CITY STUDIES

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The City Studies program produces students that have knowledge of political institutions, social inclusion and exclusion, economic competition among cities, transportation, and congestion.

They develop skills in project management, data collection, organization, and evaluation, as well as tools for engaging diverse stakeholders.

The projected population growth of our cities has enormous implications on how humans will live, work, and play in these spaces. Addressing such complexity requires students to pull from a range of disciplines including sociology, urban planning, policy, economics, architecture, and more. City Studies students take courses such as Foundations of City Studies, Canadian Cities and Planning, Introduction to Statistics for the Social Sciences, and Urban Geography.

World-renowned professors with global expertise guide our City Studies students. University of Toronto Scarborough students study urbanization challenges from around the world. Thanks to our small class sizes, which mirror the seminar-style format of graduate-level courses, our students receive instant feedback from City Studies experts on their ideas, projects, and vision for the future of Canada and the world’s urban environments.

SAMPLE JOB TITLES

- Outreach Coordinator in Social Services
- Public Consultation Assistant in Government
- Transportation Planning Associate in Consulting
- Supply Analyst in Government Services
- Junior Policy Analyst in the Provincial Government
- Junior Researcher in Think Tanks
- Project Coordinator in Non-Profits
“I learned how to critically analyze and investigate real world issues facing our increasingly urbanized environment and how the application of urban planning tools at various scales from local, regional and national can have significant impacts.”

PROFILE: VALERIE TAN

For Valerie Tan, a role within the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change meant more than answering calls and emails. It was an opportunity to foster interpersonal skills and academic knowledge.

“I learned how to critically analyze and investigate real world issues facing our increasingly urbanized environment and how the application of urban planning tools at various scales from local, regional and national can have significant impacts,” Valerie explains.

The work term was a beneficial arrangement for both student and employer. Valerie applied soft and hard skills to her role, which included observing data in an urban environment and identifying policy strategies amongst stakeholders:

“Working in a customer service oriented position with the Government allowed me to engage on a regular basis with stakeholders including the public, corporate consultants and regional planning specialists who would inquire about policies pertaining to Environmental regulations.”

Your next big hire is from the University of Toronto Scarborough Arts & Science Co-op program.

CO-OP IN ACTION

“We have had the pleasure of participating in UTSC’s Co-op program over the past 4 years. As a health regulator, the students have greatly assisted us in carrying out our mandate to protect the public interest by working on projects that involved governance, communications, policy research and policy development. We highly recommend this program, and want to thank the Co-op office for their tremendous assistance - scheduling interviews and hiring students was efficient and quick every year.”

Judith M. Rigby, CPA, CGA
Registrar and CEO
College of Dental Technologists of Ontario