

Princeton University
Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
Policy workshop 591G
Preparing for Rapid Urbanization in Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Fall 2003

Draft Course Syllabus

Preparing for Rapid Urbanization in Tegucigalpa, Honduras

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Instructor:

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Course Objective:

This course is a policy workshop. The objective of the workshop is to provide students with the theoretical foundations and the practical tools necessary for confronting a central challenge that the developing countries face today: making minimum preparations for the rapid urbanization expected in the coming thirty years, when the urban population in these countries is expected to double. The workshop will focus on the preparation of a report to the mayor of Tegucigalpa—Mr. Miguel Rodrigo Pastor Mejia—who has graciously and enthusiastically agreed to be the client for the workshop.

The report to the mayor—to be delivered during the final course presentation at Princeton— will include an analysis of the key growth issues confronting Tegucigalpa, one of the fastest growing cities in Latin America today, as well as propose a strategy for making minimal preparations for confronting this growth effectively. The readings, the GIS and census analysis, the visit to Tegucigalpa for data collection and interviews, and the class discussions and assignments will seek to acquaint workshop participants with issues surrounding the management of urban expansion worldwide, with current urban management issues in the developing countries, with analytical methods for dealing with urban expansion, and with the challenge of implementing a long-term policy in a dynamic political environment focused on the short-term.

Course Description:

The course will be structured as a hands-on workshop, where students will work together with the instructor as a team, dividing assignments among team members, coordinating administrative arrangements, and together producing and presenting the final report. The course will be divided roughly into four parts: (a) Analysis (first 6 sessions after the introductory session); (b) field trip (one week); (c) synthesis (last 5 sessions); and (d) report editing, translation, and presentation.

The participants in the workshop will meet regularly as a group once a week in [Room to be announced], Robertson Hall, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm on Thursday afternoons for two consecutive class periods with a short break in between. These meetings will be devoted to short presentations, discussions, and hands-on work. Other meetings in smaller groups, outside the official class periods, may be required as well. The workshop will start on September 10, at 1:00pm, one day before the official start of classes. Altogether, there will be 12 workshop sessions, ending on the 11th of December 2003. Workshop members will travel to Tegucigalpa with the instructor between 26th of October and the 1st of November for data collection; meeting with officials, private-sector and civic-sector leaders; and field visits. The final presentation is tentatively scheduled for 8 January 2004.

Course Requirements:

- (a) *Readings*: In preparation for class discussions each week, students will be expected to read chapters or articles pertaining to the discussion topic, or short papers circulated by members of the workshop team, before coming to class.
- (b) *Analytical Paper*: Each student will be required to draft one of the analytical sections of the report (Sections I through VI). The analytical paper will generally have two parts: (a) a short state-of-the-art problem-focused discussion on the subject area, and (b) what we know about that subject area in the case of Tegucigalpa. It may include appendices, where necessary. Once complete, it will be circulated to other team members and, on occasion, presented in class. In special cases, it may be possible for students to collaborate on their papers.
- (c) *Synthesis Paper*: Each student will also be required to draft one of the synthetic sections of the report (Sections VIII through XI). The synthetic paper will generally have two parts as well: (a) a short state-of-the-art solution-focused discussion on the subject area, and (b) what we propose in the case of Tegucigalpa. It may include appendices, where necessary. Once complete, it will be circulated to other team members and, on occasion, presented in class. In special cases, it may be possible for students to collaborate on their papers.
- (d) *Common Responsibilities*: All members of the workshop will be expected to assist in labor-intensive efforts, such as air photo interpretation as necessary. Similarly, all will be expected to help in administrative arrangements before and

during the field trip, in preparing the presentation, and in making the presentation.

Students will be graded on the basis of their two written assignments (25% and 25% respectively), on their contribution to common assignments (25%), on their teamwork (15%), and on their final presentation (10%).

Office Hours:

The instructor will meet students, by appointment, at Room [to be announced], Robertson Hall on Thursdays after class between 4:00pm and 6:00 pm. Please call Sylvia Klun at 609-258-4838 e-mail her at saklun@princeton.edu to arrange for an appointment.

