



THE UNIVERSITY of NEW ORLEANS



UNO Department of Planning and Urban Studies

Welcome Sociology Majors

Have you ever wondered how to change the world around you? If so, elective courses in the Department of Planning and Urban Studies (PLUS) are for you! PLUS is an interdisciplinary department that provides students with a holistic approach to the study of the urban environment. In our courses we examine urban life: how cities and regions work, what drives economic growth, the development of housing and infrastructure, how to create more just and sustainable communities, and more. PLUS would like to introduce you to the following courses that may be of interest to Sociology majors. If you have any questions, please contact our Director of Academic Services, David Lambour, at dmlambou@uno.edu.

General Education Requirement

URBN 1000 - Introduction to Cities: This course is an introduction to contemporary cities. It examines the social, technological, political, aesthetic, economic, and environmental forces that shape urban environments. It also discusses how different spatial forms and functions reflect these forces. This course is offered every semester.

Social Science Electives for Sociology Majors

URBN 2000 - The New Orleans Region: This course introduces the social, cultural, economic and political trends that shape the New Orleans region. This course is generally offered each spring.

URBN 3002 - Introduction to Urban Studies: A multidisciplinary introduction to urban studies which examines classic arguments and recent discourses on the urban processes and urban life. The course examines North American cities through social sciences, environmental studies, architecture and design, public policy and urban planning. This course is offered each fall and spring semester.

URBN 3150 - The Suburbs and Car Culture: This course examines suburbanization as part of the economic and social process of urbanization, and as a defining part of the American cultural landscape. It explores the many influential forces that shaped the suburbs, including car use as a fundamental dimension of suburban life, the experiences of people living in the suburbs, and how film, television, and news media represent the suburbs and car culture. This course also examines contemporary trends in suburban development in the U.S. and in countries around the world. This course is generally offered once per year.

URBN 4100 - Gentrification in Historic Districts: This course examines processes of gentrification in historic districts. Students will examine the social and physical effects of urban change, while also exploring the techniques and issues that arise with efforts to preserve historic areas of the city. Using New Orleans as a case study, students will examine the impacts of historic preservation and gentrification for different social groups in the city. This course is generally offered every other spring.

URBN 4810 - Environmental Justice in Urban Environments: This course examines the treatment of all groups in the US with respect to benefits and burdens from the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and processes. The course emphasizes the problems of the disproportionate siting of hazardous waste treatment, storage, disposal, and recycling facilities in poor and minority neighborhoods.