

COURSE OUTLINE

Introduction

Recent developments in Canadian cities have indicated a need for planners and other urban professionals concerned with the provision of affordable housing in the context of urban growth management policies. This course will provide both theoretical understanding and practical insights into these issues through assessment of neighbourhood change and community based planning responses in Vancouver and Calgary.

Objectives

Within this overall framework the objectives of the course are:

- To provide an understanding of the social, economic and spatial aspects of neighbourhood change and their impact on the provision of affordable housing; and
- To develop practical knowledge on indicators to measure neighbourhood change as well as planning policies to ensure the provision of affordable housing for low income households in inner city neighbourhoods.

Teaching approach

The course will incorporate lectures, field visits in Vancouver during block week in February 21-24, 2012, independent research and project work. The field work component will provide an opportunity for intensive study of neighbourhood change in the inner city of Vancouver and some of its planning strategies for unique transformations of brownfield sites, regeneration without displacement and building of sustainable communities. The field work includes site visits, discussions and interviews with planning professionals, developers and academics. This important element of the course will enable students to learn and experience the outcomes of neighbourhood change community-based planning initiatives in Vancouver. The city is considered exemplary in terms of its sustainable planning and design strategies that also promote social inclusion through affordable housing.

Content: Topic Areas

Lectures, seminars and assignments will explore a wide range of topics central to neighbourhood planning and provision of affordable housing. Some of these thematic clusters include:

- Theoretical Perspectives on Neighbourhood Planning & Redevelopment
- Planning Sustainable Neighbourhoods: Retrofitting & Brownfield Strategies
- Housing Markets and Housing Policy Instruments
- Social Housing and Private Sector Engagement in the Provision of Affordable Housing
- Green and Affordable Housing: Catalyst of Neighbourhood Change.

The field work will focus on understanding the process and the results of Vancouver's Plan; it will explore outcomes of regeneration initiatives through case studies that look at redevelopment of downtown communities—Coal Harbour, False Creek, Eastside, Olympic Village—with a focus on neighbourhood change and the provision of affordable housing.

Throughout the course, students will have specific responsibilities related to the analysis and evaluation of different approaches/planning alternatives to manage neighbourhood change as well as to ensure socially appropriate planning strategies. Upon return, the completion of an assignment will qualify the student for a course credit. The outcome of this group project will provide a vital mechanism for the integration and learning of the material, and for the development of a range of practical urban planning skills.

Students are responsible to make their own travel and financial arrangements for the field visit. Some assistance with the logistics will be provided. Students that cannot afford the costs associated with the field trip will be provided with alternative project work and self-guided assignments in Calgary to meet course requirements.

Course evaluation

Participation in the field trip, background readings & discussions	35%
Research paper	40%
Poster	10%
Presentation	15%
Total	100%

Effective writing and presentation are major factors in the evaluation of student work.

Readings

Readings will be available on blackboard.

Notes:

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor.
2. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>) Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.
3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.
4. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>) and how this impacts the receipt and delivery of course material
5. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
6. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
7. Contact Info for: Student Union (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>); Graduate Student representative(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/quality-education/academic-services/student-rights>).

Grading Scale

Letter Grade	4-Point Scale	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	92.5-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	85-92.49	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	80-84.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	76-79.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	73-75.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-72.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	66-69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	63-65.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	60-62.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	56-59.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	50-55.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-49.99	

Note: A student who receives a B- or lower in two or more courses will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average unless the program recommends otherwise. Individual programs may require a higher minimum passing grade. A grade point value of 3.0 on the 4-Point Scale is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each registration anniversary year of the program. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise.