Ph.D. Program

The Program

The New Jersey Institute of Technology, the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey and Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey-Newark jointly offer the Ph.D Program in Urban Systems. The program's mission is to enable graduates to generate research-based knowledge of urban systems and to participate in the development, implementation and evaluation of policy and services for urban populations. In the program students draw upon existing knowledge and conceptual frameworks in the social sciences to conduct studies relevant to urban services, planning, design and policy, with the goal of improving urban and community life. Students have full access to library, computing, and other student services at all three campuses.

Urban Health Systems (UMDNJ)

The Newark Campus of UMDNJ is a recognized leader in basic biomedical, clinical and health-related research, awarding degrees in medicine, nursing, public health, biomedical sciences and a variety of health-related areas. University Hospital, affiliated with UMDNJ, meets the critical health care needs of the Newark community and also provides opportunities for research in urban health.

The Institutions of University Heights

NJIT, Rutgers-Newark, and UMDNJ, together, receive about $100 million annually in external funding. With a combined student population of more than 20,000, these universities conduct basic research in such areas as public health, environmental engineering, global affairs, urban epidemiology, infrastructure planning, and urban school performance.

Newark is within fifteen minutes of all major transportation systems, including Newark Liberty International Airport, NJ Transit, PATH, AMTRAK, the NJ Turnpike, and the Garden State Parkway. Mid-town Manhattan is twenty minutes away by train, Philadelphia, an hour by train. Washington DC and Boston are one hour by plane.

New Jersey Institute of Technology

■ NJIT, New Jersey's public research university offers graduate study in architecture, computing science, engineering, management, and sciences and liberal arts, awarding some 740 masters and fifty PhD degrees annually. It hosts over twenty-five major interdisciplinary research centers, many featuring partnerships with other research universities, business enterprises, and community organizations.

Rutgers University-Newark Campus

The Rutgers-Newark Campus of The State University of New Jersey is one of the state's leading centers for professional and graduate education, awarding some 670 masters and fifty doctoral degrees each year, in areas including arts and sciences, management, law, criminal justice, nursing, molecular and behavioral neuroscience, and global change and governance.

University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark Division

■ The Newark Campus of UMDNJ is a recognized leader in basic biomedical, clinical and health-related research, awarding degrees in medicine, nursing, public health, biomedical sciences and a variety of health-related areas. University Hospital, affiliated with UMDNJ, meets the critical health care needs of the Newark community and also provides opportunities for research in urban health.

Specializations

Urban Educational Policy (Rutgers-Newark)

Through an interdisciplinary approach to understanding urban educational systems, drawing from history, sociology, politics and economics of urban life, students learn to think critically about systemic school improvement. In course work, research, and internships, students engage in in-depth examination of urban educational policy and practice.

Urban Environments (NJIT)

In their course work and dissertations students pursue research, from a contemporary and historical perspective, on a variety of topics including housing, schools, urban neighborhoods, public space and mass transit. Issues of sustainability, social equity, historic preservation, community design and urban and regional development are addressed.

Urban Health Systems (UMDNJ)

Courses examine the complex relationships among social, cultural, political, economic, geographic, organizational and bioenvironmental factors that influence the health and health-related behaviors of urban populations. The goal is to educate students to conduct independent research that has the potential to improve the health of city residents.

Career Opportunities

Graduates have the option of pursuing careers as university faculty and researchers, government executives in policy and planning, analysts and administrators in health, education and planning-related fields; directors of foundations, professional organizations, environmental groups and architectural organizations.

The Curriculum

Program Core (18 credits)

Urban Systems I: Globalization, International Migration and Contemporary Cities

Urban Educational Systems: Schools & Communities in the Contemporary World

Determinants & Consequences of Urban Health

The Good City: Environmental Design & the Quality of Metropolitan Life

Research Core (12 credits)

Research Seminar I: Quantitative Methods

Research Seminar II: Qualitative Methods

Geographical Information Systems

Research Elective (by advisement)

Specialization (18 credits)

Three required courses and two electives

Urban Educational Policy

Sociology of Urban Education: Issues in Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity

Educational Policy and Urban School Improvement

History of Urban Education

Urban Environments

Urban Forms in History

Elements of Infrastructure Planning

Architectural Perspectives in Urban Research

Urban Health Systems

Urban Health Systems: History, Structure and Challenges

Social and Cultural Construction of Health and Illness

Determinants & Consequences of Urban Health

The Good City: Environmental Design & the Quality of Metropolitan Life

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