Urban Studies is an interdisciplinary field in the Social Sciences, with connections to the Humanities and the Natural (Earth) Sciences.

The minor is designed in relation to the UvA’s Urban Studies Research Priority Area and draws upon the research and teaching expertise of its staff.

The growing importance of Urban Studies is reflected in, for example: the rapid acceleration of urbanization world-wide (esp. in China, India, and elsewhere in the Global South); the transition to an information economy that is primarily embedded in urban areas and the emergence of 'world cities' and the main nodes of a global urban network.
Core Coursework
This minor consists of 30 ECs. Students must take two interdisciplinary core courses that are specifically designed for the minor: Cities and Change (ASW) and Perspectives on Amsterdam (ASW). These two core courses introduce students to the field of Urban Studies with a range of empirical cases and an array of basic concepts (e.g. sustainability, urbanization, globalization, urban diversity, segregation, gentrification, global economies, etc.). The two required courses for the minor are complementary: one highlights the urban from a very general, global, and broad historical perspective, while the other focuses concretely on Amsterdam. The first provides theories and models on the variations in urbanisation, while the second allows for in-depth study of a single case with direct empirical observation and experience.

In addition to these two required courses, students must choose at least one of the following courses: Age, City and Work (ISW), Introduction to Migration Studies (ISW) or Contesting the City (GPIO).

Students are then required to select another 6-12 EC of coursework from a list of (electives) from Interdisciplinary Social Science (ASW), CEDLA, Human Geography, Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies (IIS), Urban Planning and Sociology.

Enrolment
Students of the bachelorprogramme ASW should simply enrol for the required courses in SIS upon successful completion of 60 EC of first-year coursework. Minor students should enroll via the following procedure:

1) If you are a student from another university, then you must first enroll as a minor student of the UvA on http://www.studielink.nl. Please be aware that your registration at studielink will take at least one workday to process. You should therefore make sure to register on time.

2) Please register for this minor by completing the webform in the studyguide of the minor Urban Studies and be sure to send a copy of your propaedeutic transcript.

3) Have you completed Step 2? Then proceed to register for the particular courses of the minor that you wish to follow via SIS.

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