

URBAN PLANNING COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

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UPL 200 History of Urban Planning (3:3-2)*

This course provides a context for modern urban planning by reviewing the origins and development of cities in Europe, Asia, Africa, and America. As part of this context, students will examine the importance of social, economic, political, environmental, cultural and technological interrelationships that have determined location and form of cities and regions, and also the cycles of growth and decline of cities over time.

Prerequisite: None

UPL 201 Introduction to Urban Planning (3:3-2)

This course introduces students to the purposes of planning against the context of an historical background to contemporary planning. It presents the rationale for planned intervention, approaches to ordering land uses and activities, planning of residential, commercial, and other activities, and movement systems. The course also emphasizes the implementation of plans, zoning and its alternatives, and the concept of public policy intervention.

Prerequisite: None

UPL 202 Process and Theory of Planning (3:3-2)

Planning in a development process that needs to take into account the spatial and sectoral dimensions as well as the cultural systems. This course will introduce the study of city and regional planning, theories of urban change together with the theoretical principles and values that influence planning practice, and the role that planners play in the change process. It will also focus on planning in a pluralistic, multicultural society; planning practice both in government and the private sector; and the professional and ethical responsibilities of planners.

Prerequisite: None

UPL 203 Introduction to GIS (3:2-3)

This course introduces the concepts and principles of geographical analysis and mapping including location and coordinate systems, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) linkages to other software packages, tabular data manipulation, familiarization with GIS software (ArcGIS), geocoding, and generation of GIS maps and outputs. Through the use of case studies, students will also build data bases, and learn elementary modeling and analysis.

Prerequisite: FES 110

* (3 credits : 3 lecture hrs/week-2 lab/tutorial hrs/week)

UPL 204 Research Methods in Planning (3:2-3)

This is an introductory course on the basic problems and strategies involved in data collection in the social sciences. It explains how quantitative and qualitative researchers acquire their data. Quantitative methods will review probability and descriptive statistics, types and sources of basic planning data, collection and organization of data in tables, graphs and figures, and analysis and interpretation of quantitative information. UPL 204 will also introduce analytical methods from a qualitative perspective and illustrate a variety of instruments including surveys, case studies, action research, participant observation, focus groups, interviews, and textual analysis. Additional work on databases and spatial analysis will be included as well.

Prerequisite: FES 202

UPL 205 Urban Ecology (3:3-2)

This course will introduce the concepts and principles of basic ecology; the cycling of elements; energetic and structural organization of major ecological systems; population dynamics; impact of natural resource management practices and urban and industrial development on the environment; and the incorporation of environmental quality considerations into development activities. The course focuses mainly on the interface between planning systems and environmental management using the concept of sustainable development as an integrating conceptual framework. The evolution of the concept of sustainability is discussed and attention is focused on the development and use of sustainability indicators, policies for sustainability and the transition to sustainable development paths. Field study of natural and disturbed ecosystems, urban and applied ecology will be an integral part of study.

Prerequisite: None

UPL300 Planning Principles I (Environment and Transportation) (4:4-2)

This course is the first half of a two-semester offering in planning principles which introduces four key functional planning areas: environmental planning and transportation planning, housing, and social planning. The planning principles courses establish bridges between these areas and comprehensive planning theory and practice. The UPL 300 course will cover basic *environmental and transportation* concepts and principles.

Prerequisite: UPL 201, 202

UPL 301 Planning Design Studio I (Land Use Planning) (4:1-5)

This is first installment of group projects in the practical procedures of the planning process. The projects are based on direct work for a client, and involve all steps of planning studies from design to field work, research, evaluation, presentation of recommendations, and proposal for implementation. The UPL 301 studio will focus on a major *land use planning* exercise.

Co-requisite: UPL 300

UPL 302 Economic Development (3:3-2)

In this course, students will learn the practical application and critical appraisal of regional analysis techniques, including projection and forecasting, employment and demographic trends, and investment and decision-making and cost benefit analysis. In

addition, the concept and practice of community economic development will also be introduced as an alternative mechanism for enhancing the long-term growth and development of cities and regions.

