GGR 361 F     CITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Instructor: Alan Walks  
Office: DV/SB 3258  
Lectures: Wednesdays, 3 – 5 pm  
Phone: (905) 828-3932  
Studio/ Lab/ Tutorial: Wednesdays, 5 - 6 pm  
E-mail: alan.walks@utoronto.ca  
Lecture and Tutorial room: IB 280  
Office hour: Tuesdays 2:30-3:30 pm

Prerequisite: GGR 207H, GGR349H, or 8.0 FCE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

How do planners shape our cities and suburbs to work, look and feel the way they do? Are cities too compact, or too dispersed, according to the criteria of good planning? What can be done about urban sprawl? How can the way a city is planned affect the extent of urban poverty, traffic congestion, or neighbourhood decline? How might planning be used to improve the quality of life in our cities? This course seeks to answer these questions by examining the methods, history and theories of city planning and urban development. It begins by discussing the relationship between historical changes in the organization of urban life and the rise of planning as a profession. It then moves on to examine the actors and processes that are responsible for shaping the form of cities and contemporary suburbs, in turn asking the question of what urban planners actually do and the constraints they face. After examining the instruments at the disposal of planners, a number of current planning problems, including the problems of ‘sprawl’, regional planning, planning for environmental sustainability, and planning for the multicultural city, are examined and the solutions proposed to deal with contemporary urban problems are analyzed. Another theme relates to social planning and the provision of affordable housing. Theories of planning and the ethics of city planning are then discussed and related to the earlier course material. Assignments involve the production of a Site Report and then a Draft Plan of Subdivision for a select site within the City of Mississauga.

This course builds on GGR 207 (Cities and Urbanization). It compliments GGR 349 (Cities in Transition).

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this course are to:

1. Examine changes in city planning and development processes, and their effects on the form of contemporary cities
2. Examine the most important instruments and theories of planning, as well as the problems posed by, and potential planning solutions to, current modes of urban development
3. Acquire experience in analyzing the urban environment at different scales of analysis, and relating such experience to theories of planning
4. Acquire skills needed for the production of a draft plan of subdivision, as well as for a field-work based site report

COURSE ORGANIZATION:

The class each week includes 2-hours of lecture and an additional hour for lab work, group discussion, workshops, videos, additional lecture, and/or field trips. In most cases the lecture and lab will flow into one another seamlessly to produce a solid three-hour block. Students are expected to complete all required readings in advance of each lecture. Students are required to complete two assignments, and this will require visiting a site or sites outside of the university.
READINGS:

This course is built around readings drawn from both the textbook and from other sources. All required readings, and most of the recommended readings, are available from the UTM library, either on reserve/short-term loan or online. The textbook for the course is:


ASSIGNMENTS

There are two written assignments required for the course, as well as a mid-term test and a final exam.

Assignment 1: Site Report. Students will visit a selected site within the City of Mississauga. Students will then write a report in which they identify issues specific to the site that are important to take into account when re-developing and planning the site, including the topography, vegetation, natural features, amenities, nearby land uses, traffic levels, accessibility, lot dimensions, rights-of-way, and other strengths and weaknesses of the site.

Assignment 2: Draft Plan of Subdivision and Summary Report. The second assignment involves the re-design of the site visited for assignment 1. Students will be asked to plan the site for a mixed-use community of medium residential density. Included with the draft plan of subdivision that maps out a blue-print for the redevelopment will be a detailed summary report in which the rationale for including each element of the design is explained.

GRADING

The grading scheme is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Site Report</td>
<td>October 5 in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Mid-Term Test</td>
<td>October 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Draft Plan of Subdivision &amp; Summary</td>
<td>November 16 in class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>during exam period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E-MAIL COMMUNICATION

Note that many hotmail, rogers and yahoo email accounts are blocked by the University of Toronto spam filters. Students should thus always use an official University of Toronto (utoronto) email account when communicating with the instructor. All electronic messages are to be composed in a respectful, appropriately constructed manner (e.g., complete sentences), should identify the full name and student ID of the student, and should refer to the course code. E-mail should not be viewed as an alternative to meeting with professor during office hours. Students are advised to consult www.enough.utoronto.ca for information on university policy.

