

New York University
Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service
Dr. Shlomo Angel
Fall 2011

History and Theory of Planning: Tentative Course Syllabus

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Objective:

This course is a general introduction to the theory and practice of urban planning. It aims to acquaint students with the wide body of literature pertinent to the theory and practice of urban planning and with the historical roots of modern town planning; to introduce them to planning problems and strategies in a wide range of cities and countries; and to engage them in the study and discussion of current planning issues in the light of our current understanding of the city. Through a process of reading and responding to a broad range of articles in pertinent fields of knowledge, through listening and responding to lectures by the instructor, and through the presentation of case studies by students and guest lecturers, and through the writing of research papers, students are expected to form a better understanding of what urban planners and concerned urban activists can now do for cities and the people inhabiting them.

Course Description:

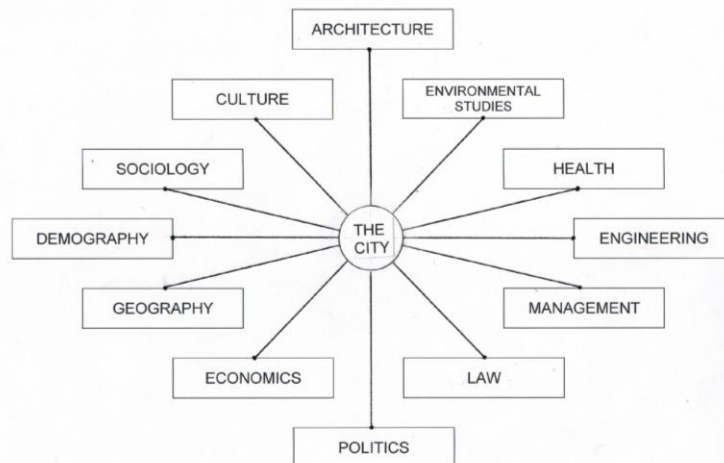
The course is designed as a lecture-seminar course. Participants in the course will meet once a week on Wednesday evenings, 6:45–8:35p.m. in Room LL138 at the Bobst Library. Altogether, there will be 13 meetings, starting on the 7th of September and ending on the 14th of December 2011. There will be no meeting on the fourth week of classes (the eve of Rosh Ha'Shana, 28 September) and students are requested to view the film on Robert Moses on line that week. Generally, each meeting will focus on one theme (see Course Schedule below). Students will be expected to read the one or two assigned articles for the week and post their comments on the reading(s) on the course's Discussion Board on Blackboard before coming to class. The instructor will introduce the theme in a lecture, and two selected students will make short Powerpoint presentations, one on the theme of the class and one on a case study pertaining to that theme. The lecture and student presentations will be followed by a class discussion.

Course Requirements:

There are three requirements for completing the course: (A) Posting responses to the assigned readings on Blackboard; (B) Preparation (and presentation, if selected) of a state-of-the-art paper on one of the course's themes; and (C) preparation (and presentation, if selected) of a case study.

A. Required Readings and Response: Students will be required to read one or two articles each week, in preparation for attending class. Students will be expected to enter a concise response (100-200 words) on each of the articles they read on the course's Discussion Board on Blackboard. The response should not be a summary of the article, but a statement of critical opinion. It should convey what the student understood to be the main thrust of the article, whether the student agreed or not, how it connected to the student experience or other knowledge, how it connected to the theme of the class, or whether the student found it relevant and useful and why. Students are also encouraged to respond to other students' posted responses on the Discussion Board or to posted comments by the Instructor or Teaching Assistant. The responses will be graded simply as submitted/not submitted. A full set of responses will count as **10 percent** of the course's final grade.

B. Preparation (and presentation) of a state-of-the-art paper titled "What Can Urban Planners Learn from the Study of Urban?": The challenge for the class will be to get a deeper sense of what can constitute urban planning theory or a theory of action for urban activists and practitioners who care about cities and their inhabitants. We have identified twelve fields of knowledge that have made significant contribution to the study and understanding of cities from their own unique perspective (see diagram below).



The class will aim to familiarize its members with these contributions, both by reading articles in each field and commenting on them, and by making available to the class a state-of-the-art paper written by a student that delves deeper into each field with the aim of drawing out key theoretical concepts, insights, methods, findings, and visions that are deemed relevant to urban planners, practitioners and activists. Each student will prepare

one such state-of-the-art paper. Selected students will present a draft of it in an 18-minute Powerpoint presentation in class, and all students will submit their papers in full on the courses' Blackboard as a final paper of 4,000-5,000 at the end of the term. The presentation in class will count for **20 percent** of the course grade, and the final paper will count for an additional **30 percent** of the course grade. Altogether, the state-of-the-Art paper, whether presented in class or not, will count for **50 percent** of the grade.