Prerequisite: UPL 201, 202, FBA 100

UPL 303 Urban Design and the Built Environment (3:3-2)

This course introduces the role of design in the built environment by focusing on issues of fabric, form, and typology together with character and aesthetic quality. It will also illustrate how an examination of urban design strategies and the assessment of developments can be applied through a design perspective. Material will cover historical precedents, but contemporary situations drawn from local and international settings will also be used.

Prerequisite: UPL 201, 202

UPL 304 Planning Principles II (Housing and Social Issues) (4:4-2)

The Planning Principles II course establishes linkages between the substantive areas of *housing and social planning* and comprehensive planning theory and practice.

Prerequisite: UPL 201, 202

UPL 305 Planning Design Studio II (Environmental Planning) (4:1-5)

This is the second of three planning design studios in which students work as team members on an applied planning project. The project is carried out for a client, and involves the completion of a professional planning exercise. An *environmental* theme will be addressed in the UPL 305 studio.

Co-requisite: UPL 304

UPL 306 Public Infrastructure and Finance (3:3-2)

This course will examine how infrastructure systems such as transportation, energy, water, and public facilities serve people and their activities. It will teach skills for infrastructure planning, evaluation, and implementation. Students will also learn about municipal budgets and accounting concepts, public-private sector partnerships, and the process and practice of municipal finance.

Prerequisite: UPL 302

UPL 307 Strategic Planning (3:3-2)

This course will introduce students to the concept and practice of strategic planning. It will emphasize the application of a strategic planning process in government and public sector organizations, and how to overcome barriers to implementation.

Acquiring an understanding of the role of planners in terms of public decision-making, strategic planning and management approaches, and the creation of appropriate responses is a major course objective.

Prerequisite: UPL 201, 202

UPL 308 Introduction to Policy-Making (3:3-2)

This course is an introduction to the process of policy-making. The roles of institutions, processes and political elements in the creation of policy and its implementation are discussed. These roles will be examined in the context of all

levels of government. In addition, the course will focus on the way values and ideas shape and contribute to the policy agenda, and the role of the public in the policy-making process.

Prerequisite: UPL 201, 202, FAS 210

UPL 400 Planning Law and Practice (3:3-2)

This course introduces students to all aspects of the legal controls governing planning. It will review planning legislation from all levels of government; the concept and practice of zoning and development controls; legal requirements guiding the preparation and execution of Master Plan processes and documents; and land use control systems. Students will also learn how to prepare planning documents that meet legal regulations.

Prerequisite: UPL 300, 304

UPL 401 Planning Design Studio III (Community Planning) (4:1-5)

The third Planning Design Studio builds on two previous project-based planning exercises. Teams work on real planning issues, and use the planning process in identifying problems, conducting analysis, and proposing solutions. UPL 401 emphasizes projects with a *community* focus.

Prerequisite: UPL 305

UPL 402 Senior Studio Project I (3:0-4)

The Senior Planning Project is an opportunity for students to pursue a topic of interest in depth under the individualized supervision of a faculty member. Students will learn how to develop a project proposal, carry out a research program of study, and write a major paper. The course will emphasize both the process of research, and the product that represents the culmination of the effort. This project also serves as an integrating mechanism and draws on everything the student has learned throughout the program.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 404 Professional Practice Internship and Seminar (6:3-10)

This course provides students with the opportunity to gain experience with planning agencies, community organizations, and governmental departments. Students will work for a specified time period in professional environments, under the supervision of a mentor. Through this internship, they will be exposed to a range of practical, political, and professional issues in the workforce. As part of the Internship, this course will involve students in regular de-briefings to discuss the practice of planning within the context of a variety of professional environments. Under the direction of faculty members, students will reflect on their internships, compare work-related experiences and situations, learn about human relations and leadership, and discuss the changing roles of planning professionals in city and regional development.

