CERTIFICATE IN URBAN SCIENCE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Student Info Session | September 2020

Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation
Certificate in Urban Science and Sustainable Development

Session Agenda | 3:00pm-4:00pm

1. Certificate Program Overview
   • Eligibility
   • Requirements

2. Application Process

3. Audience Q&A
Why a Graduate Certificate?

Critical, Exciting and Expanding Field in terms of Science, Technology and Societal Need & Impact

Explicit Gaps in Current Graduate Programs in Urban & Sustainable Development

Student and Faculty Interest and Activity: no current recognition or “home”

Improved interdisciplinary student experience for dealing with emergent complex problems

University’s ambition and Mansueto Institute Mission's:

Create a pathway for talent: research training, professional opportunities
Certificate Faculty Committee

- Marc Berman | Department of Psychology
- Luis Bettencourt | Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation; Department of Ecology & Evolution
- Kavi Bhalla | Department of Public Health Sciences; Harris School of Public Policy
- Neil Brenner | Department of Sociology
- Kathleen Cagney | Department of Sociology
- James Evans | Department of Sociology; Knowledge Lab; Faculty Director, Masters Program in Computational Social Science (MACSS)
- Micere Keels | Department of Comparative Human Development
- Anup Malani | University of Chicago Law School
- Nicole Marwell | School of Social Service Administration
- Elisabeth Moyer | Department of Geophysical Sciences
- Mercedes Pascual | Department of Ecology and Evolution
- Bob Rosner | Departments of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Physics; Enrico Fermi Institute; Founding Co-Director, Energy Policy Institute; Harris School of Public Policy
- Emily Talen | Division of Social Sciences; Director, Urbanism Lab;

Administrative Contact: Diana Petty, Mansueto Institute
Certificate Program Overview

Why pursue this Certificate?
• Interdisciplinary cohort experience: debate, collaboration and synthesis
• Access to community of urban scholars on campus
• Professional development
• Proof of specialization to bolster career in urban research or practice

How does it work?
• In conjunction with existing graduate degree programs
• Creates horizontal space across disciplinary boundaries
• Supports student driven experience, events and opportunities
• Promotes interaction, coherence and standards across diverse educational and training offerings
Certificate Program Overview

Who’s eligible to apply?

- All full-time graduate students at UChicago who have completed first year of coursework for their degree program
  - For Master’s students, this means applying to the Certificate in the second (or third) year of degree program.
  - PhD students are encouraged to apply around the time they create their thesis proposal, though may apply earlier.

Note: Speak with your graduate program advisor in conjunction with applying to confirm the Certificate aligns with your existing course of study.
# Certificate Program Overview

## What are the requirements to complete the Certificate?

### Three elected courses
- May be selected from any graduate program or possibly advanced College offerings
- Courses previously taken may be submitted
- The following course types are candidates:
  - With an emphasis on urban concepts from the social sciences
  - Methods for (spatial) data analysis
  - Environmental dynamics and impacts (via health, policy, technology, design)

### Presentation of a Major Research Project
- Will occur at Faculty-Juried Symposium in Spring Quarter
- MRP proposals will be reviewed by Faculty Committee after acceptance into the Certificate Program (i.e. MRP does not need to be finalized when applying)
- MRP will typically be a Master’s thesis or PhD dissertation in accordance with a degree program
- Can substitute a high-level course project or relevant professional experience, such as a full-time internship, with approval of Faculty Committee

### Participation in cohort meetings
- Likely to be held twice per quarter
- 90-minute sessions
Application Process

Application materials

• Three proposed courses
• 750-word Statement of Purpose
  • In what aspect(s) of urban research or practice do you plan to focus?
  • How does the Certificate Program relate to your academic/professional goals?
  • How will you identify your Major Research Project? (can change later)
  • What initial aspirations do you have for components/outcomes of Project work?
• CV and brief professional bio

Applicants should have an indication of support from their graduate program advisors in conjunction with applying to the Certificate Program.
Application Process

Timeline for 2020 Cohort

- Application deadline: Sept 15 @ midnight
- Committee review: Sept 16-23
- Applicants notified: Sept 24
Audience Q&A
Put your questions in the Q&A box

Applications due at midnight, September 15

https://miurban.uchicago.edu/basic-page/certificateussd/

Questions via email: Diana Petty, dpetty@uchicago.edu
Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation

Thank You!
miurban.uchicago.edu