Planning Our Cities  
GEOG 3UP3

1- Course information
Course Name: Planning Our cities  
Course ID: GEO 3UP3  
Term: Term 1  
Class Times: Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 16:30-17:20  
Location: DSB AB102  
Term 1 Date: September 6 – December 7, 2016 (exam period December 9-22, 2016)

2- Course Objectives
The course examines concepts/theories of urban planning as they relate to the evolving shape of cities. The dynamic interactions of physical, social, and political elements in urban planning are addressed in five core themes. Firstly, the course highlights “what is planning” as it relates to the city we live in. Secondly, the course introduces the historical development of city planning, as well as the theoretical foundations of urban planning. A global overview is highlighted with emphasis on the Canadian context. Thirdly, the course details the planning process and highlights the role of planners, citizens and politicians. Fourthly, planning outcomes are explained in various case studies that highlights the operationalization of the planning process, as well as the success/failure of planning. Comparisons will be drawn between different case studies to illustrate contemporary planning issues. Lastly, the course concludes with remarks on “What is good planning?” from a geographical perspective.

3- Course Outlines

**Theme 1 Introduction**
Week 1 Introduction, what is planning? The branches of planning

**Theme 2 History & theories of planning; a global perspective**
Week 2 From 300 B.C. to the new urbanism; a history of city planning
Week 3 Theories of urban Planning
Week 4 Urban planning in Canada; history & theories

**Theme 3 The planning process; from theory to practice**
Week 5 The planning process
Week 7 Participants in Planning; planners, citizens and politicians - Part 1
Week 8 Participants in Planning; planners, citizens and politicians - Part 2
Week 9 Focus group discussions & group presentations

**Theme 4 Success & failure of planning**
Week 10 Planning levels
Week 11 Planning components
Week 12 Planning for social justice

**Theme 5 Conclusion**
Week 13 Conclusion, remarks, and discussion
4- Intended learning outcomes

Knowledge
- Comprehend the role of urban planning in our daily life,
- Understand the theories of urban planning,
- Understand the process of urban planning,
- Understand the components for successful urban planning,
- Reflect knowledge on case studies,

Cognitive skills
- Reasoning about theories and concepts of urban planning,
- Analyzing/evaluating the planning of existing communities,
- Developing arguments to support his/her analysis,

Interpersonal skills
- Develop individual and team work skills,
- Effectively communicate with a wider audience,
- Develop strategies for effective presentations,
- Develop self confidence in group discussions & debates,

5- Materials

Lecture Notes
- Presentations will be made available weekly through Avenue to Learn

Text

Required

Optional

Supplementary reading

Supplementary online visual materials
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_hwAu0epG-k
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EEhAY1Fcs7s
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_MacpHZe-Bk
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rw8LNJ8gBq4

6- Assignments

Assignment 1
- History & theories of urban planning – Individual essay (Pick A Topic from week 2) – Due on Week 4

Assignment 2
- Discussion of Planning process – Group discussion & presentation – Due on Week 10

Assignment 3
- Case Study analysis – Individual papers – Due on Week 13

7- Marks

Final mark in this course will be determined as follows

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment 1</td>
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<td>Assignment 2</td>
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<td>Assignment 3</td>
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<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>40%</td>
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8- Deadlines and Late Penalties

In the event of an absence for medical or other reasons, students should review and follow the Academic Regulation in the Undergraduate Calendar “Requests for Relief for Missed Academic Term Work” (MSAF). Please note these regulations have changed beginning Fall 2015. When using the MSAF, report your absence to mmoahem@mcmaster.ca and directly to your supervisor. Absences lasting more than three days must be reported to the Associate Dean’s Office (KTH-129 for Social Science students, BSB-129 for Science students, and JHE-A214 for Engineering Students) and appropriate documentation must be provided.

For medical absences, the University reserves the right to require students to obtain medical documentation from the Campus Health Centre. Please note that this form is simply a request for relief, the nature of the relief is left to the instructor’s /supervisor’s discretion. Once the form is filled out, the student must contact their supervisor and the course instructor (mmohame@mcmaster.ca) as soon as possible in order to make necessary arrangements for making up work. Generally, the accommodation will be to grant an extension which matches the length of the absence, at the discretion of the supervisor and in consultation with the course coordinator.

Please review the University’s policy on missed term work that is available at http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/content.php?catoid=7&navoid=559

9- Communication, Discussion, and Feedback

All formal communication regarding this course will be through McMaster email accounts and/or Avenue to Learn. Please be sure to check your McMaster account regularly. If you have not received emails regarding 3K03, it is your responsibility to contact the course coordinator with your McMaster email address and ensure your name is on the distribution list. Similar information will be posted on Avenue to Learn.

You are encouraged to discuss the feedback that you receive on your assignments with TAs and the course instructor. If you believe that you have received incorrect grades, you must contact the teaching team immediately with a written explanation. This process should be no later than one week of the day that the assignment was returned. Office hours are available by appointment for all members of the teaching team.

10- Accessibility

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have a disability or health consideration that may require accommodations, please contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS, http://sas.mcmaster.ca) as soon as possible. We are happy to work with SAS to provide the necessary accommodations for you to achieve your intended learning outcomes (ILOs) for this course.

11- Academic Integrity

You are expected to exhibit honesty and use ethical behavior in all aspects of the learning process. Academic credentials you earn are rooted in principles of honesty and academic integrity. Academic dishonesty is to knowingly act or fail to act in a way that results or could result in unearned academic credit or advantage. This behavior can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: “Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty”), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university.

It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various types of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy, located at: http://www.mcmaster.ca/academicintegrity

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:
1. Plagiarism, e.g. the submission of work that is not one’s own or for which other credit has been obtained,
2. Improper collaboration in group work,
3. Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

In this course we will be using Avenue to Learn. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure, please discuss this with the Course Administrators.
12- Professional Class Conduct

Our goal is to provide an environment that is free of discrimination and harassment, as well as that supports you to become competent in transportation engineering. Therefore, we have the following expectations;
- Meetings should be treated as discussion sessions, please be prepared to work, and participate actively in every meeting,
- Please arrive on time, and minimize disruption if you are late,
- You are encouraged to ask questions related to the content of this course,
- Please avoid eating during class if possible, breaks will be provided,
- Please make sure all your electronic devices (e.g. cell phones and mp4 players) are on silent mode,
- If you urgently need to leave the class, please do it quietly to minimize disruption,
- Additional aspects will be discussed in Week 1.

The instructor and the University reserve the right to modify elements of the course during the term. The university may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes.

Good Luck
Enjoy the Course