

Urban Affairs PhD Academic Program Requirements

This curriculum requires 48 hours for student entering with a Master's Degree. Those entering without a Master's degree would be required to earn a Master's degree in one of the host disciplines on the way to the PhD. To meet University requirements, all students would need to have at least 72 hours of post-baccalaureate course work.

Table 1 below summarizes the courses required.

Table 1. Curriculum

Course Prefix and Number	Course Title	Credit Hours
<i>Core Required Courses: 12 hours</i>		
UAPP 8010	Exploration of Urban Research Theories	3
UAPP 8011	Scope and Methods in Urban Affairs Research	3
UAPP 8012	Collaborative Urban Problem Solving I	3
UAPP 8013	Collaborative Urban Problem Solving II	3
<i>Advanced Quantitative and/or Qualitative Methods Courses: 6 hours from among the following*</i>		
CJUS 8129	Advanced Statistics Methods in Criminal Justice	3
ECON 8120	Advanced Quantitative Economic Analysis	3
ECON 8810	Econometrics I	3
ECON 8811	Econometrics II	3
ECON 8812	Econometrics III	3
EDPR 8542	Statistical Methods Application in Education II	3
EDPR 8544	Sen in Edu/Behav Research	3
EDPR 8554	Nonparametric Stats	3
EDPR 8565	Qual Methods and Analysis	3
EDPR 8001	Hierarchical Linear Modeling	3
ESCI 8312	Spatial Statistics	3
MATH 8634	Least Squares/Regression Anly	3
MATH 8670	Applied Stochastic Models	3
MATH 8680	Bayesian Inference	3
MATH 8657	Multivariate Stat Methods	3
PSYC 8302	Ad Statistics Psych	3
PSYC 8303	Adv Statistics Psych II	3
PSYC 8306	Linear Struct Modeling	3
PSYC 8307	Applications Structural Modeling	3
PSYC 8310	Mixed-Model Regress Anly	3
PSYC 8311	Appl Cat Data Analysis	3

PUBH 8104	Large Data Sets/PUBH Research	3
PUBH 8152	Biostatistical Methods II	3
PUBH 8153	Biostat. in Bioinformatics	3
PUBH 8306	Linear Struct Modeling	3
PUBH 8307	App Struct Equ Modeling in PH	3
PUBH 8308	Appl Multivariate Stat	3
PUBH 8310	Mixed Model Regression Analysis	3
PUBH 8311	Appl Categorical Data Analysis	3
SOCI 8322	Seminar in Quant Data Anly	3
SOCI 8325	Seminar in Qual Methods	3

Focus Area Courses: 18 hours

Choose from existing courses with direction of advisor

Can include Directed Research courses

6 (or more) of these credits should come from outside the discipline of the masters (to ensure interdisciplinarity)

Dissertation: 12 hours

UAPP 9000	Dissertation	1-12
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** Some of these courses might require a prerequisite, which would not count toward the PhD*

The 4 courses that comprise the core were specifically developed for the PhD in Urban Affairs program and were added to the University of Memphis Graduate Catalog in 2017. The program does not require any new courses.

The core courses are intended to operationalize the program's mission and prepare students to focus on urban problem solving through interdisciplinary, collaborative engaged scholarship. The courses will introduce students to interdisciplinary perspectives, provide theoretical grounding in the scholarship of engagement, offer training in how to conduct community-engaged research, and establish partnerships between PhD students and community partners.

Descriptions of the core courses are provided below. All core course syllabi can be found in Appendix E.

- UAPP 8010 Exploration of Urban Research Theory (3 credits)

Team taught survey course provides critical examination of the theories and theoretical frameworks of the multiple social science disciplines central to the Urban Affairs PhD curriculum. Explores theories relevant to urbanism and urban environments, their structures, the processes of urbanization, urban power and economics, industrial and post-industrial cities, and other urban forces. Covers urban theories ranging from classical to contemporary theoretical perspectives.

