Urban Ecology is an interdisciplinary field concerned with the interrelationships among social, environmental, and economic systems. The University of Utah's Urban Ecology program aims to enhance the vitality and sustainability of various communities. It is designed to respond to problems and opportunities that exist in cities, suburbs, small towns, and rural places including: environmental management, fragile landscape protection, recreation and tourism, public lands planning, rapid population growth, regional transportation, energy production, and sprawl.

As a student of the Urban Ecology program, you will take classes in urban ecology, planning, field studies, economics, law and social justice; plus a variety of electives topics, such as green infrastructure, sustainable development, community leadership and cities in literature. Your senior year will include an internship that tackles a real world problem in the Ecological Planning Workshop. The undergraduate program in Urban Ecology will prepare you for a professional career in environmental and sustainability planning, public health, public policy, or community development and planning. U graduates have used analytical and technical skills to pursue work as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) analysts, planning consultants, conservationist, community organizers, environmental outreach, and project engineers. With further education, Urban Ecology graduates can pursue a career in architecture, law, real estate development, social work, urban design, urban & regional planning.

- Understand the relationships between social, environmental, and economic systems and their role in shaping and managing human settlements.
- Analyze spacial, qualitative, and quantitative data to address real world problems.
- Gain competence in written, visual, and oral presentation skills.
- Understand the scientific basis of the environmental challenges and opportunities of human settlements in the 21st Century.
- Collaborate effectively across multiple planning, design, and scientific disciplines.
- Understand the history, form, and theory of human settlements.

At the U, we plan for our students to have an Exceptional Educational Experience identified by four broad categories we call the Learning Framework: Community, Knowledge & Skills, Transformation and Impact. This major map will help you envision, explore, design and plan your personalized Exceptional Educational Experience with the Learning Framework at the core. In addition to assisting you in planning your coursework and navigating the requirements of your major, it will help you incorporate other kinds of experiences that will expand your knowledge, support your development, and prepare you for the future you want.

Get started today
- Schedule an appointment with an advisor advising.utah.edu
- Visit ugs.utah.edu
- Learn more about the Learning Framework ugs.utah.edu/learning-framework

"The University of Utah’s Urban Planning program gave me the theoretical and technical skills that I apply daily to my work at the intersection of planning and conservation."

Christa Cassidy
Program Associate at The Nature Conservancy
GETTING STARTED

COURSES
- Take the DF core courses:
  - CMP 2010: Design Ecologies,
  - DES 2630: Design Contexts,
  - ARCH 2630: DF Workshop

COMMUNITY
- Join the DF-themed community
  - Sage Point
- Meet with a DF Peer Mentor
- Sign up for an outing with Campus Rec

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
- Meet with a CA+P Student Success Advisor
- Complete a personality profile
- Take DF-related gen ed courses
- Download and try out the Adobe Suite

TRANSFORMATION
- Do an information interview with a Professor
- Look into minors
- Take a music, art, or dance class

IMPACT
- Volunteer with the Bennion Center
- Mentor students from your old High School
- Develop an academic plan

CAREER
- Meet with a Career Services Advisor
- Activate & customize your Handshake account
- Apply for a DF Externship
- Go to a CA+P special lecture

URBAN ECOLOGY

MAKING PROGRESS

COURSES
- Take first steps in the major:
  - theory, communications, ecology, and economics (CMP 3100, 3270, 3260, 3400)

COMMUNITY
- Join SCAPE or Point B
- Volunteer at one of the campus’s edible gardens
- Go on a Jane’s Walk
- Join the Planning Dept’s social media feeds

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
- Attend a Green Bag Lecture at the Wallace Stegner Center
- Observe a city planning commission meeting
- Go to the Utah Bike Summit

TRANSFORMATION
- Attend Plazafest
- Study another language
- Spend a semester at our campus in Songdo, South Korea

IMPACT
- Go to the U’s Annual Career Fair
- Meet with a career coach
- Write/update a LinkedIn profile

WHERE CAN I GO AFTER GRADUATION?
- Affordable Housing Management & Development
- Architecture
- Alternative Energy Development
- CIS Systems Management
- Civic Engineering
- Civil Rights Law
- Community Design
- Community Development
- Designer
- Economic Development
- Emergency Management
- Environmental Advocacy
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Planning
- Government Administrator
- Graduate school in planning or a related field
- Historic Preservation Specialist
- Housing
- Internal Development
- Journalism
- Landscape Architecture
- Municipal Planning
- Parks & Recreation
- Planning & Development Surveyor
- Professor
- Public Administration
- Public Art management
- Public Health
- Public Interest Law
- Public Land Management
- Public Service
- Public Transit Administration
- Resiliency Planning
- Rural Development
- Social Justice Advocacy
- Transportation Planning
- Urban Designer
- Urban Ecologist
- Urban Planner
- Urban Planning Analyst
- Urban Planning Researcher

FINISHING UP

COURSES
- Advance into upper division major courses:
  - law, GIS, & field studies
    - CMP 4260, 4450, 4010, 4020

COMMUNITY
- Lead a Jane’s Walk tour of your neighborhood
- Run for ASUU
- Go to a concert at Gardner Hall

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS
- Go to a Global Change Sustainability Center seminar
- Meet with a professor to talk about careers
- Check out the U’s Capstone Program

TRANSFORMATION
- Visit the Utah Museum of Fine Arts
- Become a Community Engaged Scholar
- Spend a semester in Volterra, Italy

IMPACT
- Check out grad schools at the U’s Grad School Fair
- Attend the National APA Conference
- Do an internship with an organization or firm

CAREER
- Go to the U’s Grad School Fair
- Attend the National APA Conference
- Do an internship with an organization or firm