

Community Development BS

Overview

The **Bachelor of Science in Community Development**, offered by the Department of Architecture and Environmental Design (AED), prepares students to learn to understand and think critically about the social, political, economic, and cultural dynamics shaping various types of communities. Particular emphasis is given to empowering disadvantaged communities to address inequalities and improve their long-term social, economic, and environmental sustainability. The program enables students to lead efforts to create and maintain healthy, sustainable communities by providing a broad-based understanding and awareness of multi-dimensional aspects of urban and suburban community challenges in a metropolitan regional context and the means of effecting change from both grass-roots and public policy perspectives.

Students will learn how to engage stakeholders; assess a community's assets, needs and opportunities; plan what the community wants to achieve; and develop strategies, programs, and policies to improve quality of life. Learning will extend beyond the classroom with hands-on experience through service learning, field research, informal gatherings, and workshops.

Campus Location: Main

Program Code: TA-CMDV-BS

Admissions

For more information on how to apply, please visit Tyler's Community Development admissions page.

Accelerated Program

Eligible undergraduate students can also choose the +1 accelerated BS in Community Development and MS in City and Regional Planning program. The accelerated degree program enables students to complete both degree programs in 5 years by taking up to 12 specified graduate credits to fulfill the undergraduate degree requirements. Upon graduation from their undergraduate program, students move seamlessly into their graduate program, which they complete in one additional year.

To be eligible for the program, students must be declared Community Development majors; have a minimum of 3.25 cumulative GPA in at least 45 credits of coursework taken at Temple; be able to complete their undergraduate degree according to the specified academic plan; and be able to complete the graduate degree in one additional year including two summer semesters of graduate coursework. Community Development majors apply to the +1 accelerated program in March of their sophomore year.

Study Abroad

Students who plan to study abroad should arrange to meet with their academic advisor and the Education Abroad and Overseas Campuses office as early as possible, preferably during the freshman year, in order to explore options and plan the sequence of courses that would be most appropriate.

Career Opportunities

In the Community Development program students prepare to tackle the challenges of the community development worker in the 21st century, specifically how to empower culturally, economically or geographically disadvantaged communities to address inequalities and improve their long-term social, economic and environmental sustainability. Graduates are prepared to serve as the critical link between communities, local governments, and state and federal programs in various positions including community organizing, nonprofit organizations, private foundations, community development corporations, community investment specialists and more.

Contact Information

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Learn more about the Bachelor of Science in Community Development.

These requirements are for students who matriculated in academic year 2024-2025. Students who matriculated prior to fall 2024 should refer to the Archives to view the requirements for their Bulletin year.

Summary of Requirements

The degree of Bachelor of Science in Community Development may be conferred upon a student by recommendation of the faculty and upon the satisfactory completion of a minimum of 122 semester hours of credit with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0 overall and in the major.

At least half of the courses required for the major must be completed at Temple University.

University Requirements

- MATH 0701 (4 s.h.) and/or ENG 0701 (4 s.h.), if required by placement assessment.
- Students must complete requirements of the university General Education (GenEd) program.
 - Summer or semester study abroad will satisfy the GenEd Global/World Society requirement.

Program Requirements

- The courses fulfilling requirements for the Community Development major must be completed with a minimum grade of C- to apply towards degree requirements.
- All Temple students must take a minimum of two writing-intensive courses as part of the major. CDEV 2596 and CDEV 3197 are the specific writing-intensive courses that are required for Community Development majors.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Fundamentals courses		
Select one of the following:		3
PSY 1003	Statistics for Psychology ¹	
ANTH/SOC/PSY/POLS 0825	Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences ¹	
MATH 1013	Elements of Statistics ¹	
SOC 1167	Social Statistics ¹	
Select one of the following:		3
ECON 1001	Introduction to the Economy	
ECON 1101	Macroeconomic Principles ¹	
ECON 1102	Microeconomic Principles ¹	
ARCH 1502	Investigations into Built Environment Professions ¹	1
Community Development Core courses		
ARCH 1196	History of Form of Cities	3
CDEV 1113	Introduction to Community Development	3
CTRP 1017	City Planning Principles and Practice	3
CDEV 2013	Community Redevelopment and Revitalization	3
CDEV 2155	Housing and Community Development	3
CTRP 2524	Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	3
CDEV 2596	Community Planning Analysis (WI)	3
CDEV 3113	Nonprofit Management	3
CDEV 3197	Community-based Organizations (WI) ¹	3
CDEV 3313	Community Development Finance	3
CDEV 3455	Community Engagement and Empowerment	3
CDEV 4889	Community Development Workshop ¹	3
CDEV Methods and Practice Electives		
Select from the following courses for a total of 12 credits:		12
CDEV 2255	Environmental Justice in Communities	
CDEV 2354	Cooperatives	
CDEV 2454	Grant Writing for Non-Profits	
CDEV 3155	Healthy Community Design and Development	
CDEV 3165	Placemaking: Revitalizing Urban Communities	

CDEV 3175	Gentrification and Equitable Development
CDEV 3334	Community Economic Development
CDEV 3860	Topics in Community Development
CDEV 3870	Special Topics in Community Development
CDEV 3882	Independent Study in Community Development
CDEV 3883	Directed Reading/Study in Community Development
CDEV 4885	Internship and Professional Practice in Community Development ¹
CTRP 2114	Urban Form and Design ²
CTRP 2166	Land Use Planning
CTRP 2213	Environmental Planning ²
CTRP 2251	Sustainable Food Systems Planning ²
CTRP 3155	Ecological Planning and Development ²
CTRP 3255	Sustainability in Suburban Communities ²
CTRP 3256	Sustainable Community Design and Development ^{1, 2}
CTRP 3555	Internet and Digital Technologies for Community Engagement
CTRP 3655	Transportation Planning ²
CTRP 3755	Introduction to Emergency Management Planning
CTRP 3860	Topics in Community & Regional Planning
CTRP 3870	Special Topics

CDEV Interdisciplinary Electives

Select from the following courses for a total of 6 credits: 6

ARCH 3040	Seminar: Special Topics in History and Theory ^{1, 3}
ARCH 3070	Seminar: Special Topics in Site and Context ^{1, 3}
ARCH 3146	Engaging Places: Observations
ARCH 3273	Housing and Community Design ¹
ART 2011	Socially Engaged Arts Practices in Communities
or CART 3011	Introductory Seminar in Community Arts
or CART 3911	Honors Introductory Seminar in Community Arts
ARTH 2753	Art and Environment in American Culture
CART 3089	Research and Project Planning Seminar in Community Arts
GAD 2073	Introduction to Web Design
GAD 2078	The Art of Infographics ¹
RE 3501	Real Estate Fundamentals ¹
RE 3502	Real Estate Practice ¹
SGM 3511	Doing Well by Doing Good: Where Innovation and Entrepreneurship Meet Social Impact
AOD 2218	Leadership in Organizations
AOD 3376	Facilitating Group Decision-Making
CJ 3102	Community and Crime Prevention
CJ 3404	Urban Crime Patterns
POLS 3134	The Politics of Inequality
POLS 3153	The Politics of Poverty
GSWS 2022	Gender, Race, Class, and the City
GSWS 3259	Women and Poverty

Total Credit Hours**61**

¹ This course has a prerequisite(s) or registration restriction(s).

² +1 accelerated program students will take the approved graduate level CTRP courses in lieu of free electives in years 3 and 4. These students should consult with advisor before taking CTRP courses to fulfill Methods and Practice electives, to avoid conflicts with the graduate curriculum requirements.

³ Students should consult with their advisor before enrolling in Special Topics courses as topics may vary.

Note: CDEV students are not eligible for the minors in Community Development or City and Regional Planning.

