

# City Studies (HBA)

Department of Human Geography

Specialist

Major

Minor

See also co-op option

City Studies is an undergraduate program that introduces students to concepts and skills to understand and tackle problems of an increasingly urban world. City Studies at UTSC is one of the largest and most comprehensive urban studies programs offered in Canada. Students acquire a combination of conceptual, methodological, and critical skills relevant in many fields including city planning, real estate development, transportation, housing, community development, urban governance, and city management. The Major program is designed to give students the opportunity to see how they might apply ideas about cities from the social sciences and kindred disciplines in their field of professional interest. The program also offers preparation for students interested in pursuing graduate education in a field of study related to cities.

**Complementary Programs:** Human Geography, Public Policy, Urban Public Policy & Governance, Geographic Information Sciences

## Make the most of your time at UTSC!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are listed. In fact, activities such as joining a student club, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study.

## Check out future career opportunities and skills acquired from completing this program:

### Competencies & Skills

- Critical thinking & evaluation
- Survey and sample
- Understand societal developments
- Communicate urban policy issues and identify policy strategies
- Analytical & communication
- Qualitative & quantitative urban research methods
- Plan and develop long-term projects

### Careers for Graduates

- Outreach & Program Coordinator (Non-Profit)
- Community Development Officer (Non-Profit & Government)
- Policy Analyst (Government)
- Researcher (Government & Think Tanks)
- Mapping Analyst
- Planner and Planning Consultant
- ...and many more!

### Further Education

- Planning
- Politics
- Public Policy and Administration
- Law
- Social Work
- Community Development
- Adult Education



Connect with Alumni at events on **CLNx** and through **Partners in Leadership**, **10,000 Coffees**, **LinkedIn** and more!

For more information go to:  
[uoft.me/alumni-services](http://uoft.me/alumni-services)

**NEED HELP CHOOSING  
YOUR PROGRAM?**

See [uoft.me/choosing](http://uoft.me/choosing)

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## Major Program Pathway

## HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PATHWAY

Read through each year; investigate what appeals to you here and in other Program Pathways that apply to you. Note that this Pathway is only a suggestion. **For the most up to date information, please check the UTSC Calendar.**

### YEAR 1 (0 - 3.5 Credits)

### YEAR 2 (4 - 8.5 Credits)

### YEAR 3 (9 - 13.5 Credits)

### YEAR 4 or FINAL YEAR (14 - 20 Credits)

#### CHOOSE YOUR COURSES WISELY

- CITA01H3 and 1 credit from: ANTA01H3, ANTA02H3, POLA01H3, POLA02H3, SOCA03Y3, GGRA02H3, GGRA03H3, MGEA01H3/(ECMA01H3) OR MGEA02H3/(ECMA04H3), MGEA05H3/(ECMA05H3) OR MGEA06H3/(ECMA06H3).
- Consider research methods courses GGRA30 or STAB23.
- Use Degree Explorer and UTSC Calendar to plan your degree.

- 1.5 credits from the following: CITB01H3, CITB03H3, CITB04H3, CITB08H3.
- CITB02, the gateway course into this program, introduces City Building, Community Development, and City Governance; choose additional B-level CIT core courses to explore these areas.
- Use Degree Explorer to ensure you meet your degree and program requirements.

- 1.0 credit from: STAB23H3 and GGRA30H3/GGRB30H3/GGRC31H3.
- 2.0 credits at the C- or D-level from listed CIT courses (check UTSC Calendar for details).
- Complete Approaches to City Studies course requirements.
- Start taking Applications courses in City Studies.
- Use Degree Explorer to ensure you are on track with your degree.

- 1.5 credits at the C- and/or D-level from listed courses (check UTSC Calendar for details).
- Complete the Applications course requirement and take D-level courses that allow you to apply your research methods skills.
- Use Degree Explorer to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Register your "Intent to Graduate" on ACORN by the deadline.

#### DEVELOP YOUR ACADEMIC & RESEARCH SKILLS

- First year courses allow you to develop basic academic reading, writing and research skills.
- Develop your research methods skills by enrolling in relevant courses.
- Visit the library for assistance when doing research for your assignments; writing support is also available at the CTL Writing Centre.

- Think about which areas of City Studies are of interest to you and what academic and research skills might be most useful to expand on.
- Seek support from your professors and TAs during office hours.
- Check the Research Catalogue on CLNx for possible undergraduate co-curricular research opportunities.

- Apply to work study positions on CLNx focusing on building both academic & research skills within your field of interest.
- Apply for the Summer Research Exchange Program (SREP) or JHI Scholars in Residence Program.
- Enter to win the UTSC Library Undergraduate Research Prize or Poster Forum.

- If you have done well in a C- or D-level course with a faculty member and want to go deeper into the research, explore independent research courses such as CITD30.
- Check if your professors have research assistantships available.

#### APPLY THEORY TO PRACTICE

- Apply to the Department of Student Life's (DSL) First Year Experience Program or Arts First Year Learning Community.
- Volunteer in your community, for example, a Food Program, a Community Garden, or a Youth Program; or check out a City Council meeting to see how decisions are made.
- Start building your Co-Curricular Record (CCR).

- Consider enrolling in CTLB03, a service learning course offered by Centre for Teaching & Learning (CTL).
- Continue exploring ways to get involved in your community on an issue that you are interested in.
- Use social media to stay informed about what is going on in the city in terms of politics, planning and community issues.

