

PRINCIPLES OF URBAN PLANNING (762:306)

SYLLABUS — updated February 28, 2006

Urban Planning and Policy Development
Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy
Rutgers University, Spring 2006
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:20 to 4:40 pm
219 Beck Hall, Livingston Campus

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Urban planning is often seen as a primarily technical process, but it is also a social and a political one. Most local plans concern themselves with land use planning—that is, deciding how to manage and regulate land development. Development and re-development occurs in many places within urban areas, anywhere from downtown employment clusters, to suburban residential communities, to “edge cities” at the exurban fringe. Land use plans are often carried out with particular concern for the fiscal impacts on the municipality. But other kinds of planning are becoming increasingly important at the local level, including the construction and siting of transportation infrastructure, the design of development, its community and economic impacts, and regional concerns such as air and water pollution.

This survey course, focused on the United States, provides an overview of the following topics:

- ◆ The historical development of cities in the US;
- ◆ Urban society and culture;
- ◆ The history of urban planning;
- ◆ The uses of and problems with the most common planning tool, zoning;
- ◆ Several substantive planning areas, such as housing, transportation, and community development; and
- ◆ Issues of power, representation, participation, and conflict within urban planning.

Students will develop a theoretical, practical, and political understanding of the urban planning process.

The major objectives of the course are:

- ◆ Describe how cities work and who lives in them,
- ◆ Provide a working knowledge of the concepts and theories used by planners in deciding how to plan in contemporary urban areas;
- ◆ Survey substantive areas of planning such as community economic development, housing, and transportation planning, and
- ◆ Discuss whose interests are served by urban planners and plans.

Assignments & other expectations

About half of class meetings will start with a five-minute reading quiz. The purpose of the quizzes is to give you an incentive to prioritize reading and to take notes when reading.

There will be a mid-term exam and a final exam covering both the readings and the lectures. The final exam will be somewhat longer than the midterm exam. It will emphasize the material covered since the midterm, but will include some material covered before then.

The course will be run primarily in lecture format, but I expect and invite interruptions, and will call on students to explain concepts covered in the reading. Participation counts for 10 percent of the grade. I expect students to participate actively in a way that demonstrates familiarity with the assigned materials.

Students will work in a group to prepare and present a report on a local municipality (e.g., town, borough or city) regarding a specific planning content area such as transportation, housing, or community development. I will provide more information on this later in the course.

Grading & policies

Reading quizzes will account for 25 percent of the grade; in-class participation, 10 percent; the midterm exam, 20 percent; the group presentation, 20 percent; and the final exam, 25 percent. Reading quizzes will start on the hour and end five minutes later. If you know that you must arrive late or miss a class, in order to avoid a zero score you must submit a one-page discussion of the readings in Word format to me via email *prior* to the class. You can do this twice, in addition to religious holidays. The lowest three scores on reading questions (including zeroes due to absences) will be dropped for purposes of calculating this portion of the course grade.

If you miss the midterm exam for any reason, the final exam will count for 45 percent of the grade.

If you have any doubt about what constitutes academic integrity, consult <http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html>.

Books

There are two required books, available new and used at the Rutgers University Bookstore in the Ferren Mall:

Cullingworth, Barry and Roger W. Caves. 2003. *Planning in the USA: Policies, issues and processes*. 2nd edition. London, New York: Routledge.

LeGates, Richard T. and Frederic Stout, eds. 2003. *The city reader*. 3rd edition. London, New York: Routledge.

Readings

Most readings are in one of the two assigned books. Other readings will be made available on the course website (webct.rutgers.edu). The list below will be updated in the first few weeks of the course.

Note: Below, “USA” denotes *Planning in the USA*. “CR” denotes *The city reader*. “WebCT” means that the reading will be made available electronically via WebCT (see webct.rutgers.edu).

Week 1, Class #1 (Tuesday, January 17) COURSE OVERVIEW

No reading.

Week 1, Class #2 (Thursday, January 19) CITIES AND THE NEED FOR PLANS

CR, 227-234. Harvey, David. 1997. “Contested cities: social process and spatial form.” From *Transforming cities*, edited by N. Jewson and S. MacGregor. London and New York: Routledge.

WebCT: Fainstein, Susan and Norman Fainstein. 1996. “City planning and political values.” In *Readings in planning theory*, 1st ed., edited by S. Campbell and S. Fainstein. London: Blackwell.

Week 2, Class #3 (Tuesday, January 24) WHAT PLANNING IS

USA, 5-24. “Planning and government / the nature of planning.”

WebCT: Jacobs, Jane. 1961. “The death and life of great American cities.” From *The death and life of great American cities*. New York: Random House. As reprinted in *Readings in planning theory*, 1st ed (ibid).

Week 2, Class #4 (Thursday, January 26) THE EVOLUTION OF CITIES, Part 1

CR, 25-34. Davis, Kingsley. 1965. "The urbanization of the human population." *Scientific American*, September.

USA, 27-41. "Urbanization."

Week 3, Class #5 (Tuesday, January 31) THE EVOLUTION OF CITIES, Part 2

CR, 156-163. Burgess, Ernest W. 1925 (1969). "The growth of the city: An introduction to a research project." From *The city*, 3rd edition, edited by R.W. Park, E.W. Burgess, and R.D. McKenzie. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

CR, 68-76. Jackson, Kenneth T. 1985. "The drive-in culture of contemporary America." From *Crabgrass frontier: The suburbanization of the United States*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

CR, 78-85. Fishman, Robert. 1987. "Beyond suburbia: The rise of the technoburb." From *Bourgeois utopias: The rise and fall of suburbia*. New York: Basic Books.

Week 3, Class #6 (Thursday, February 2) URBAN SOCIETY & CULTURE, Part 1

CR, 93-96. Mumford, Lewis. 1937. "What is a city?" *Architectural Record* LXXXII (November), 58-62.

CR, 115-118. Jacobs, Jane. 1961. "The uses of sidewalks: Safety." From *The death and life of great American cities*. New York: Random House.

CR, 106-113. Putman, Robert D. 1995. "Bowling alone: America's declining social capital." *Journal of Democracy* 6(1):65-78.

Week 4, Class #7 (Tuesday, February 7) URBAN SOCIETY & CULTURE, Part 2

CR, 127-135. Wilson, William Julius. 1996. "From institutional to jobless ghettos." From *When work disappears: The world of the new urban poor*. New York: Knopf.

CR, 137-146. Zukin, Sharon. 1995. "Whose culture? Whose city?" From *The cultures of cities*. London: Blackwell.

WebCT. Abrahamson, Mark. 1995. "An overview." *Urban enclaves: Identity and place in America*. Worth Publishers.

Week 4, Class #8 (Thursday, February 9) HISTORY OF URBAN PLANNING, Part 1

CR, 355-374. Kaiser, Edward J. and David R. Godschalk. 1995. "Twentieth century land use planning: A stalwart family tree." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 61 (3): 365-385.

CR, 318-324. Le Corbusier. 1929 (1987). "A contemporary city." From *The city of tomorrow and its planning* [translated by Frederich Etchells from *Urbanisme*, 1929]. New York: Dover.

CR, 326-330. Wright, Frank Lloyd. 1935. "Broadacre city: A new community plan." *Architectural Record* 77 (April).

Week 5, Class #9 (Tuesday, February 14) HISTORY OF URBAN PLANNING, Part 2

USA, 44-61. "Governing and planning urban areas."

WebCT: Rohe, William M. and Lauren B. Gates. 1985. "The history of neighborhood planning." In *Planning with neighborhoods*. Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press.

Week 5, Class #10 (Thursday, February 16) ZONING: HISTORY AND PURPOSE

USA, 64-73. "The evolution of zoning."

WebCT: Babcock, Richard F. 1966. "The purpose of zoning." In *The zoning game: Municipal policies and practices*. Madison: The University of Wisconsin Press.

Week 6, Class #11 (Tuesday, February 21) ZONING: LAWS AND IMPLEMENTATION

USA, 75-87. "The institutional and legal framework."

USA, 89-107. "The techniques of zoning."

Week 6, Class #12 (Thursday, February 23) PROBLEMS WITH ZONING

WebCT. Siegan, Bernard. 2005. "The benefits of non-zoning." In *Regulating place: Standards and the shaping of urban America*, edited by E. Ben-Joseph and T. Szold. New York: Routledge.

WebCT. van Doren, Peter. 2005. "The political economy of urban design standards." In *Regulating place* (ibid).

Week 7, Class #13 (Tuesday, February 28) HOUSING

USA, 212-231. "Housing."

WebCT. Downs, Anthony. 2005. "Local regulations and housing affordability." In *Regulating place* (ibid).

Week 7, Class #14 (Thursday, March 2) TRANSPORTATION

USA, 190-210. "Transportation."

WebCT: Wachs, Martin. 2004. "Reflections on the planning process." In *The geography of urban transportation*, 3rd edition, edited by S. Hanson and G. Giuliano. New York: The Guilford Press.

