

URBAN POVERTY STUDIES, MINOR

Drawing on the long tradition of Saint Louis University's commitment to the city of St. Louis, Missouri, the interdisciplinary minor in urban poverty studies is an examination of local, national and global forms of poverty, inequality and social injustice in urban environments.

Leadership

Olga Arbelaez, Ph.D.
Director

Curriculum Overview

Through coursework and practical experience serving in the city of St. Louis, students from across academic disciplines will think critically about the most pressing problems faced by people living on the margins in contemporary cities. In addition, they will investigate the ways in which the minor can supplement their major field of study.

The 18 credits interdisciplinary minor, which is administered by the Micah Program (<https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/micah>), is open to all undergraduates at the University, regardless of their school or major. No affiliation with the Micah Program (<https://www.slu.edu/arts-and-sciences/micah>) is required.

Requirements

Courses listed below in each category are only a sample of the overall course options which fulfill requirements for the minor. Your faculty mentor will discuss with you the interdisciplinary courses that can be used for the minor. No course may fulfill more than one urban poverty studies minor requirement.

Code	Title	Credits
General Courses		3
Choose at least one course on the nature of justice and social ethics with an Urban Poverty-General attribute, such as:		
ASTD 3200	The Urban Crisis	
PHIL 1050	Introduction to Philosophy: Self and Reality	
THEO 1000	Theological Foundations	
THEO 2515	Social Justice	
Applied Courses		3
Choose at least one course which is focused on urban social and political problems with an Urban Poverty-Applied attribute, such as:		
ASTD 2600	American Places	
POLS 2200	U.S. State and Urban Politics	
SOC 1500	The Urban Community: Race, Class, and Spatial Justice	
SOC 2080	Urban Issues: Poverty in a Global Perspective	
Four Areas of Specialization		6
Choose at least two courses in one of the following areas with Urban Poverty attributes such as:		
<i>Urban Poverty - Cycles of Exclusion</i>		
ASTD 2000	Memoir and Life-writing in American Culture	
CMM 4320	Communicating Across Racial Divisions	
PHIL 4820	Philosophy and Race	

CCJ 3500	Race & Crime	
PSY 4330	Psychology of Oppression	
<i>Urban Poverty - Immigration and Globalization</i>		
ASTD 3020	American Mosaic: Literature & Diversity	
LAS 3000	Introduction to Latin American Studies	
POLS 3800	The Structure of Poverty: Globally and Locally	
SOC 3180	Immigration	
THEO 3415	Christ and Color: Liberation Theology	
<i>Urban Poverty - Health Care</i>		
HSCI 2000	The U.S. Health Care System	
SOC 2360	Health Inequalities in the U.S.	
NURS 3100	Healthcare Policy, Finance and Regulatory Environments	
PUBH 2300	Contemporary Issues in Global Health	
THEO 2525	Theological Bioethics: Medicine and Morality	
<i>Urban Poverty - Theory of Social Justice</i>		
SOC 3500	Social Inequality	
ENGL 4150	Ethnic and Race Studies	
PHIL 4840	Catholic Social Thought	
POLS 3800	The Structure of Poverty: Globally and Locally	
THEO 2530	Social Injustice/Social Gospel	
Additional Electives		3
One additional course from any category with an Urban Poverty attribute		
Senior Capstone		3
Complete the Senior Capstone course or an approved 3-credit senior capstone, practicum, or seminar in the student's major. The course must culminate in a paper and an oral presentation on a topic involving urban poverty in the chosen Area of Specialization for the minor.		
UPS 4960	Senior Capstone	

Total Credits 18

Non-Course Requirement: Community Service

At least four terms (or their equivalent) of approved community service, averaging at least 30 hours per term.

Substitutions

In unusual circumstances, students may (at the discretion of the Director) substitute relevant courses not listed above by contracting with the instructor to write a substantive paper related to urban problems or community service. Contracts must be approved no later than the second week of classes.

Continuation of Standards

Students must have a GPA of 2.00 in Urban Poverty Studies minor coursework to be retained in the minor.