**Dream of a City**

The Urban Studies program is coordinated by the Department of City and Regional Planning, whose faculty is known for offering students opportunities to engage in addressing local challenges with community partners. City and Regional Planning faculty have worked with community partners to:

- Develop the Memphis Slim Collaboratory, a music based community resource center that is central to arts-based revitalization effort in the Soulsville neighborhood.
- Develop the South Memphis Farmers Market and the Green Machine, a converted MATA bus that serves as a mobile farmers market to bring healthy food options to food desert neighborhoods.
- Develop the West Memphis Eco-Park, a planned interactive and sustainable green amenity west of the Mississippi River at the end of the Big River Crossing project.

The Department of City and Regional Planning also hosts an annual summer study abroad exchange with community partners in Sicily, Italy.

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**Concentration in Urban Studies**

**Bachelor of Professional Studies**

Department of City and Regional Planning  
School of Urban Affairs and Public Policy  
208 McCord Hall 901.678.2161

To learn more visit:  
http://www.memphis.edu/planning/programs
Cities are complex. Cities are paradoxical.

They generate promise, ideas and innovation. Yet they also host inequity, conflict, and poverty. Cities make us feel alive with opportunity, and also make acutely aware that we can do better by one another. Urban growth is both the cause of environmental degradation and the path to a sustainable future.

The Urban Studies concentration unpacks these paradoxes and touches on the wide range of social issues tied to cities and urban development. Whether you are interested in challenges of poverty, economic development, sustainability, housing, arts and culture, urban design, or food systems, the Urban Studies concentration has something for you.

Learn how cities grow, thrive, and decline, and how their development can guide them to being meaningful, inclusive, secure, and sustainable places.

“Cities have the capability of providing something for everybody, only because, and only when, they are created by everybody.”

— Jane Jacobs, The Death and Life of Great American Cities

Understanding cities requires an interdisciplinary perspective.

The Urban Studies concentration is grounded in an interdisciplinary and engaged approach to teaching, research and outreach. Cities will are examined from social, physical, political, and economic perspectives. Classes use a hands-on, field-based approach to problem solving. Students in the program actively collaborate with community partners, non-profits organizations, neighborhood associations, and city agencies, to make real change in Memphis while learning skills that can be applied anywhere.

Prepare for a career of making a difference

The Urban Studies program provides a solid foundation to pursue careers in both the public and private sectors as well as a professional master's degree in related discipline such as City and Regional Planning, Public Policy, Urban Design or other similar fields.

Our Mission

...is to educate the next generation of inspired urban planners and scholars, conduct research that influences planning policy and knowledge, and engage with partners in innovative local planning efforts.