

Institution Submitting Request: University of Utah
Proposed Title: Urban Ecology
Currently Approved Title: Urban Planning
School or Division or Location: College of Architecture and Planning
Department(s) or Area(s) Location: Department of City & Metropolitan Planning
Recommended Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code¹ (for new programs): 04.0301
Current Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Code (for existing programs): 04.0301

Proposed Beginning Date (for new programs): 08/01/2013
Institutional Board of Trustees' Approval Date: 3/12/2013

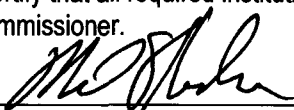
Proposal Type (check all that apply):

R401-5 OCHE Review and Recommendation; Approval on General Consent Calendar		
5.1.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Minor*
5.1.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emphasis*
5.2.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Certificate of Proficiency*
5.2.3	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graduate Certificate*
5.4.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Administrative Unit
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Transfer
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Restructure
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Administrative Unit Consolidation
5.4.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Center
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Institute
	<input type="checkbox"/>	New Bureau
5.5.1	<input type="checkbox"/>	Out-of-Service Area Delivery of Programs
5.5.2	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Transfer
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Restructure
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Consolidation
5.5.3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name Change of Existing Programs
5.5.4	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Discontinuation
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Program Suspension
5.5.5	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Program
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Reinstatement of Previously Suspended Administrative Unit

*Requires "Section V: Program Curriculum" of Abbreviated Template

Chief Academic Officer (or Designee) Signature:

I certify that all required institutional approvals have been obtained prior to submitting this request to the Office of the Commissioner.



Signature

Printed Name:

Michael L. Hardman

Date:

2/14/13

Program Request - Abbreviated Template

**University of Utah
Name Change to
B.S/B.A. in Urban Ecology
And Minor In Urban Ecology
10/03/2012**

Section I: Request

The University of Utah's College of Architecture + Planning requests to change the name of its Undergraduate Degree in Urban Planning to an Undergraduate Degree in Urban Ecology. The college is also requesting that the name of the Minor in Urban Planning be changed to a Minor in Urban Ecology. The primary activity impacted is a refocussing of instructional attention on the interconnected relationships of complex urban systems within the context of urban ecology. The shift in focus represents the planning profession's increased understanding of its responsibility in addressing public health, environmental and economic problems associated with historic planning pedagogy and practice.

Faculty of the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning began exploring this transition in 2008. On August 17, 2011 as part of a faculty retreat and strategic planning process it was determined that a formal transition process should begin. A roadmap for the transition was created in collaboration with the College's Dean, Brenda Scheer. Subsequently the Department unanimously approved the name change during the October 3, 2012 Faculty Meeting. A memorandum announcing the Department's intention to change the name was subsequently circulated to the entire faculty of the College of Architecture + Planning, and at the College Council Meeting of November 14, 2012, the College's faculty unanimously approved the name change.

Section II: Need

The need to address the unintended consequences of urban planning practice is evidenced across the social, environmental and economic realms of rural and urbanized human settlements. Per capita increases in the diagnosed instances of asthma, obesity, and diabetes have been linked to the design, development and management of urban areas throughout the United States. In Utah rates of these illnesses have increased as well, consistent with and exceeding national averages. Environmental impacts associated with modes of mobility including the degradation of air quality, and the effects of air quality on water quality affect the complex functions of the ecosystems. The costs associated with medical care and treatment, the costs of environmental restoration, and the costs to economic development opportunities need to be understood within the broader contexts of urban ecology. The planning professions (land-use planning, transportation planning, sustainability planning, regional planning, environmental planning, etc) increasingly recognize the complex interrelationships of their sub-specialties. In order to repair the unintended consequences of historic planning practice, and to avoid creating additional problems, planning pedagogy and practice must shift its focus from one of land-use, to the broader systems-based approach that comprises urban ecology.

The name change also reflects other advances made in the Department of City & Metropolitan over the past few years. Two years ago the department began reframing the undergraduate curriculum to correspond with the department's now accredited Master of City & Metropolitan Planning degree, as well as

the Ph.D. program in City & Metropolitan Planning. The evolution and trajectory of the University's planning program can already be seen in the way in which the department describes the undergraduate program to incoming students. As stated on the University's website,

The undergraduate degree in Urban Planning focuses on Urban Ecology, exploring the interrelationships among ecological, building, infrastructural, and cultural systems, with an aim toward enhancing the vitality and vibrancy of places and communities. For those seeking work at the graduate level, it also provides preparation for the Master of City & Metropolitan degree.

From a degree that has grown from a fledgling program nested in the Department of Geography in 1984, to a nationally respected, accredited program within the College of Architecture + Planning including 10 full-time faculty, this name change spotlights the maturation and thought leadership of the University's planning program.

Changing the name of the undergraduate degree in urban planning to Urban Ecology will be among the first in the United States. Though one institution in the U.S. offers an undergraduate degree in Urban Ecology today, and two institutions offer master's degrees in Urban Ecology, the University of Utah will be the first Research I institution to make the shift. This shift also reflects and responds to the cutting-edge impact of Utah-based planning entities including *Envision Utah* and *The Wasatch Front Regional Council*.

Section III: Institutional Impact

The name change will have minimal institutional impact vis-à-vis enrollments in other departments and programs. However, corresponding shifts at the University toward interdisciplinarity will be positively impacted by the College of Architecture and Planning's readiness and desire to develop collaborative opportunities for the students.

No changes in faculty and staff are required for this name change. No new physical facilities, equipment or modification to existing facilities will be required.

Section IV: Finances

No anticipated new costs or savings are anticipated. Now new funds are needed to implement this name change.

Section V: Program Curriculum

All Program Courses (with New Courses in Bold)

Course Prefix and Number	Title	Credit Hours
Required Courses		N/A
	Sub-Total	N/A
Elective Courses		N/A
	Sub-Total	N/A
Track/Options (if applicable)		N/A
	Sub-Total	N/A
	Total Number of Credits	N/A

Program Schedule

N/A