

# AT Urban Studies

## Overview

In collaboration with a mentor, students will study urban development from a historical and a geographic perspective focusing on themes, trends, and challenges that have faced urban planners. Through engaging in various interdisciplinary assignments and projects, students will demonstrate understanding of the key concepts, content, and skills associated with city design and analysis. In an effort to relate this program to the applicable real-world problems, students will apply this knowledge to Singapore and look for themes and patterns related to various community stakeholders. Subsequently, students will focus on a theme of personal interest which will form the basis of field work research paper/project. Themes could relate to topics such as gentrification, green space, the negotiation between private and public interests, architecture, transportation, leisure and recreation, or government housing, and may focus on one specific location, such as their own neighbourhood. This project will require students to develop and demonstrate mastery of research, critical thinking and analysis of data.

## Objectives

- Understand key concepts related to urban planning
- Understand the social, economic, political and governmental conditions of metropolitan areas and their impacts on individuals, institutions, and society
- Demonstrate understanding of the diverse nature of urban populations and the social justice issues many of these populations face
- Identify ways of creating more humane, equitable, sustainable, and efficient built environments to improve urban futures

## Structure

- Reflect on current knowledge of the range of topics that AT Urban Studies covers and identify strengths and weaknesses
  - Develop a personalised curriculum
- Explore a variety of social science concepts
  - Reading and discussions
  - Improving wealth of knowledge on which to draw on for a potential project
- Investigating real-world events
  - Critical thinking and problem-solving practice
  - Develop data analysis skills
    - Question reliability and validity of data
  - Improve evaluative thinking
- Using creative skills mixed with analytical skills, students will develop presentations to communicate findings and potential solutions
  - Demonstration of research skills and analysis of data