Suggested Academic Plan

Bachelor of Science in Community Development

Suggested Plan for New Students Starting in the 2024-2025 Academic Year

Note: The symbol after the course number indicates that the class is offered ONLY in the semester indicated.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
(F) = offered fall only		
(S) = offered spring only		
(SE) = offered spring of even numbered years		
(SO) = offered spring of odd numbered years		
Year 1		
Fall		Credit Hours
CDEV 1113	Introduction to Community Development (F)	3
ARCH 1196	History of Form of Cities	3
ARCH 1502	Investigations into Built Environment Professions	1
ENG 0802	Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	4
or ENG 0812	or Analytical Reading and Writing: ESL [GW]	
or ENG 0902	or Honors Analytical Reading and Writing [GW]	
GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		17
Spring		
CTRP 1017	City Planning Principles and Practice	3
Select one of the following Economics courses:		3
ECON 1001	Introduction to the Economy	
ECON 1101	Macroeconomic Principles	
ECON 1102	Microeconomic Principles	
IH 0851	Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	3
or IH 0951	or Honors Intellectual Heritage I: The Good Life [GY]	
GenEd Quantitative Literacy [GQ]		4
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		16
Year 2		
Fall		
CTRP 2524	Fundamentals of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	3
CDEV 2013	Community Redevelopment and Revitalization	3
Select one of the following Statistics courses:		3
MATH 1013	Elements of Statistics	
SOC 1167	Social Statistics	
PSY 1003	Statistics for Psychology	
ANTH 0825	Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences	
or SOC 0825	or Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences	
or PSY 0825	or Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences	
or POLS 0825	or Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences	
IH 0852	Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	3
or IH 0952	or Honors Intellectual Heritage II: The Common Good [GZ]	
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
CDEV 2155	Housing and Community Development (SO)	3
CDEV 2596	Community Planning Analysis [WI]	3

GenEd Breadth Course		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Free Elective ¹		3
Credit Hours		15
Year 3		
Fall		
CDEV 3113	Nonprofit Management (F)	3
CDEV 3455	Community Engagement and Empowerment	3
CDEV Methods & Practice Elective I		3
Free Electives ¹		6
Credit Hours		15
Spring		
CDEV 3313	Community Development Finance	3
CDEV Methods & Practice Elective II		3
GenEd Breadth Course		3
Free Electives ¹		6
Credit Hours		15
Year 4		
Fall		
CDEV 3197	Community-based Organizations [WI] (F)	3
CDEV Methods & Practice Elective III		3
CDEV Interdisciplinary Elective I ²		2-3
Free Electives ¹		6
Credit Hours		14-15
Spring		
CDEV 4889	Community Development Workshop (S)	3
CDEV Methods & Practice Elective IV		3
CDEV Interdisciplinary Elective II ²		4-3
Free Electives ¹		5
Credit Hours		15-14
Total Credit Hours		122

¹ Consult with your advisor for suggested options.

² If one of the CDEV Interdisciplinary Electives is taken for 2 credits, then the second CDEV Interdisciplinary Elective must be 4 credits in order to meet the 6-credit CDEV Interdisciplinary Electives requirement for the major.

Study Abroad

Rome Option

Students who plan to study abroad are encouraged to meet with an academic advisor as early as the freshman year. A semester abroad would require using free electives that ordinarily would be taken in other semesters. It will take careful planning with an advisor to ensure that the degree is completed as efficiently as possible, and that course prerequisites or courses normally taken in the semester on Main campus are completed before the semester abroad. ARCH 3070 or ARCH 3241 counts as an interdisciplinary elective. Internships, if available, can count as a Methods and Practice elective by registering for CDEV 4885. Prior approval of the internship by the planning and community development program head is required.

Japan Option

Students who plan to study abroad are encouraged to meet with an academic advisor as early as the freshman year. A semester abroad would require using free electives that ordinarily would be taken in other semesters. It will take careful planning with an advisor to ensure that the degree is completed as efficiently as possible, and that course prerequisites or courses normally taken in the spring of junior year on Main campus are completed before the semester abroad. GenEd courses are offered at the Japan campus and can be substituted where appropriate for free electives. ARCH 3242 counts as an interdisciplinary elective (spring only). Internships, if available, can count as a Methods and Practice elective by registering for CDEV 4885. Prior approval of the internship by the planning and community development program head is required.

Other Study Abroad Options

Students who plan to study abroad are encouraged to meet with an academic advisor as early as the freshman year. Other study abroad options should also be discussed with the planning and community development program head.

Accelerated Programs

Students may opt to pursue an accelerated +1 program, enabling them to complete both a bachelor's degree and master's degree in less time than the traditional route.

The following accelerated program is available to students in the Community Development BS:

Tyler School of Art and Architecture

- City and Regional Planning MS