Preliminary Course Schedule and Readings

10 September *Workshop Overview*

This first session will be devoted to becoming familiar with Tegucigalpa and with Honduras; with the mission and structure of the workshop; with the methodologies to be employed; with individual assignments, and with the necessary administrative arrangements. Tasks will be identified and discussed, as well as proposals for the allocation of work assignments.

Readings:

Angel, Shlomo, "Housing Policy In Honduras: Diagnosis And Guidelines For Action," prepared for the Government of Honduras and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), New York, June 2002.

Angel, Shlomo and Sheppard, Steven, "The Urban Growth Management Initiative: Confronting The Expected Doubling Of The Size Of Cities In The Developing Countries In The Next Thirty Years," a Research Proposal Submitted to the World Bank's Research Committee, The Urban Development Division, The World Bank, Washington D.C., August, 2003.

11 September *I: Urban Population Growth*

This session will be devoted to examining patterns of urban population growth in Tegucigalpa in comparative perspective. We will compare the population growth pattern in Tegucigalpa with other cities the world over, and try to explain it using a multiple regression model.

Readings:

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), 1996. *An Urbanizing World: Global Report on Human Settlements—1996*, New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, "Chapter 2: Regional Perspectives on Population and Urbanization," 32–98.

18 September *No Class*

25 September *II: The Expansion of the Built-Up Area, Urban Density, and Urban Land Consumption*

This session will be devoted to measuring the expansion of the built-up area of Tegucigalpa over time, and to calculating different measures of urban land consumption in the metropolitan area. These measures will then be compared with measures of urban land consumption in a sample of world cities collected by Bertaud and Malpezzi.

Readings:

Bertaud, Alain and Stephen Malpezzi, "The Spatial Distribution of Population in 48 World Cities: Implications for Economies in Transition," draft, Center for Urban Land Economics Research, University of Wisconsin, 2002.

Galster, George, Royce Hanson, Michael R. Ratcliffe, Harold Wolman, Stephen Coleman, and Jason Freihage, "Wrestling Sprawl to the Ground: Defining and Measuring an Elusive Concept," *Housing Policy Debate*, Vol. 12, issue 4, 681–717, online at www.fanniemaefoundation.org/programs/hpd/

2 October **III: Land Use and Land Availability**

This session will be devoted to calculating the major land uses in Tegucigalpa and their change over time using air photographs, with a special emphasis on (a) land in use by the informal sector, and (b) land availability for urban expansion. These will be compared with a similar analysis of Bangkok, Thailand, over the period 1974–1984. Also, in this session, we will attempt to assess land availability using slope data provided by *Landsat* imagery.

Readings:

Angel, Shlomo et al, "The Land and Housing Markets of Bangkok: Strategies for Public Sector Participation," Volume 1:Final Report, prepared by Planning and Development Collaborative International (PADCO) for the National Housing Authority of Thailand (NHA), and the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Chapter III: The Supply of housing," 1987, 16–35.

9 October **IV: Transport Problems and Prospects**

This session, as well as the following two, will be devoted to the analysis of the supply and demand for key public goods—transport, water, and sewerage infrastructure on the one hand, and open space protection and disaster mitigation on the other. This session will focus on the condition of the transport system in Tegucigalpa and its prospects, given current plans. WE will also discuss while it is unlikely that the urban road network will be privatized.

Readings:

Enginyeria i Gestió d'Infraestructures, *Avance Plan Territorial Tegucigalpa/Honduras*, prepared for the Office of the Mayor of the Central District of Tegucigalpa, Barcelona, Spain, Section on transport, January, 2002.

16 October **V: Water and Sewerage Problems and Prospects**

This session will focus on water and sewerage problems and prospects in Tegucigalpa. Special emphasis will be given to the projected water

shortage and to the absence of a system for piped sewerage. To the extent possible, these infrastructure systems will be studied in comparative perspective.

Readings:

World Bank, 2001. "Urban Service Delivery and the Poor: The Case of Three Central American Cities, Volume II: City Reports" Confidential Draft, Report No. 22590, Washington D.C., October.

