

Princeton University
Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs
WWS533 Planning Theory and Process
Dr. Shlomo Angel, Instructor
Fall 2006

WWS533 Planning Theory and Process

Tentative Course Syllabus

Draft, 12 August 2006

Instructor:

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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 historical antecedents 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 discussion of a wide range of planning issues. Through readings of essential texts in the field, lectures by the instructor, class discussion, and the presentation of case studies by students and guest lecturers, students are introduced to the successes and failures of the urban planners in the past, to what we now know about cities and about how to plan and manage them, and to the challenging agenda facing planners today.

Course Description:

The course is designed as a lecture-seminar course. Participants in the course will meet twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursday, from 9:00am to 10:20am at Robertson Hall (room to be announced). Altogether, there will be 25 meetings, starting on the 14th of September 2006 and ending on the 14th of December 2006. Generally, each meeting will focus on one theme (see Course Outline below). Students will be expected to read the assigned articles before coming to class. The instructor will introduce the theme in a lecture, and the lecture will be followed by general discussion and debate. Selected students—as well as guest lecturers—will prepare case studies related to the lecture

topics and present them in class. Three films will be shown and discussed in class and there will be one structured class debate.

Course Requirements:

Students will be required to read several articles related to the topic to be discussed in preparation for attending class. On average, there will be approximately 150 pages of readings each week.

In addition, students will be required to take a midterm examination, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 26. The midterm exam will cover the material presented in class as well as in the course readings.

Students will also be required to write one *term paper* (not to exceed 6,000 words) and to email it to the instructor not later than 5pm on "Dean's Date", Tuesday, 16 January 2006. The paper can be on any topic related to the themes discussed in the course. The outline of the paper will be discussed with the instructor. Students are expected to select their topic, discuss it with the instructor, and present an outline of their paper by 15 November 2006.

Most, but not all, students will be asked to prepare and present a case study in class. Case study presentations will focus on a particular topic and its manifestation in a particular city. These case studies will then be developed further and expanded into a final term paper. Case study presentations are expected to be 15-20 minutes long PowerPoint presentations.

Students will be graded on the basis of the midterm exam (30%), their case study presentation (20%), their class participation (20%), and their term papers. For those presenting case studies in class, the term paper will count for an additional 30% of the grade. For those not presenting a case study in class, the final term paper will count for 50% of the grade.

Office Hours:

The instructor will meet students, by appointment only, at his office (Robertson Hall, room to be announced). Please e-mail the instructor at solly.angel@verizon.net to arrange for an appointment. Appointments will generally be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30pm - 2pm.

Readings:

Some readings will be available on Blackboard. Those that require copyright will be available in a Course Reader. The reader can be purchased at Pequod Printing at the Princeton University Store, 35 University Place. [The readings are presently being finalized and will be available in the next draft of this syllabus.]

Tentative Course Outline

Date	Topic
Thursday, Sept 14	An excerpt from the silent film "Metropolis" [Fritz Lang, 1927] The emerging urban agenda—an introduction Class Exercise: Ranking the importance of urban issues
Tuesday, Sept 19	Urban planning in historical perspective
Thursday, Sept 21	Urban planning theory—an overview
Tuesday, Sept 26	Utopias as means of envisioning the city Case study: Brasilia—a utopian vision for Brazil's capital
Thursday, Sept 28	Urban planning as applied social science Case study: The future of public transport in Atlanta
Tuesday, Oct 3	Urban public works—the provision of infrastructure as a public good Case study: The Toronto public transit system
Thursday, Oct 5	Improving the competitive advantage of the city Case study: Attracting the creative class [City to be determined]
Tuesday, Oct 10	The regulation of urban development Case study: Does the absence of zoning in Houston make a difference?
Thursday, Oct 12	Managing the dual city in the age of globalization Case study: the marginalization of the poor in Sao Paulo or Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
Tuesday, Oct 17	Film: "Bombay: Our City"
Thursday, Oct 19	Tackling urban poverty Case study: Anti-poverty programs in Curitiba, Brazil
Tuesday, Oct 24	Confronting the urban housing problem Case study: The success of public housing in Singapore
Thursday, Oct 26	Midterm Exam
Tuesday, Oct 31	Fall Recess, no class
Thursday, Nov 2	Fall Recess, no class
Tuesday, Nov 7	Recycling the city

	Case study: The redevelopment of the Barcelona waterfront
Thursday, Nov 9	Film: "Robert Moses and the transformation of New York City", a segment from Ken Burns' PBS series on New York City
Tuesday, Nov 14	Sprawl and the management of urban expansion Case study: Portland's urban growth boundary
Thursday, Nov 16	The protection of the urban environment Environmental justice in waste management in New York City
Tuesday, Nov 21	Governing the metropolis Case study: The Rise and Fall of the Greater London Council
Thursday, Nov 23	Class Debate on the motion "To promote the public interest, municipalities should be able to use the power of eminent domain to seize private property and transfer it to developers". Case study: The use of eminent domain for private development in Shanghai
Tuesday, Nov 28	Encouraging people's participation in decision-making Case study: [to be determined]
Thursday, Nov 30	Fostering the sense of community Case study: Restrictive covenants in [city to be determined]
Tuesday, Dec 5	The search for a New Urbanism Case Study: Fourth Street, Berkeley, California, a guest lecture by Denny Abrams, its developer
Thursday, Dec 7	Guaranteeing urban public safety Case study: Gated communities in Los Angeles [or in city to be determined]
Tuesday, Dec 12	Forging a city identity Case study: The Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain
Thursday, Dec 14	The challenges facing urban planning in the 21st century Course Evaluation and concluding remarks
Tuesday, Jan 16	Dean's Date: Submission of final paper