- Most experiential learning courses are available to students in 3rd and 4th year; there are a wide variety to choose from: CITC01, CITC02, CITC08, CITD10, CITD04, CITD05 (check the UTSC Calendar); speak to your professor or program advisor for more information.
- Explore summer internships or job opportunities in a related field.

- Consider taking one or both of the two City Studies Workshop courses for hands-on practical experience.
- City Studies Workshop courses provide training in a range of career-oriented research, consulting, and professional skills.

#### BECOME AN ENGAGED CITIZEN (LOCALLY & GLOBALLY)

- Join the Geography & City Studies Student Association (GCSA) and attend their events and programs. See what other student clubs exist on campus and how to get involved.
- Volunteer in East Scarborough through DSL's Community Action Projects, and Alternative Reading Week.

- Open yourself to other cultures by participating in the International Student Centre's (ISC) Development and Culture events in February and consider doing their Global Citizenship Certificate.
- Explore Global Learning opportunities such as a Summer Abroad through the ISC.

- Look into volunteering or working overseas to expand your network through ISC's Summer Research Exchange Program or Global Local Program.
- Make a contribution to the well-being of your community through volunteering, attending events and meetings, and taking on a leadership role in an organization.

- Consider becoming a student member of a relevant professional association; volunteer for their events and get to know people.
- Apply your skills, passion and knowledge by sitting on the board of a nonprofit organization dedicated to an issue you care about or get involved in an election campaign of a political candidate you want to support.

#### PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE CAREER

- Volunteer with organizations to explore your interest within industries related to your program of study; check listings on the Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network (CLNx).
- Attend the UTSC Get Experience Fair in September or register with Scarborough Campus Students Union's (SCSU) Volunteer Network Program.

- Gain experience by applying for a summer, part-time or Work Study position via CLNx.
- If you are considering graduate school, speak to professors and program advisors early; they are also potential mentors and references.
- Explore careers through the Academic Advising & Career Centre's (AA&CC) Job Shadowing and In the Field programs.

- Speak with staff at the AA&CC to plan a potential career path.
- Check CLNx for possible networking events or information sessions to attend.
- Consider attending Open Houses from graduate programs; attend the Graduate & Professional School Fair in September.

- Attend the AA&CC's Get Hired job search conference in April/May.
- Attend a Jobs for Grads orientation for a job search "crash course"; find opportunities on CLNx.
- Discuss grad school plans early with professors and AA&CC staff; get your Personal Statement for your Grad School application reviewed in the AA&CC.

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## SERVICES AT UTSC THAT SUPPORT YOU:

To learn about resources and departments that can support you, download the UTSC Student Experience app or visit [uoft.me/StARTNow](http://uoft.me/StARTNow)

### Diversity & Inclusion

The University of Toronto Scarborough commits to intentionally foster a welcoming and supportive environment for students, faculty, and staff where diversity is valued, and every member of the community feels a sense of belonging on campus.

[utsc.utoronto.ca/edo/](http://utsc.utoronto.ca/edo/)

### Academic Integrity

The university community supports an environment of academic integrity; these are values that include honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility. Learn about the university's academic rules and how to avoid accidental plagiarism by attending an Academic Integrity Matters (AIM) workshop.

[academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/](http://academicintegrity.utoronto.ca/)

### Healthy Campus

UTSC provides supportive environments, resources and services to empower students to maintain their overall physical and mental health and foster their academic success.

[uoft.me/healthycampus/](http://uoft.me/healthycampus/)

### Co-Curricular Record

The co-curricular record is an official institutional document that recognizes your involvement outside the classroom as a significant part of your U of T experience.

[clnx.utoronto.ca/ccr](http://clnx.utoronto.ca/ccr)

## FUTURE STUDENTS

For admission requirements to UTSC, check out the U of T Scarborough Viewbook or contact:

### Admissions & Student Recruitment

University of Toronto Scarborough  
Room HL104, Main Floor, Highland Hall  
416-287-7529

[admissions@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:admissions@utsc.utoronto.ca)

## CURRENT STUDENTS

### Departmental Contact

Marishka Pereira, 416-208-4811,  
[marishka.pereira@utoronto.ca](mailto:marishka.pereira@utoronto.ca)

[utsc.utoronto.ca/geography/city-studies](http://utsc.utoronto.ca/geography/city-studies)

### City Studies Librarian

Sarah Shujah  
[sarah.shujah@utoronto.ca](mailto:sarah.shujah@utoronto.ca)  
416-287-7491

### Academic Advising & Career Centre

Room AC213 | 416-287-7561

### Department of Student Life

Room SL157 | 416-208-4760

### Geography and City Studies Students Association (GCSA)

[gcsa.utoronto.com/](http://gcsa.utoronto.com/)

## DID YOU KNOW...

Some City Studies courses are taught by professionals in the field of city planning, policy, and community development.



## Glossary of acronyms:

AA&CC - Academic Advising & Career Centre

CCR - Co-Curricular Record

CLNx - Career & Co-Curricular Learning Network

CTL - Centre for Teaching and Learning

DSL - Department of Student Life

GCSA - Geography & City Studies Student Association

ISC - International Student Centre

SCSU - Scarborough Campus Students Union