The Penn IUR Undergraduate Urban Research Colloquium (UURC) facilitates faculty-mentored, undergraduate urban-focused research. The program includes support for a joint faculty-student research project and a semester-long, credit-bearing seminar. The UURC invites the participation of faculty from across the 12 schools to undertake research on a wide range of urban issues. Students from each of the University’s undergraduate schools (Arts and Sciences, Engineering and Applied Science, Nursing and Wharton) are eligible to participate. The program will sponsor up to 10 projects. Grant funds up to $2,000 per research team will be provided for faculty to support new and/or existing research efforts.

Projects have ranged from ethnographic studies of Philadelphia night life (anthropology) to identifying barriers to walking in disadvantaged neighborhoods (nursing and public health) to analyzing urban mass transit (engineering). UURC has yielded publications in refereed journals, leveraged other research funding and prepared undergraduates to pursue original research as an extension of the UURC project or in other areas.

For more information on participating in the Penn IUR UURC, please contact Stuart A. at StuartAn@design.upenn.edu or at 215-573-8386. See below for list of past research initiatives by participants’ departments and schools.

### Past Research Initiatives by Penn IUR UURC Participants

**Anthropology (SAS)**

- Income generating strategies of three social networks of Puerto Rican youth  
  S: George Karandinos  
  F: Philippe Bourgois
- Ethnography of the harm reduction potential in North Philadelphia shooting galleries  
  S: Nadja Eisenberg-Guyot  
  F: Philippe Bourgois
- Ethnographic exploration of challenges to accessing and adhering to HIV services among Latinos in North Philadelphia: a community-based collaboration  
  S: Carlos Martinez-Ruiz  
  F: Philippe Bourgois
- Clarifying existing definitions of globalization and building on them to enrich our understanding of the processes of qualitative social change

**Biostatistics and Epidemiology (Penn Medicine)**

- Implementing a conflict resolution program involving story-telling at Charles R. Drew Elementary School  
  S: Katherine Fleming  
  F: Andrea B. Troxel
- Social movements and community development in Latino Philadelphia  
  S: Yuri Castaño  
  F: Domenic Vitiello
- The rise of car share projects in U.S. cities  
  S: Ashwin Shandilya  
  F: Eugenie Birch

**Architecture (Penn Design)**

- Proposal for Reproductive Health Research Project in India  
  S: Sugandha Singh  
  F: Brian Spooner
- Examining the Civic Engagement of Muslims in Philadelphia  
  S: Sinduri Nandhakumar  
  F: Brian Spooner

**Asian American Studies (SAS)**

- An Evaluation of the Feasibility of Replicating Different Models of Assisted Community Schools

**City and Regional Planning (Penn Design)**

- An Evaluation of the Feasibility of Replicating Different Models of Assisted Community Schools

**Documenting the undocumented: community and economic development among Mexican immigrants**  
  S: Oscar Benitez  
  F: Domenic Vitiello
- Anchor institutions  
  S: Courtney Edwards  
  F: Eugenie Birch

**Hopeless in Philadelphia: A City in Need**  
  S: Taryn Williams  
  F: Philippe Bourgois

**Undergraduate Course on Green Architecture and Urban Sustainability**  
  S: Ayasha Guerin  
  F: Richard Wesley

**An Evaluation of the Feasibility of Replicating Different Models of Assisted Community Schools**

**African American Muslims: An Exploration of Identity in Philadelphia**  
  S: Emily Goshey  
  F: Fariba Khan

**Examining the Civic Engagement of Muslims in Philadelphia**  
  S: Sinduri Nandhakumar  
  F: Brian Spooner

**Clarifying existing definitions of globalization and building on them to enrich our understanding of the processes of qualitative social change**

**Implementing a conflict resolution program involving story-telling at Charles R. Drew Elementary School**  
  S: Katherine Fleming  
  F: Andrea B. Troxel

**Social movements and community development in Latino Philadelphia**  
  S: Yuri Castaño  
  F: Domenic Vitiello

**The rise of car share projects in U.S. cities**  
  S: Ashwin Shandilya  
  F: Eugenie Birch

**Update research on “Is Shorter Better? An analysis of gender, race, and industrial segregation in San Francisco Bay Area commuting patterns,” using 2000 PUMS data**  
  S: Tara Krueger  
  F: Rachel Weinberger

**The Impact of Preservation Upon Value and the Urban Landscape**  
  S: Peter Volynsky  
  F: Lynne Sagalyn
American Necropolis: Homicide in the American City
S: Samantha Napierkowski, Julian Smyth
F: Eric Schneider

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (SAS)

Modern-urban products and spatial politics on the Arabian Gulf
S: Cameron Hu
F: Heather Sharkey

Hip-Hop in Fes: Islam, Faith, and the Convergence of Cultures
S: Yuvall Orr
F: Heather Sharkey

Nursing (Penn Nursing)
Understanding teen partner violence and pathways to safety
S: Caitlin Phillips
F: Anne Teitelman

Mothers' beliefs and experiences regarding breastfeeding in public urban areas
S: Catherine Repetto
F: Diane Spatz, Roberta Cricco-Lizza

Assessment of the effect of "Girls on the Go" program on the fitness of 3rd-5th grade girls
S: Allison Ramsey-Lefevre
F: Stella Volpe

Examining the effects of HAART on health-related quality of life among HIV sero-positive African-Americans
S: Katherine Ball
F: Christopher Coleman

Examining the health promotion activities of urban dwelling older adults in Philadelphia
S: Cindy Lou Cuesta
F: Eileen Sullivan-Marx

Identifying and evaluating barriers to walking or bicycling for low-income African-Americans in West Philadelphia
S: Elizabeth Staebler
F: Stella Volpe

Development of an urban registry for sexual assault cases
S: Justine Lop
F: Linda A. McCauley

American Necropolis: Homicide in the American City
S: Samantha Napierkowski, Julian Smyth
F: Eric Schneider

The Role of Community Development Corporations in West Philadelphia
S: Nicole Thomas
F: Felipe Gorostiza

The Impact of the Franklin Institute on Nineteenth-Century Philadelphia
S: Willis Granger
F: George Thomas

Special Urban Districts and Energy Efficiency Movements* to Urban Studies
S: Claire Shimberg
F: Jonathan Barnett

Electricity Literacy and the PJM Widget at Penn
S: Ian MacLean
F: Genie Birch

*S = student; F = faculty