To support the program's emphasis on community-engaged research, a component of the course considers theories regarding the role of the University and academic research in addressing social change. This course explores how partnerships between universities and communities have developed community-based projects in different cultural settings over time. Considers various approaches of the "scholarship of engagement" in order to explain and clarify the origins and evolution of this notion coined by Ernest Boyer (1996).

- UAPP 8011 Scope and Methods in Urban Affairs Research (3 credits)

The course presents an interdisciplinary approach to conducting research in social science, with an emphasis on applications in urban affairs and community engaged research. The challenges of community-engaged research differ from conventional research approaches, demanding much more work on the part of the researcher in establishing relationships with community partners, building trust, and co-identifying research questions and approaches. Community engaged research also carries with it additional obligations for transparency and collaboration in data collection, analysis, and in the dissemination of findings. The course focuses on understanding and evaluating values underpinning community-based projects, methods and techniques used to implement them, and results accomplished for both parts of the partnerships involved.

Students will hear from engaged scholars working in various disciplines at the University of Memphis about how they conduct their work, and will spend time formulating original research projects.

- UAPP 8012 Collaborative Urban Problem Solving I (3 credits)

Collaborative Urban Problem Solving I is a required course for the core curriculum. It is the first course in a two-course sequence that is generally completed in the student's second year of study. This course serves as the synthesis mechanism for the Urban Affairs and Public Policy PhD program, which is 1) interdisciplinary, 2) geared at preparing researchers to address urban or metropolitan issues, and 3) designed to give students the opportunity to learn through engaging in local research that benefits the greater Memphis community.

Students will work collaboratively (internally and externally) to address a complex community challenge, bringing to bear knowledge and skills from a variety of perspectives. In the first course in the sequence, students will work with community stakeholders to develop the scope of the response to the problem, collect and analyze data, describe existing conditions, and conduct best practices research in preparation for the second course, in which they will develop strategies, and prepare a final product or products (e.g., community action plan, policy white paper, etc.). The course will include classroom and field-based experiences. In developing the scope of the response to the community challenge, the students will shape the process of the two-semester sequence.

The Collaborative Urban Problem Solving sequence provides a vehicle for community engagement and means to actualize interdisciplinary skill development within the Urban Affairs and Public Policy curriculum.

- UAPP 8013 Collaborative Urban Problem Solving II (3 credits)

Collaborative Urban Problem Solving II is a required course for the core curriculum. It is the second course in a two-course sequence that is generally completed in the student's second year of study. This course serves as the synthesis mechanism for the Urban Affairs and Public Policy PhD

program, which is 1) interdisciplinary, 2) geared at preparing researchers to address urban or metropolitan issues, and 3) designed to give students the opportunity to learn through engaging in local research that benefits the greater Memphis community.

Students will work collaboratively (internally and externally) to address a complex community challenge, bringing to bear knowledge and skills from a variety of perspectives. Students will collect and analyze data, develop strategies, and prepare a final product or products (e.g., community action plan, policy white paper, etc.) based on the scope students and community stakeholders developed in Collaborative Urban Problem Solving I. The course will include classroom and field-based experiences. Students must have completed Collaborative Urban Problem Solving I to enroll in this class.

The Collaborative Urban Problem Solving sequence provides a vehicle for community engagement and means to actualize interdisciplinary skill development within the Urban Affairs and Public Policy curriculum.

Preferred Sequence of Pre-Dissertation Coursework for Full-Time Students:

First Year	
Fall	Spring
Exploration of Urban Research Theories (3)	Scope / Methods in Urban Affairs Research (3)
Focus Area Course (3)	Focus Area Course (3)
Focus Area Course (3)	Advanced Quant/Qual Methods Course (3)
Second Year	
Fall	Spring
Collaborative Urban Problem Solving I (3)	Collaborative Urban Problem Solving II (3)
Focus Area Course (3)	Focus Area Course (3)
Advanced Quant/Qual Methods Course (3)	Focus Area Course (3)