Urban Engagement in the Public and Private Sectors

Trinity College partners with companies such as Pratt & Whitney, where students tour the firm’s facility in East Hartford, Connecticut, as part of a larger program funded by the Luce Foundation. This program supports students in a variety of majors, including engineering, environmental science, economics, international studies, history, urban studies, and the arts, to do field study in China and Asia.

The College also has devoted increased attention to the needs of the surrounding neighborhoods. The Learning Corridor, a bold $175 million neighborhood revitalization plan with financial support from Trinity and the Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance (SINA), was completed in 1997. The complex, located adjacent to Trinity, now houses several magnet schools, including the Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy.
URBAN STUDIES PROGRAM

Trinity launched its urban studies major in fall 2013. This new major provides a broadly interdisciplinary understanding of how urban dynamics shape both global interdependence and local spaces. It emphasizes how cities are increasingly critical to the organization of economic, social, and cultural activities that shape and transform human experience. The major provides opportunities for community learning in Hartford, approved selective courses at the University of Connecticut or the University of Hartford, study away in international cities, as well as internships in a variety of urban settings.

URBAN GROWTH FACTS
1. The world’s urban population is expected to hit 5 billion by 2030*
2. Urban population is expected to grow to 5.4 billion by 2050**
3. The urban population will range between 6.4-8.4 billion by 2100*

URBAN POPULATION PROJECTED GROWTH 2011 - 2100

“Cities are the places where people all over the world live. They’re the centers of cultural and economic growth. There’s no more important place to know about than cities.”

Will Morrison '14 political science and urban studies major

**World Health Organization
COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To fulfill requirements for the major, students must complete at least 12 courses in three different disciplines, including the four core courses, four courses in one of three thematic clusters described below with a clear and strong urban focus and content, and four other urban studies courses.

Thematic Concentration:

Urban Architecture and the Built Environment
This cluster focuses upon the role of architecture, planning, and infrastructure in shaping the social and built environment of cities and urban space through art history, history, classics, engineering, and the Cities Program at Trinity.

Urban Culture, History, Society, and Economy
This cluster includes different paths for creating an urban-focused concentration of four courses. In consultation with their adviser, students may shape a cluster with a social science or humanities focus or thread these two strands together with courses in urban history, urban sociology, and urban economics.

Environmental Policy and Sustainable Urban Development
This cluster provides students with a focal understanding of critical topics and issues, including environmental degradation, the ecological footprint of cities, relationships between cities and climate change, urban political ecology, renewable energy, and sustainable urban development. This cluster builds on courses in environmental science and public policy as well as selected policy- or environment-focused courses with urban content in anthropology, economics, and political science.

URBAN STUDIES COURSES

- URST 101. Introduction to Urban Studies
- URST 201. From Hartford to World Cities
- URST 401. Senior Seminar
- CLI. Community Learning Course
- URST 206. Organizing by Neighborhood
- URST 201. Sustainable Urban Development
- URST 300. Community Development Strategies
- URST 399. Independent Study
- URST 466. Teaching Assistant

*Designates Core Courses*
Core faculty:

Garth Myers, Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of Urban International Studies, Director of the Program
Xiangming Chen, Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of Global Urban Studies and Sociology
Davarian Baldwin, Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of American Studies
Kathleen Curran, Professor of Fine Arts
Thomas Harrington, Associate Professor of Language and Cultural Studies
Joan Morrison, Professor of Biology
Kristin Triff, Associate Professor of Fine Arts
Andrew Walsh, Associate Director of the Leonard Greenberg Center for the Study of Religion in Public Life

Affiliated faculty:

Jane Nadel-Klein, Professor of Anthropology
Beth Notar, Associate Professor of Anthropology
Martha Risser, Associate Professor of Classics
Meredith Safran, Assistant Professor of Classics
Rasha Ahmed, Assistant Professor of Economics
James Wen, Professor of Economics and International Studies
Jack Dougherty, Associate Professor of Educational Studies
Jonathan Gourley, Senior Lecturer in Environmental Science

Jeffrey Bayliss, Charles A. Dana Research Associate Professor of History
Sean Cocco, Associate Professor of History
Dario Figueroa, Professor of History and International Studies
Michael Lestz, Associate Professor of History
Dario Euraque, Professor of History and International Studies
Jeffrey Bayliss, Charles A. Dana Research Associate Professor of History
Stefanie Chambers, Associate Professor of Political Science
Isaac Kamola, Assistant Professor of Political Science
Serena Laws, Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science
Anthony Messina, John R. Reitemeyer Professor of Political Science
Adrienne Fulco, Associate Professor of Legal and Policy Studies
Abby Williamson, Associate Professor of Political Science and Public Policy and Law

External practitioners:

Mevyn Colón, Executive Director of SINA
Lyle Wray, Executive Director of CRCOG
URBAN COURSES

Urban studies is infinitely interdisciplinary. The urban studies major was designed so that students could experience the urban in as many fields as possible. Below are some examples.

Sample Interdisciplinary Courses

American Studies—Viewing the Wire
Anthropology—Urban Anthropology
Art History—Architecture & Urbanism in Spanish America
College Courses—Community Action Integrated Intern
Economics—Economies of Cities
International Studies—The City in African Studies
Educational Studies—Cities, Suburbs, and Schools
Engineering—Architectural Design
History—Tokyo Story: Fishing to Cosmo
Language and Cultural Studies—Hispanic Hartford
Sociology—From Hartford to World Cities
Writing and Rhetoric—The Spirit of Place
Theater and Dance—Arts in Action: Community

“It’s exciting to think about being part of a changing field that’s not only making huge strides on a global scale but also at Trinity. Having combined [urban studies] with environmental science, I’ve had the opportunity to understand major development issues of today from both a social and scientific background.”

Renee Swetz ’14
environmental science and self-designed urban studies major

Please note: In addition to the 12 courses, students must complete an integrating exercise that synthesizes earlier urban studies work in the major. Alternatively, students may choose to earn honors in the major by completing a thesis in URST 401.
Luce Foundation-supported fieldwork: As part of Trinity’s River Cities of Asia program this summer, students analyze water samples from the Mekong River in Vientiane, the capital city of Laos. Participating are Sakile Broomes ’16, Salima Etoka ’15, Daniel Luke ’14, and Mona Deng ’16. (Professor of Biology Joan Morrison accompanied the students.) In addition to receiving support from the Henry Luce Foundation, the River Cities of Asia Program, coordinated by our Center for Urban and Global Studies, is supported through the China Urban Studies Summer Program Endowment Fund and the O’Neill Asia Cum Laude Endowment Fund.
## STUDENT RESEARCH

### COMMUNITY LEARNING INITIATIVE

What is community learning? At Trinity, we define it as a type of experiential learning—an academic course in which the faculty member works in partnership with a person or group from the local community to involve students in an experience they could not get in the classroom alone. Our community learning program involves almost all of our academic departments, more than 80 community organizations, and about half of our students.

### LEVY URBAN CURRICULAR FUND

The Steven D. Levy ’72 Fund for Urban Curricular Programs supports student investigations of a broad range of key urban issues confronting humankind in the 21st century. Of special interest are projects that highlight the urban realities of the city of Hartford. Examples of such issues include diasporic communities, educational and health policy, residential segregation, environmental problems, urban art/culture, human rights, and the creation and maintenance of public spaces (both physical and social).

### GROSSMAN GLOBAL STUDIES FUND

The Kenneth S. Grossman ’78 Global Studies Fund, established in honor of Professor Eugene E. Leach, supports student investigations of global issues that confront humankind in the 21st century. Examples of such issues include human rights, peacekeeping, the preservation of the ecosphere, migrations and diasporas, international health standards, and the consequences of revolutionary advances in information technology and bioengineering.

### TANAKA RESEARCH FUND

In 2002 Trinity was awarded a generous grant by the Tanaka Memorial Foundation establishing an endowed fund to allow students to pursue formal research projects abroad, with a special focus on Asia, during the months of July and August. Typically one grant, ranging from $3,000 to $4,000 in total, is awarded each year for the proposal deemed most feasible and relevant to the wider academic interests of the applicant.

### TECHNOJ JAPAN TOUR

One faculty or staff member and two students are invited for a two-week trip to Japan to participate in Technos International Week held in Tokyo every year in June. Technos International Week is an event organized by Technos International College of Japan. Its goal is to promote international exchange and understanding between the international guests and the members of the host institution, as well as to offer the guest group the opportunity to experience and appreciate Japanese life and culture.

### HENRY LUCE FOUNDATION GRANT

In 2012, the Henry Luce Foundation approved a four-year implementation grant of $400,000 to Trinity through its Luce Initiative on Asian Studies and the Environment (LIASE). The four-year grant, which begins in academic year 2013, comes on the heels of a yearlong $50,000 exploration grant received last year through LIASE, bringing the total amount to $450,000 over five years. The funds are being used to fully implement an integrated program linking Asian studies, environmental science, and urban studies by creating innovative strategies to support faculty development, teaching, research, and experiential learning. Thus far six Trinity students with interests in urban studies and environmental science have been awarded a summer research grant to carry out field research in Shanghai, Ho Chi Minh City, and northern Laos.

### DAVIS PROJECTS FOR PEACE

Davis Projects for Peace is an initiative for all students at the Davis United World College Scholars Program schools to design their own grassroots projects for peace that they themselves will implement anywhere in the world during the summer months. Through a competition on more than 90 campuses, 100 projects will be selected for funding at $10,000 each.
“At Trinity, I took advantage of the expanding curriculum offerings in urban issues. I participated in ... the Yangtze River Program in China, which allowed me to obtain field knowledge of the urbanization of China. With the support of ... research grants, I explored China’s urbanization and economic development and produced two publications on the subject. Building on my experiences, I wrote my senior thesis on the migrant workers in Chinese cities and the policy experiments to improve the workers’ conditions and was honored to receive the Levy Senior Research Prize.”

Chang Liu ’12