEOG 4540G Biogeography of Birds
GEOG 4610G Urban Geography
GEOG 4615G Cultural Ecology
GEOG 4715G Geography of Sports and Recreation
GEOG 4768G Selected Geographic Concepts for Teachers and Prospective Teachers
GEOG 4805G Fundamentals of Mapping and GIS
GEOG 4810G Introduction to Remote Sensing
GEOG 4815G Animation and Hypermedia in Cartography
GEOG 4820G Remote Sensing II: Digital Image
GEOG 4821G Remote Sensing for Water Resource Analysis
GEOG 4825G Cartographic Design
GEOG 4830G GIS Theories and Concepts
GEOG 4831G GIS Applications
GEOG 4832G Advanced Techniques in GIS
GEOG 4901G Field Methods in Geography
GEOG 6310 Seminar in Regional Geography
GEOG 6330 Seminar in Cultural Historical Geography
GEOG 6530 Seminar in Environmental Geography
GEOG 6550 Seminar in Physical Geography
GEOG 6605 Seminar in Land Use Analysis
GEOG 6820 Seminar in Remote Sensing
GEOG 6825 Seminar in Geographical Information Science

**THESIS (3 hours)**

URBN 7000 Thesis Research  
**OR**  GEOG 7000 Thesis Research (Geography Track Only)

Students who have a 12 credit hour core must take one research methods course in addition to 3 credit hours of thesis research. Please note that students must contact David Lambour, the academic counselor, and provide a copy of the *Thesis Research Agreement Form* in order to be able to register for URBN 7000 or GEOG 7000.

All students pursuing their MSUS degree **MUST** be prepared to defend their thesis to a jury that will consist of both program faculty and outside readers.

**SUBSTANTIVE AREAS—SUGGESTIONS**

Students should review each semester’s bulletin of courses for current offerings. Not all courses are offered each semester or year. Students are encouraged to contact the MSUS Program Coordinator, the Academic Counselor, and faculty whose research interest falls into the student’s substantive area for further assistance in choosing courses.

**YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS STUDENT**

While it is the role of the college advisors to provide you with assistance in planning and carrying out your academic program, it is your responsibility to meet all necessary university, graduate school, and college requirements and deadlines. Students should check the current [UNO Catalogue](#) for required
prerequisites and course restrictions before trying to enroll in a course.

RECOMMENDED COURSE LOAD

In the fall and spring semesters, 9 - 12 credit hours is considered a full-time course load. 6 credit hours is considered a full-time course load for the summer semester. Part-time students generally take 6 credit hours per semester.

6000-LEVEL COURSE REQUIREMENT

UNO requires all master students to complete at least 15 hours of courses numbered 6000 or above. Three hours of thesis credit (URBN 7000 or GEOG 7000) may be applied to this 15-hour total. Please see the Graduate Coordinator if you need assistance in planning your program to meet this requirement.

TRANSFER COURSEWORK

A maximum of twelve hours of relevant graduate credit from other graduate programs may be transferred into a master’s degree program with College approval. You must have completed at least nine hours of graduate residence at UNO with an overall B average in order for a transfer to be made. The University also requires that all course transfers be at a grade of B or higher. Official transcripts, displaying the course(s) to be transferred in must be received by the UNO Office of Admissions before the request for transfer credit can be made. The UNO Graduate School also specifies that all coursework applied toward a master's degree must have been taken within the last eight years. In order officially transfer coursework, a Request for Transfer of Credit form is completed at the same time as the student’s Application for Candidacy, and submitted to the Graduate School.

SUBSTITUTING COURSES

Under special circumstances, you may request the substitution of an elective for a required course. This substitution must be approved by the MSUS Graduate Coordinator.

WAIVING COURSES

In a very limited number of cases, a required course may be waived if you have demonstrated competence or prior knowledge in an area. Evidence of such competence may be required. You must take an elective in place of each course waived. The waiver must be approved by the Graduate Coordinator.

URBN/GEOG 7000 (THESIS RESEARCH)

You may enroll in URBN 7000 or GEOG 7000 (Thesis Research) if you are within 12 hours of completing the program. Even though you may enroll in URBN/GEOG 7000 any number of times, you may apply only three credit hours to your degree. Enrollment in Thesis Research must be approved by the chair of your thesis committee.

TIME LIMIT FOR DEGREE COMPLETION

You should be mindful of the eight-year limit for completion of the degree program including the thesis or final project. This is calculated from the initial date of your admission to the Graduate School at UNO. Transfer credits applied to your degree must also fall within this eight-year window.

NOT ATTENDING ONE OR MORE SEMESTERS

Once you have started in the program and you do not register for more than a calendar year, you must
complete a simple re-entry form with the Admissions Office. You can sit out the summer semester without having to be formally re-admitted.

CANDIDACY

You must submit an Application for Candidacy form to the Graduate School by the semester before the semester you intend to graduate. The Application for Candidacy contains the following information: courses completed, courses in progress and remaining, thesis advisor and thesis committee members. See the academic counselor to complete this form. You only need to complete this form once unless there are any changes in your program of study. If you do not graduate during your intended semester, you do not need to file a new form. The form signals the Graduate School that you are a potential candidate for graduation in your program.

URBN 7040 or GEOG 7040 (EXAM OR THESIS ONLY)

Students writing a thesis may use URBN 7040 or GEOG 7040 if they have successfully defended their thesis while enrolled in URBN 7000 or GEOG 7000 the previous semester. URBN/GEOG 7040 is not a requirement and may not even be necessary for you if you can successfully defend your thesis, make any necessary changes, and can meet the deadlines for graduation all in the same semester. If, however, you successfully defend your thesis in one semester, but need time to polish it for final production, you may sign up for URBN 7040 or GEOG 7040 (for a nominal fee) in the following semester, with approval from your thesis committee chair. Students may take URBN 7040 only once.

ENROLLMENT AND GRADUATION DATE

You must be enrolled in a course during the semester in which you intend to graduate.

DIPLOMA AND BINDING FEES

Remember that you must go to the Registrar’s Office to complete an Application for Degree, and pay your diploma and binding fees at the beginning of your last semester of enrollment (check the UNO Bulletin for official deadlines). If you do not graduate as intended, you file a new application for degree form and must pay an additional fee at the beginning of the semester in which you do graduate. This is very important. If you don’t file, the university will not know that you are a candidate for graduation.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact Dr. Renia Ehrenfeucht, the Master of Science in Urban Studies program coordinator, at rehrenfe@uno.edu or 504-280-6517.