WebCT. Calthorpe, Peter. 1993. "Guidelines" (pp. 41-49) and "Definitions" (pp. 56-61) [for transit-oriented development]. In *The next American metropolis: Ecology, community and the American dream*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press.

Week 7, Class #15 (Tuesday, March 7) URBAN DESIGN


USA, 126-139. "Aesthetics."

CR, 425-428. Lynch, Kevin. 1960. "The city image and its elements." From *The image of the city*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

CR, 430-436. Whyte, William H. 1988. "The design of spaces." From *City: Rediscovering the center*. New York: Anchor Books.

Week 8, Class #16 (Thursday, March 9) MIDTERM EXAMINATION

SPRING BREAK (March 13-17)

Week 9, Class #17 (Thursday, March 23) Discussion of the student project 

WebCT. Jacobs, Allan B. 1985. "Starting to look" (pp. 1-13), "Clues" (pp. 30-84), and "Looking back" (pp. 133-141). In *Looking at cities*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

Week 9, Class #18 (Thursday, March 23) COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Part 1

USA, 233-250. "Community and economic development."

WebCT: Blakely, Edward J. 2000. "Economic development." In *The practice of local government planning*, edited by C. Hoch, L. Dalton and F. So. Washington DC: International City/County Management Association.

Week 10, Class #19 (Tuesday, March 28) COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, Part 2

CR, 278-289. Porter, Michael. 1995. "The competitive advantage of the inner city." *Harvard Business Review*, May/June.

WebCT: Thomas, June Manning and J. Eugene Grigsby III. 2000. "Community development." In *The practice of local government planning* (ibid).

Week 10, Class #20 (Thursday, March 30) ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY & PLANNING

USA, 254-286. "Environmental policies."

WebCT: Ridley & Low. 1996. "Can selfishness save the environment?" In *Readings in planning theory*, 1st ed (ibid).

Week 11, Class #21 (Tuesday, April 4) GROWTH MANAGEMENT

USA, 109-122. "Development charges."

USA, 154-166. "Growth management and local government."

Week 11, Class #22 (Thursday, April 6) REGIONAL PLANNING

CR, 257-266. Downs, Anthony. 1989. The need for a new vision for the development of large U.S. metropolitan areas. New York: Salomon Brothers.

CR, 333-336. Calthorpe, Peter and William Fulton. 2001. "Designing the region" and "Designing the region is designing the neighborhood." From *The regional city: Planning for the end of sprawl*. Washington, DC: Island Press.

Week 12, Class #23 (Tuesday, April 11) POWER, CONFLICT & PROCESS, Part 1

CR, 376-387. Forester, John. 1987. "Planning in the face of conflict: Negotiation and mediation strategies in local land use regulation." *Journal of the American Planning Association*.

WebCT. Krumholz, Norman. 1982. "A retrospective view of equity planning: Cleveland, 1969-1979." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 48 (4). Reprinted as chapter 16 in *Readings in planning theory*, 1st ed (ibid).

WebCT. Forester, John. 1993. "Learning from practice stories: The importance of practical judgement." In *The argumentative turn in policy analysis and planning*, edited by F. Fischer and J. Forester. Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press. Reprinted as chapter 28 in *Readings in planning theory*, 1st ed (ibid).

Week 12, Class #24 (Thursday, April 13) POWER, CONFLICT & PROCESS, Part 2

CR, 244-255. Arnstein, Sherry. 1969. "A ladder of citizen participation." *Journal of the American Institute of Planners* 35 (4): 216-224.

WebCT. Bullard, Robert D. and Glenn S. Johnson. 2000. "Environmental justice: Grassroots activism and its impact on public policy decision making." *Journal of Social Issues* 56 (3): 555-578.

Week 13, Class #25 (Tuesday, April 18) ETHICS & PLANNERS' ROLES

WebCT. Lucy, William H. 1988. "APA's ethical principles include simplistic planning theories." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 54 (2). Reprinted as chapter 26 in *Readings in planning theory*, 1st ed. (ibid).

WebCT. Howe, Elizabeth A. 1994. "Introduction" (pp. 1-15) and "Planners' roles" (pp. 112-147). In *Acting on ethics in city planning*. New Brunswick, NJ: Center for Urban Policy Research.

Week 13, Class #26 (Thursday, April 20) Student presentations

Groups 1 and 2; readings to be determined.

Week 14, Class #27 (Tuesday, April 25) Student presentation

Group 3; readings to be determined.

Week 14, Class #28 (Thursday, April 27) COURSE SUMMARY

USA, 308-320. "Some final questions."

FINAL EXAM

Friday, May 5th, 12:00 to 3:00 pm, at a room to be determined.