Prerequisite: Junior Standing

UPL 406 Alternative Dispute Resolution (3:3-2)

Alternative dispute resolution has gained increasing popularity in planning as a response to congestion in the legal system, delays in litigation, and rising legal costs. This course familiarizes students with theory, concept, and practice for managing conflict and resolving disputes. Students will make extensive use of simulations to

develop analytical and practical skills in conciliation, negotiation, mediation, and arbitration, and learn how to respond to conflict in planning and community disputes.
Prerequisite: UPL 400

UPL 407 Senior Studio Project II (3:0-4)

This course is an advanced continuation of UPL 402. The Senior Planning Project is an opportunity for students to pursue a topic of interest in depth under the individualized supervision of a faculty member. Students will learn how to develop a project proposal, carry out a research program of study, and write a major paper. The course will emphasize both the process of research, and the product that represents the culmination of the effort. This project also serves as an integrating mechanism and draws on everything the student has learned throughout the program.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 450 Facility Siting and Risk Assessment (3:3-2)

In this course, students learn about the problems associated with siting risk-generating facilities such as waste storage facilities and power plants. It will teach the theory and practice of siting facilities, and the role that risk assessment can play. The course also uses a comparative approach to explain the differences between objective and perceived risk, and reviews current methods in risk analysis and assessment drawn from comparative case studies.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 453 Contemporary Urban Design (3:3-2)

This course will assess a number of cities, and the various arrangements of urban form that affect perceptual experiences. Urban design considers the location of structures, open space, movement channels, and methods of implementing public policy decisions affecting urban design. Upon completion of this course, students will have developed an urban design vocabulary. An additional aspect of this course will focus on the importance of retaining heritage sites as an integral part of the modern cityscape.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 456 Urban Transportation Planning (3:3-2)

This course will introduce supply and demand management approaches to transportation planning within land use/transportation interface. It will also teach the function of travel modes, modeling local and regional flows, the finance politics and policy of transportation planning; and the class four-state model: trip generation, trip distribution, modal split, and trip assignment. Cost and capacity relationships are also discussed.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 457 Housing (3:3-2)

In this course, students will gain an understanding of housing issues, and policies and programs from a planning perspective. It will present an analysis of the economic underpinnings of land markets and housing markets, housing plans, finance, public programs, and affordable housing. The role of both the public and private sector in all

aspects of housing will be examined in detail.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 458 Selected Topics in City and Regional Planning (3:3-2)

A current topic in city and regional planning, in which students require competence, will constitute the focus of this course. The topic may be issue-based, geographically related to specific regions or cities, or project-focused. Selected topics will vary each term, and will be developed/ proposed by individual faculty members, or in response to student request.

Prerequisite: Junior standing

UPL 459 Site Design and Planning (3:3-2)

Using a studio approach, students will be introduced to the planning and design of distinct land uses on existing sites. The emphasis will be on the design of suitable built form units within the context of an understanding of environmental, engineering, technical, administrative, regulatory, cultural, and aesthetic factors which influence and regulate planning and the design process. Within the context of this understanding, the student will develop either a residential subdivision plan or a plan for a moderate sized retail development.

Prerequisite: Junior standing

UPL 460 International Development (3:3-2)

Planners often work in developing countries. This course begins with an examination of the dynamics of development, and emphasizes the linkages between population, health and development; participation in development planning; human settlements; sustainable development; and capacity building. Case studies are used to illustrate the range of approaches currently being used by governments, multi-lateral organizations, and non-governmental groups.

Prerequisite: Senior standing

UPL 461 Advanced GIS for the Urban Environment (3:2-3)

This course builds on the introductory course to GIS (UPL 203). It enables students a thorough understanding of GIS techniques and to make full use of them. It also offers students a taste of the real-world activities that are often required in urban GIS projects but rarely included in prepared lab work—tasks such as data acquisition, integration of data in to the GIS, and manipulation of real data. Another objective is to demonstrate project design and analysis methodologies through presentation of real examples—case studies—of urban GIS projects.

Prerequisite: Junior standing