GEOGRAPHY LATE ASSIGNMENT/ MISSED TEST POLICY

Missed Term Work/Tests (as per Department of Geography policy):

Late assignments will be subject to a late penalty of 10% per day (including weekends) of the total marks for the assignment. Assignments submitted five calendar days beyond the due date will be assigned a grade of zero. In courses with final exams (including this one), there will be no re-writes or make-ups for term tests missed for University-accepted, verifiable reasons. Instead the final exam will be re-weighted by the value of the term test/quiz. Academic accommodation can be made when an assignment is late or a student is unable to write a term test/quiz due to a University accepted and verified reason beyond one's control.
Informing the Professor and Submitting Appropriate Documentation:
The following steps must be completed in order to be considered for academic accommodation for any
course work such as missed tests or late assignments:

1. Students must inform their professor in writing (e-mail is acceptable) within 24 hours of a test date/
assignment due date of any circumstances that prevent them from writing a test or submitting an
assignment on time.

2. Students must submit a University-accepted documentation (e.g., U of T Student Medical
Certificate http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/access/medcert.pdf) within **one week** of a missed
assignment due date or test date. Failure to submit appropriate documentation will result in a grade
of zero. Please submit original documentation in person to Sabrina Ferrari (Academic Counsellor,
Room DV-3282 Department of Geography). Medical Certificates MUST include the following
statement: “This student was unable to write the test on [date(s)] for medical reasons.”
Documentation must show that the physician was consulted within **one day** of the test or
assignment due date. A statement merely confirming a report of illness made by the student is not
acceptable (such as, “This patient tells me that he was feeling ill on that day.”) Failure to comply
with this policy will result in a grade of zero for the test or assignment in question.

3. A petition for academic accommodation must be completed and submitted along with the
University-accepted documentation (#2, above) within **one week** of a missed assignment due date
or test date. Petition forms are available in person from Sabrina Ferrari, Rm. DV-3282.

Please note that the written explanation and documentation that you submit represents an appeal from you,
requesting the opportunity to account for that portion of your grade in some other manner. If an appeal is
not received, or if the appeal is deemed unacceptable, you will receive a grade of zero for the item you
missed. If the appeal is granted – that is, your reason for missing the item is considered acceptable by the
committee – then a mechanism for accounting for the grade value of the missed item will be discussed.

Once all documentation has been received, the petition for academic accommodation will be reviewed by a
Departmental Committee. Students will be informed of the Committee's decision within 2 weeks.
Note that holidays and pre-purchased plane tickets, family plans (unless critical, such as death of an
immediate family member), your friend’s wedding, lack of preparation, or too many other tests are not
acceptable excuses for missing a quiz, a test, or an item of term work.

ACADEMIC SUPPORTS
Course information, announcements, assignment instructions, and lecture slides will be made available on
the portal/blackboard system. The instructor will be available to answer questions and help students with
assignments during the lab sessions held in the classroom, and during office hours.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND HONESTY
It is your responsibility as a student at the University of Toronto to familiarize yourself with, and adhere to,
both the Code of Student Conduct and the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.
This means, first and foremost, that you should read them carefully.

- The Code of Student Conduct is available from the U of T Mississauga website (Registrar >
Academic Calendar > Codes and Policies) or in your print version of the Academic Calendar.
- The Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters is available from the U of T Mississauga website
(Registrar > Academic Calendar > Codes and Policies) or in your print version of the Academic
Calendar.

Another helpful document that you should read is How Not to Plagiarize, by M. Proctor.
ACCESSIBILITY

U of T Mississauga and the UTM AccessAbility Resource Centre are committed to the full participation of students with disabilities in all aspects of campus life. The AccessAbility Resource Centre provides academic accommodations and services to students who have a physical, sensory, or learning disability, mental health condition, acquired brain injury, or chronic health condition, be it visible or hidden. Students who have temporary disabilities (e.g., broken dominant arm) are also eligible to receive services. All interested students must have an intake interview with an advisor to discuss their individual needs.

Students who require accommodation are advised to visit the AccessAbility Resource Centre as early as possible to have their needs assessed, as it may take some time to process the application.