C. Preparation (and Presentation) of Case Studies: All students are expected to prepare a case study PowerPoint presentation, but not all students will be able to present their case studies in class. All in all, there will only be 12 case study presentations in class, 11 by students and one by a guest lecturer. The remaining case studies will be uploaded on the course blackboard for other students to read before coming to class (case studies should be uploaded no less than 48 hours before class). Case study presentations will focus on a particular topic and its manifestation in a particular city or region. They are expected to include basic information on the city as well as empirical research results on the topic being explored. Class presentations are expected to be at most 18-minute long PowerPoint presentations (approximately 20-25 slides) and not more. Case study class presentations will comprise **20 percent** of the course grade. The presentations will then be further worked on and submitted as a paper at the end of the course. The case study paper should be 3,000-4,000 words long. The case study paper will count for an additional **20 percent** of the course grade. Altogether the case study paper, whether presented in class or not, will count for **40 percent** of the grade.

Readings:

The required course readings, as well as the majority of further readings, will be available on Blackboard.

Office Hours:

The instructor will meet students, by appointment only, at the Wagner School's Puck Building's second floor lobby. Please e-mail the instructor to arrange for an appointment. Appointments will generally be held on Wednesday afternoons, 5:00-6:30 p.m. The teaching assistant will also meet students by appointment. Please email to eric.goldwyn@gmail.com to arrange for an appointment.

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Course Schedule

Wednesday 7 Sept.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 1: In Search of a Theory and History of Urban Planning An introduction to the class
Wednesday 14 Sept.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 2: Architecture and Planning Case study: Brasilia, the Building of a New Capital
Wednesday 21 Sept.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 3: Culture and Planning Case study: The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain
Wednesday 28 Sept.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 4: Rosh Hashana, No Class Meeting Film: Robert Moses and the Transformation of New York City
Wednesday 5 Oct	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 5: Sociology and Planning Case Study: The Tenure-Granting Program in Lima, Peru
Wednesday 12 Oct.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 6: Demography and Planning Case Study: Planning for Urbanization in China
Wednesday 19 Oct.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 7: Economics and Planning Case Study: Competitiveness in South African Cities
Wednesday 26 Oct	6:45- 8:25pm	Period 8: Politics and Planning Case Study: The Absence of a Land Market in Moscow
Wednesday 2 Nov.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 9: Law and Planning Case study: Kelo vs. New London, Connecticut
Wednesday 9 Nov.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 10: Management and Planning Case Study: Public Housing Provision in Singapore
Wednesday 16 Nov.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 11: Engineering and Planning Case study: Curitiba's Rapid Transit system
Wednesday 23 Nov.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 12: Health and Planning Case study: Orangi's Low-Cost Sanitation Programme, Karachi
Wednesday 30 Nov.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 13: Environmental Studies and Planning Case study: The Urban Growth Boundary in Portland, Oregon
Wednesday 7 Dec.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 14: Geography and planning Case Study: Fourth Street, Berkeley, a guest lecture by Denny Abrams, its developer.
Wednesday 14. Dec.	6:45- 8:35pm	Period 15: Conclusion and Reflection

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Detailed Course Outline and Readings

The detailed outline introduces the themes that will be touched upon and discussed in class each week by the instructor and by the student presenting the state-of-the-art paper. Students are requested to read the required articles or chapters with the prospective themes of the class in mind and to post their comments on the appropriate Discussion Board on the course's Blackboard site. The question 'Is this relevant for me if I am to engage in the practice of urban planning?' should be foremost in their minds. Articles for further reading are optional reading during the term and beyond.

Period 1: In Search of a Theory and History of Urban Planning

Themes

Definitions of urban planning; "no one plans cities anymore"; planning as misnomer or 'signifier'; planning and altruism; planning as urban activism; planning as a normative approach to public intervention in urban land use; the basic planning paradigm and its limitation; preparing for alternative futures; sources of legitimacy for planning; integrating other fields of knowledge into planning; a Rashomon view of the city; the limits of normative action.

Required Reading

Akutagawa, Ryunosuke, 1922. "In a Grove", translated by Takashi Kojima, online at <http://www.scribd.com/doc/3682435/In-a-Grove-by-Ryunosuke-Akutagawa>.

Angel, Shlomo, 1983. "Upgrading Slum Infrastructure: Divergent Objectives in Search of a Consensus," *Third World Planning Review*, Vol. 5, No. 1, February, 5-22.

Further Reading

Klosterman, Richard, 1985. "Arguments for and Against Planning," *Town Planning Review*, 56(1): 5-20.

Rittel, Horst, 1973. "Dilemmas in a General Theory of Planning," *Policy Sciences*, 4: 155-169.

Hall, Thomas, 1997, "Chapter 2: From Hippodamus to Haussmann—Town Planning in a Historical Perspective," in *Planning Europe's Capital Cities: Aspects of Nineteenth-Century Urban Development*, London: E & FN Spon, 8-54.

Sandercock, Leonie, 1998. "Introduction: Framing Insurgent historiographies for planning", in Sandercock, Leonie, ed., *Making the Invisible Visible: A Multicultural Planning History* Berkeley: University of California press, 1-33.

Period 2: Architecture and Planning

Themes

The master plan as a static end state; utopianism and environmental determinism in architectural thinking; fundamental differences between architecture and planning; the planned city and the living city; the city of monuments, boulevards, and plazas; the City Beautiful Movement; the Modernist movement and the International Style; destruction and

preservation; the death and life of the street; urban design; large projects and their limitations; the regulation of urban aesthetics.

Required Reading

Le Corbusier, 1929. "A Contemporary City," reprinted in LeGates, Richard T. and Frederic Stout, eds., *The City Reader*, Second Edition (1996), London and New York: Routledge, 336-343.

Alexander, Christopher, 1965. "The City is Not a Tree, Parts 1 and 2", *Architectural Forum*, 122(1), April, 58-62 and 122(2), May, 58-61.

Further Reading

Howard, Ebenezer, 1965 (1898), "Chapter 1: The Town-Country Magnet," "Chapter 8: Pro-Municipal Work," and "Chapter 9: Some Difficulties Considered," *Garden Cities of Tomorrow*, Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 50-57, 104-117.

Sitte, Camillo, 1986. "Introduction" and "Chapter 1: The Relationship Between Buildings, Monuments, and Their Plazas," and "Chapter 2: That the Center of Plazas Be Kept Free," in Collins, George, *Camillo Sitte: the birth of modern city planning*, New York: Rizzoli, 141-169.

Period 3: Culture and Planning

Themes

The city is a cultural artifact; the city as a locus of cultural production; the importance of landmarks and symbols in 'branding' the city; indigenous culture and architectural preservation; regional cultural differences in the design and use of urban environments; the search for regional symbols; multiculturalism and the city; the marketing of culture to the 'creative class'; stadiums, the Olympics and the city; the demise of the local newspaper; culture and tourism.

Required Reading

Florida, Richard, 2005. "Chapter 2: Cities and the Creative Class," in Florida, Richard, *Cities and the Creative Class*, New York: Routledge, 27-45.

Peck, Jamie, 2005. "Struggling with the Creative Class", *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 29(4), 740-770.

Period 4: Robert Moses and the Transformation of New York City

There will be no class meeting during this period because it is Rosh Hashana.

Please watch the one-hour segment on Robert Moses in Ken Burns's *New York* (available on Blackboard) and post your comment on the Discussion Board on Blackboard.

Themes

The planner as an agent of social change; the planner as the embodiment of the public interest; the car and the city; the expert as an unelected autocrat; modernism in action; planning in the service of capitalist interests; invisible people made visible through organized struggle; the limits of expert-led planning.

Required Reading

No required reading.

Further Reading

Caro, Robert A., 1975. *The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York*, New York: Vintage Books.

Jacobs, Jane, 1961. *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, New York: Random House.

Period 5: Sociology and Planning

Themes

Urbanism as a way of life; understanding rural-urban migration; urban ecology and the location of social groups in different parts of the city; residential segregation; understanding urban poverty; homelessness; spontaneous settlement formation; squatter settlements; defining and studying 'slums'; social conflict and social cohesion in the city; urban struggles; social capital and the search for neighborliness and community; crime in the city; gated communities; gentrification;

Required Reading

Turner, John C., 1967, "Barriers and Channels for Housing Development in Modernizing Countries," *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, 33(3) May, 167-181.

Burgess, Rod, 1978. 'Petty Commodity Housing or Dweller Control? A critique of John Turner's Views on Housing Policy', *World Development*, 6, 1105-1133.

Further Reading

Sennett, Richard, "Chapter 4: Planning Purified Cities", in Sennett, Richard, *The Uses of disorder: Personal Identity and City Life*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Saunders, Peter, 2001. "Urban Ecology" in Paddison, Ronan, ed., *Handbook of Urban Studies*, London: Sage Publications, 36-51.

Blokland, Talja and Douglas Rae, "The End to urbanism: How the Changing Spatial Structure of Cities Affected its Social Capital Potentials", in Blokland, Talja and Mike Savage, eds., *Networked Urbanism: Social Capital and the City*, Aldershot: Ashgate, 23-39.

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy Denton, 1993. *American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press.

Period 6: Demography and Planning

Themes

Measuring population growth and urbanization; measuring rural-urban migration; problems with measuring the population of the city; the 'population explosion' and 'overurbanization'; population projections; the limitations of projections of city growth; Zipf's Law; power laws and the population of cities; optimum city size; census data and spatial organization of cities; the historical growth of cities;

Required Reading

Krishan, G., 1986. "Is India Overurbanised?", *Population Geography* 8(1-2), 76-81.

Mohan, Rakesh, "Chapter 2: Urbanization in India: Patterns and Emerging Policy Issues", in Patel, Sujata and Kushal Deb, eds., *Urban Studies*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, 59-80.

Further Reading

Fay, Marianne and Opal, Charlotte, 1999. "Urbanization without Growth: A Not-So-Uncommon Phenomenon", World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 2412, November.

Ades, Alberto F. and Edward L. Glaeser, 1995. "Trade and Circuses: Explaining Urban Giants", *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 110(1), February, 195-227.

Hvistendahl, Mara, 2011. "China's Population Growing Slowly, Changing Fast", *Science* 332, 6 May, 650-651.

Period 7: Economics and Planning

Themes

The economic rationale for the emergence of cities; explaining rural-urban migration; explaining urban spatial structure; agglomeration economies; cities and economic development; urban public goods and externalities; income inequality; urban and housing finance; property and land taxation; the rationale for subsidies; urban real estate; city competitiveness; economic analysis of urban regulatory regimes;

Required Reading

Anas, A., R. Arnott and K. Small, 1998, "Urban spatial structure", *Journal of Economic Literature* 36, pp. 1426-1464.

Further Reading

Glaeser, Edward, 2011. *Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier*, New York: The Penguin Press.

Porter, Michael E., 1996. "The Competitive Advantage of the Inner City," in LeGates, Richard T. and Frederic Stout, eds., *The City Reader*, Second Edition, London and New York: Routledge, 278-291.

Hayek, Friedrich, 1946. "Chapter 5: Planning and Democracy," and "Chapter 6: Planning and the Rule of Law," and "Chapter 7: Economic Control and Totalitarianism" in Hayek, Friedrich, *The Road to Serfdom*, London: Henley, 42-75.

Altshuler, Alan A. and José A. Gómez-Ibañez, 1993. "Chapter 6: Does Development Pay its Own Way?" in Altshuler, Alan A. and José A. Gómez-Ibañez, *Regulation for Revenue: The Political Economy of Land Use Exactions*, Washington DC: The Brookings Institution, 77-96.

Brueckner, Jan, Thisse, Jacques-Francois and Zenou, Yves, 1999. "Why is central Paris rich and downtown Detroit poor? An amenity-based theory," *European Economic Review* 43: 91 - 107.

Head, Keith & Ries, John, 1996. "Inter-City Competition for Foreign Investment: Static and Dynamic Effects of China's Incentive Areas," *Journal of Urban Economics*, 40(1): 38-60.

Period 8: Politics and Planning

Themes

Power and class relations in cities; the city as a locus of capital accumulation; the differences between capitalist and socialist cities; urban struggles and revolts; tenure struggles and property tax revolts; justice and the city; planners accused of serving the ruling class; advocacy planning; the political legitimacy of planning; the decentralization of authority to lower-level governments; elected vs. appointed officials; globalization and the weakening of the State; the bargaining power of cities vs. footloose corporations; the rise of the urban middle-class and the demand for meritocratic government;

Required Reading

Bertaud, Alain, and Bertrand Renaud, 1997, "Socialist Cities without Land Markets," *Journal of Urban Economics* 41: 137-151.

Further Reading

Katznelson, Ira, 1992. "Chapter 4: Capitalism, City Space, and Class Formation: A Journey Organized by Friedrich Engels", in Katznelson, Ira, *Marxism and the City*, New York: Clarendon Press, 141-156.

Period 9: Law and Planning

Themes

The property rights that define the form of the city; forms of land ownership; the public and the private domains; limits to property: eminent domain and property taxation; the limits to eminent domain; the regulations governing urban development: zoning, land subdivision regulations, and building codes; exclusionary zoning; unaffordable regulations; the failure of regulatory enforcement; corruption and the rule of law; law enforcement; the right to the city.

Required Reading

Fernandes, Edesio, 2007. "Constructing the Right to the City in Brazil", in *Social and Legal Studies*, 16(2), 201-219.

Further Reading

Benevolo, Leonardo, 1967. "Chapter 2: The Beginnings of Town-Planning Legislation in England and France," in Benevolo, Leonardo, *The Origins of Modern Town Planning*, translated from Italian by Judith Landry, Cambridge MA: MIT Press, 85-104.

Period 10: Management and Planning

Themes

Forms of city management; planning as a part of city management; the evolution of urban management in the U.S.: from Tammany Hall to the City Management Movement; the source

of legitimacy for planning at different levels: from regional government to community control; municipal fragmentation; centralization vs. decentralization; models of decision-making in planning; privatization of municipal services; restrictive ordinances; cooperatives and condominiums; governance and corruption; large projects; models of community participation;

Required Reading

Etzioni, Amitai, 1967. "Mixed-Scanning: A 'Third' Approach to Decision Making", *Public Administration Review* 27(5), December, 385-92.

Further Reading

Simon, Herbert A., 1955. "A Behavioral Model of Rational Choice", *Quarterly Journal of Economics* 69, 99-118.

Lindblom, Charles E., 1959. "The Science of Muddling Through", *Public Administration Review* 19(2), Spring, 79-88.

Estache, Antonio, 2001. "Privatization and Regulation of Transport Infrastructure in the 1990s," *The World Bank Research Observer*, 16(1): 85-107.

Period 11: Engineering and Planning

Themes

Technological development and the historical evolution of the city; the industrial revolution and the city; the key technological inventions that have transformed the city; innovations in building construction: the steel frame and the elevator; innovations in infrastructure; the transportation revolution; the communication revolution; safety standards and building codes.

Required Reading

Jackson, Kenneth T. 1985. "Chapter 2: The Transportation Revolution and the Erosion of the Walking City," in Jackson, Kenneth, *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 20-44.

Period 12: Health and Planning

Themes

Epidemics and the city; the history of urban epidemics and their relation to urban reforms; the cholera epidemics in New York and London in 1850 and the decision to build water and sewer systems; slum clearance in the name of health; the health justification for the great eviction in Delhi in 1976; the emphasis on infrastructure in squatter upgrading; the danger of fire; the Triangle Shirtwaist factory fire in New York in 1911 and its consequences; zoning in the name of health and safety and its abuse; urban stress; urban vs. rural health levels;

Required Reading

UNICEF and WHO Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking-Water, 2010 Update*, online at <http://www.wssinfo.org/resources/documents.html>, 2-31.

Period 13: Environmental Studies and Planning

Themes

The impact of cities on the natural environment; the impact of agriculture on the natural environment; the urban origins of the nature conservation movement; urban sprawl and the efforts to contain urban expansion: the London greenbelt and the 1947 Town and Country Planning Act; The Seoul greenbelt; the Portland Urban Growth Boundary: the interests of the city vs. the interests of the countryside; the brown agenda vs. the green agenda; urban water, air, and noise pollution; the urban footprint; sprawl and urban energy use; green buildings; understanding and measuring urban sprawl;

Required Reading

Dagger, Richard, 2003. "Stopping Sprawl for the Good of All: The Case for Civic Environmentalism", *Journal of Social Philosophy* 34(1), March, 28-43.

Glaeser, Edward L. and Matthew E. Kahn, 2003. "Sprawl and Urban Growth." Harvard Institute of Economic Research (HIER), Discussion Paper No. 2004, Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University, published in Henderson, J. V., and J. F. Thisse, eds., 2004, *Handbook of Regional and Urban Economics*, Vol. IV, Chapter 56, Elsevier: Amsterdam. Available at: [http://post.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/glaeser/papers/Sprawl and Urban Growth.pdf](http://post.economics.harvard.edu/faculty/glaeser/papers/Sprawl%20and%20Urban%20Growth.pdf)

Period 14: Geography and Planning

Themes

Why do cities locate where they are? Location theory; Central Place Theory; hierarchies and systems of cities; growth poles; the internal spatial structure of cities; market areas; mapping the city; conceptual maps of the city; geographical information systems; models of the city; fractal cities; cities as self-organizing systems;

Required Reading

Allaway, Arthur W., William C. Black, Michael D. Richard, J. Barry Mason, 1994. "Evolution of a Retail Market Area: An Event-History Model of Spatial Diffusion", *Economic Geography* 70(1), 23-40.

Further Reading

Rowley, Alan, 1996. "Mixed-use Development: ambiguous concept, simplistic analysis and wishful thinking?" *Planning Practice and Research*, 11(1): 85-90.

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