World Bank, *World Development Report 1994: Infrastructure for Development*, "Chapter 1: Infrastructure: Achievements, Challenges and opportunities," New York: Oxford University Press, 13–36.

23 October ***VI: Open Space Protection and Disaster Mitigation***

This session will focus on Tegucigalpa's successes and failures to provide adequate public open spaces and to protect sensitive environmental areas, especially areas subject to mudslides and floods from being settled. Particular attention will be paid to the effects of Hurricane Mitch that struck the city in 1998. Again, to the extent possible, these issues will be studied in a comparative perspective.

Readings:

[to be selected later]

26 October ***Field Trip to Tegucigalpa***

The purpose of the field trip to Tegucigalpa is threefold: (a) to meet public officials, private-sector leaders, and civic-sector leaders and to get their views on problems and proposed strategies; (b) to collect missing data from various institutions; and (c) visit fringe areas of the city where expansion is most likely to take place and to learn of conditions there.

6 November ***VII: Alternative Scenarios for the Expansion of the Built-Up Area***

This session will be devoted to the various calculations of the build-up area required to accommodate the doubling of the population of the metropolitan area, and to generating various alternatives describing where the growth of the built-up area will likely take place. These different scenarios should incorporate information obtained by the team from experts during the field visit, and should respond to likely political and institutional constraints. Particular attention should be paid to the likely continuation of large-scale sector construction in the coming years.

Readings:

[to be selected later]

13 November **VIII: Proposed Transport Network Expansion**

This session will be devoted to generating alternatives for the creation of an adequate system of primary and secondary roads that could serve the areas slated for urban expansion in the coming years, ensuring that adequate right-of-way is obtained by the public sector for the installation of roads, public transport lanes, and other infrastructure primary and secondary network before it is too late. Particular attention will be paid to the planning, finance, and construction of a system of roads that define superblocks that could then be further developed into a variety of land use and street systems. The experience of Bogota, Colombia, will be studied in conjunction with this effort.

Readings:

[to be selected later]

20 November **IX: Proposed Water and Sewerage Strategy**

This session will be devoted to studying and assessing the merit of different alternative for solving Tegucigalpa's water supply and piped sewerage problems. Special emphasis will be given to a survey of possible alternative solutions to these problems given in the literature. More particularly, attention will be given to issues of privatization as well as to community-based sewerage treatment.

Readings:

Vogt Brian, "Community Based Sewerage in Developing Countries," final paper submitted to WWS572E: Housing in Developing Countries, May 14, 2003.

27 November **Thanksgiving, no class**

4 December **X: Proposed Open Space Protection Strategy**

This session will be devoted to an assessment of available strategies worldwide for the protection of open space from both formal and informal development, and to the formulation of an effective strategy for protecting steep slopes and riverbeds in the metropolitan area from development. Special attention will be given to aggressive enforcement through fencing, and through the involvement of civic groups in policing.

Readings:

[to be selected later]

11 December ***XI: Proposed Institutional, Regulatory, and Fiscal Arrangements***

This session will focus on institutional, regulatory, and fiscal arrangements that will be necessary for implementing the proposed urban growth management initiative for Tegucigalpa. These will incorporate the lessons learned during the field trip from discussion with local leaders and officials. They will also focus on the outlines of a proposed technical assistance and investment loan from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to finance the necessary means for implementing the initiative at the present time.

Readings:

[to be selected later]

Recess: ***Report editing and translation into Spanish***

During the winter recess, the different chapters of the report will be edited into a full report and translated into Spanish. In parallel, a *powerpoint* presentation will be prepared. The sections of the report will roughly correspond to the 11 subject areas for each individual class session.

8 January ***Report Presentation to Mayor, IDB, and Princeton Community***

The client for the workshop is the Mayor of Tegucigalpa. He will meet us when we visit the city, and his staff will assist us throughout the workshop in obtaining data and in responding to our questions. The mayor will be invited to attend the workshop presentation at Princeton. Other members of the Princeton community, including Dean Slaughter of the Woodrow Wilson School will be invited as well. Similarly, IDB and World Bank staff and selected outside guests will be invited to attend. The presentation will be divided into sections and the instructor, as well as the students, will present different sections.