For more information please contact the centre at:
Room 2047, South Bldg.
Tel/TTY: 905-569-4699
E-mail: access.utm@utoronto.ca
Web: www.utm.utoronto.ca/access
Week 1 INTRODUCTION TO PLANNING AND THE PLANNING PROCESS
THE PROCESS AND AGENTS OF LAND-USE PLANNING

Primary Reading:

Hodge and Gordon (2008). 1st half of Chapter 6, pages 142-160 (Focus on the Built Environment, up to page 160), and 1st half of Chapter 7, pages 174-184 (part of Steps in the Pan-Making Process) in Planning Canadian Communities. Toronto: Nelson.

Grant text, Chapter 5, pages 107 -111 (Grant, The Planning Process)

Week 2 HISTORICAL EVOLUTION OF CANADIAN URBAN PLANNING
ORIGINS OF THE PLANNING PROFESSION

Primary Reading:

Grant text, Chapter 2 (pages 21 through 46)


Recommended Reading:


Week 3 PLANNING THE MODERN CITY
FROM URBAN RENEWAL TO SPRAWL

Primary Reading:


Recommended Reading:


**Week 4**

**DREAMING THE GOOD CITY: IMPORTANT EARLY PLANNERS AND VISIONARIES**

**Primary Reading:**


**Recommended Reading:**

Grant text, part of Chapter 1, page 38-39 (D.L. Stein, Thomas Adams: Father of Canadian Planning)


**Week 5**

**REDEFINING THE GOOD CITY: JANE JACOBS AND PLANNING REFORM, DEFENSIBLE SPACE**

**Primary Reading:**


Grant textbook, part of Chapter 9, pages 220-227 (Wekerle, Planning for Safe Cities, through to McKay, Empty Spaces)

**Recommended Reading:**


Grant text, part of Chapter 5, pages 128-131 (P. Filion, The Weight of the System).

Week 6 THE INSTRUMENTS OF URBAN PLANNING

Primary Reading:

Grant text, part of Chapter 14, pages 339 – 343 (Grant, Why We Regulate Land)


Recommended Reading:


Week 7 THE IMPACTS AND REALITY OF CONTEMPORARY PLANNING: PARTICIPATION IN PLANNING, ETHICS AND VALUES IN PLANNING

Primary Reading:

Grant text, parts of Chapter 5, pages 111 – 126 (from McAfee, When Theory Meets Practice, through to Blakney, Citizen’s Bane: Consensus Building in Planning)

Grant text, parts of Chapter 4, pages 75-90 (from Grant, Understanding Ethics and Values, through to Lang, Equity in Siting Solid Waste Management Facilities)

Grant text, parts of Chapter 7, pages 172 – 181 (Qadeer, Urban Planning and Multiculturalism, through to Moore, Immigration: The Missing Issue).

Recommended Reading:


Grant text, part of Chapters 9 (pages 211 – 222, on ‘Healthy Cities’) and 10 (pages 233-242, on ‘Sustainable Cities’)


**Week 8**

***MID-TERM TEST***

**Week 9**

NEW URBAN FORMS: SOLUTIONS TO SPRAWL?
COMPACT CITIES, SMART GROWTH, TOD, NEW URBANISM

Primary Reading:

Grant textbook, part of Chapter 15, pages 375 – 385 (Grant, *Can Planning Save the Suburbs?* and Bourne, *The Urban Sprawl Debate*)

Grant textbook, part of Chapter 14, pages 350-355 (Gabor and Lewinberg, *New Urbanism: New Zoning*)

Grant textbook, part of Chapter 8, pages 185 – 199, (from Grant, *In Search of Good Design*, through to McDonald, *McKenzie Towne*)

Recommended Reading:


**Week 10**

**PLANNING FOR THE POOR: SOCIAL HOUSING AND SOCIAL PLANNING, PUBLIC FACILITY LOCATION**

**Primary Reading:**


**Recommended Reading:**


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**Week 11**

**REGIONAL PLANNING**

**THE PLANNING OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO**

**Primary Reading:**


**Recommended Reading:**


Week 12  
THEORIES OF PLANNING

Primary Reading:


Chapter 3 in the Grant textbook, pages 55 – 62 (M. Dear and G. Laws, *The Social Theory of Planning*)

Recommended Reading:


