# Urban Design Studio

EVDS 618 H (0-8)
Winter 2012 Monday and Wednesday 14:00 - 17:50

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**Teaching Assistant:** Cristina Badescu

## Introduction

This studio aims to further develop skills in urban design. It involves conceptualization and visualization through consideration of contemporary urban design issues, and includes documentation and analysis of urban form and process, site planning, and urban design, with an emphasis on the public realm. Issues of urban morphology, local and regional identity, and sustainability inform the approach of the studio. We will consider environmental factors, social factors, urban structure, local and regional identity, and urban quality, and discuss the characteristics of good urban form within the western Canadian context. The exercises and major project will enable students to explore various aspects of urban form and process and to gain experience in addressing contemporary issues through an urban design approach and methodology.

**Prerequisites:** EVDP 625 or permission of the instructor

## Objectives

1. To gain experience in documenting, analyzing and understanding urban form and its evolution
2. To develop knowledge of key concepts and principles of urban design and their application through the exploration of an approach and methodology for urban design
3. To develop the ability to address issues and opportunities at the urban scale in three dimensional form through a process of design development
4. To gain experience in graphic thinking and communication as it relates to urban design

## Teaching Approach

This course follows a studio format, supplemented with site visits, lectures, and reviews of work. Each class period is to be considered a working session, with teaching and learning taking place through discussions of the work in progress. Students are expected to attend each session, and to present and discuss their ideas as they evolve. Development of exercises and projects will require additional time in addition to the assigned class period. Guest lecturers and reviewers will augment the teaching approach. Through the studio sessions, and with a series of inter-related exercises as instruments, students will gain experience in documenting, analyzing and understanding urban form and process, and in formulating physical planning and design concepts and strategies.

## Content

1. **Lectures/discussions**

> Throughout the semester, short lectures/discussions will address these and other related topics:
>> What is urban design? How is a city built? What is the development process?
>> City form - urban morphology, typology and spatial structure
>> The importance of the public realm
>> Townscape Analysis - approach and methods for urban analysis
>> Determinants of form in urban design
>> The qualities of "good" urban form

2. **Skill-building exercises**

> Short assignments will support the work of the major project and provide opportunities to develop skills, awareness and design vocabulary.

3. **Major project**

> A program and objectives for a site in Calgary will provide the primary means of developing urban design skills, and will involve exploration and communication through analysis and conceptualization, utilizing various drawing and modeling techniques.

4. **Portfolio**

> Students will compose /compile a portfolio that is a record of the work of the semester and a reflection of the design process that has been developed.

## Graphics and Computer Skills

Students should have some previous background with the following:

- image editing software, such as Photoshop
- vector drawing software, such as Illustrator, Autocad, Rhino
- 3D modeling software, such as SketchUp, Rhino
- desk top publishing software, such as InDesign
- presentation software, such as Powerpoint, Keynote
- GIS might also be useful but will not be required or taught in this course. Please consult the university calendar for various GIS courses.

Model-making will be included in some parts of the course, and will be able to be completed outside of the EVDS workshop and will not require specilized materials or tools. Any students choosing to utilize the EVDS workshop are required to complete the workshop safety course (please consult the EVDS website under Resources>Workshop).

## Schedule

A course schedule will be provided at the beginning of the semester. There will be no classes during Block Week. The final class day will be Wednesday 11 April 2012, and the final review will be scheduled during the period 16 April - 25 April 2012.

## Means of Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on the elements listed below. There will be no final examination. Assessment will be done on the basis of day-to-day performance as well as on the quality of work presented at reviews. While the *product* of studio work is important, equally important is the student's ability to develop a practical, appropriate and coherent planning and design *process*. Students are expected to be in attendance for the entirety of each studio period.

Each component of the course must be completed, and a passing grade (i.e. minimum B-, or the 4-point or percentage equivalent) achieved, in order to pass the course as a whole. Because the studio work is evaluated during the interim and final reviews, all work must be completed on time, and all students must take part in the presentations and reviews. Late pinning up/submission of material to be presented in studio reviews is not acceptable (grades will be deducted for work pinned up or submitted later than the deadline specified in the course/project brief or as discussed in class). Most work will be completed individually, however, some exercises may be completed as pairs or small groups. Students will receive a common grade for work done in pairs or groups. Attendance is expected - marks will be deducted for unexcused absences. Engagement is also expected as a requirement for progress in design, and is characterized by active involvement in the work and discussions.

| | |
|---|---|
| 1. Major project | |
|      townscape analysis | 15% |
|      diagramming conceptual direction | 10% |
|      final concept | 35% |
| 2. Short exercise #1 | 15% |
| 3. Short exercise #2 | 15% |
| 4. Portfolio - design process / reflection | 10% |
| **Total** | **100%** |

## Special Budgetary Considerations

Site visits will be possible on foot or by LRT. Required base maps and air photos will be provided, or will be available from the MADGIC Centre or on-line, and any additional information and associated costs will be at the discretion of the student. Students should have basic drawing tools (pencils, a small selection of markers, scales, sketch rolls, other paper, a small cutting mat, knife, and drafting tape, and a small selection of pencil crayons will be useful). Some costs for plotting and printing should be anticipated, as per the typical studio practice.

## Readings
Students are encouraged to read widely from the following.

## U R B A N  D E S I G N  R E F E R E N C E S  Short List

Alexander, Christopher et al (1977) *A Pattern Language* (Oxford University Press)
American Planning Association (2006) *Planning and Urban Design Standards* (Wiley Graphic Standards)
Bacon, Edmund N. (1974) *Design of Cities* (New York: Penguin Books)
Bentley, Ian. et al (1985) *Responsive Environments: A Manual for Designers* (Architectural Press )
Calthorpe, Peter (1993) *The Next American Metropolis* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press)
Ellin, Nan (1996) *Postmodern Urbanism* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers)
English Partnerships (several printings) *The Urban Design Compendium*. You can order this (it is FREE) on line from
http://www.englishpartnerships.co.uk/PublicationsOrderForm.aspx
Gehl, Jan  (1987) *Life Between Buildings: Using Public Space*
Hough, Michael (1990) *Out of Place: Restoring Identity to the Regional Landscape* (Yale University Press)
Hough, Michael (1994) *Cities and Natural Process* (Routledge)
Jacobs, Jane (1961) *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*  (New York: Random House)
Jacobs, Alan B., Elizabeth MacDonald and Yodan Rofe (2002) *The Boulevard Book* (MIT Press)
Lynch, Kevin (1971) *Site Planning* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press) or later versions with Garry Hack
Lynch, Kevin (1981) *(A Theory of) Good City Form* (Cambridge  Mass.: MIT Press)
McHarg, Ian (1969, reprinted 1994) *Design With Nature* (New York: Doubleday)
Mumford, Lewis (1961) *The City in History* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich)
Rees, R. (1988) *New & Naked Land - Making the Prairies Home* (Saskatoon: West. Prod. Prairie Books)
Newton, Norman (1971) *Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture* (Harvard University Press)
Relph, Edward (1987) *The Modern Urban Landscape* (London: Croom Helm)
Sandalack, Beverly A & Andrei Nicolai (2006) *The Calgary Project: urban form/urban life* (University of Calgary Press)
Trancik, Roger (1986) *Finding Lost Space: Theories of Urban Design* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold)

## U R B A N  D E S I G N  R E F E R E N C E S  Long List

### History of Settlements and Urban Form
Bacon, Edmund N. (1974) *Design of Cities* (New York: Penguin Books)
Benevelo, L. (1967) *The Origins of Modern Town Planning*  (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)
Davis, Howard (2000) *The Culture of Building* (Oxford University Press)
Kalman, Harold (ed.) (1994) *A History of Canadian Architecture* (Oxford University Press)
Kostoff, Spiro (1992) *The City Assembled: the Elements of Urban Form Through History*
Kostoff, S. (1991) *The City Shaped: Urban Patterns/Meanings Through History* (Boston:Little Brown)
Morris, A.E.J. (1979) *History of Urban Form* (New York: John Wiley and Sons)
Mumford, Lewis (1961) *The City in History* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich)
Rees, R. (1988) *New & Naked Land - Making the Prairies Home* (Saskatoon: West. Prod.  Prairie Books)
Reps, John (1965) *The Making of Urban America: A History of Urban Planning in the US* (Princeton U. Press)
Reps, John (1979) *Cities of the Way West: A History of the Frontier of Urban Planning* (Princeton)
Roberts, Brian K. (1996) *Landscapes of Settlement* (London: Routledge)
Slater, Terry R. (ed.) (1990) *The Built Form of Western Cities* (London: Leicester Univ. Press)
Vance, James E. Jr. (1990) *The Continuing City: Urban Morphology in Western Civilisation* (Baltimore: The Johns
Hopkins University Press)

## Urban Form and Process/Urban Design
Alexander, Christopher et al (1977) *A Pattern Language* (Oxford University Press)
Alexander, Christopher et al (1987) *A New Theory of Urban Design* (Oxford University Press)
Arendt, Randall et al (1994) *Rural by Design: Maintaining Small Town Character* (Washington, DC: APA)
Bentley, Ian et al (1985) *Responsive Environments: A Manual for Designers* (London: Arch. Press)
Blumenfeld, Hans (1967) Paul Spreiregen (ed) *Metropolis and Beyond: Selected Essays by Hans Blumenfeld*
(Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)
Boyer, M. Christine (1998) *The City of Collective Memory: Its Historical Imagery and Architectural Entertainments*
(Cambridge: MIT Press)
CABE (Commission on Architecture and the Built Environment) publications in the UK – www.**cabe**.org.uk/
Calvino, Italo (1972) *Invisible Cities* (New York: Harcourt Brace and Co.)
Charette, Catherine (ed) (1995) *Issues in Canadian Urban Design* (Winnipeg: Institute for Urban Studies)
Condon, Patrick M. (ed.) (1996) *Sustainable Urban Landscapes: the Surrey Design Charrette* (UBC)

Cullen, Gordon (1971) *The Concise Townscape* (London: Architectural Press)
Clay, Grady (1973) *Close-Up: How to Read the American City* (University of Chicago Press)
Duany, Andres and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk (1991) *Towns and Town-Making Principles* (Rizzoli)
Duany, Andres, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Robert Alminana (2003) *The New Civic Art: Elements of Town Planning* (Rizzoli)
Ellin, Nan (1996) *Postmodern Urbanism* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers)
Fowler, Edmund D. (1992) *Building Cities That Work* (McGill – Queen's)
Gerecke, Kent (ed.) (1992) *The Canadian City* (Montreal: Black Rose Books)
Gehl, Jan (1987) *Life Between Buildings: Using Public Space* (New York: Van Nostrand Reihnold)
Harvey, David (1989) *The Urban Experience* (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University)
Hayward, Richard and Sue McGlynn (eds) (1993) *Making Better Places: Urban Design Now* (Joint Centre for Urban Design: Butterworths)
Holdsworth, Deryck (ed) (1985) *Reviving Main Street* (University of Toronto Press)
Hough, Michael (1990) *Out of Place: Restoring Identity to the Regional Landscape* (New Haven and London: Yale University Press)
Howard, Ebenezer (reprinted 1965) *Garden Cities of Tomorrow* (London: Faber)
Jacobs, Jane (1961) *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (New York: Random House)
Jacobs, Alan B. (1993) *Great Streets* (MIT Press)
Jacobs, Alan B., Elizabeth MacDonald and Yodan Rofe (2002) *The Boulevard Book* (MIT Press)
Keith, M. and S. Pile (eds.) (1993) *Place and the Politics of Identity* (London: Routledge)
Katz, Peter (1994) *The New Urbanism: Toward an Architecture of Community* (McGraw Hill)
Krier, Rob (1979) *Urban Space* (New York: Rizzoli)
Krier, Leon (1984) *Houses, Palaces, Cities* D. Porphyrios (ed.) (Arch. Design Profile, Berlin: Belvedere)
LeGates, R.T. and F. Stout (eds.) (1996) *The City Reader* (Routledge)
Lynch, Kevin (1960) *The Image of the City* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)
Lynch, Kevin (1981) *A Theory of Good City Form* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)
Madanipour, Ali (1996) *Design of Urban Space: An Inquiry into Socio-Spatial Process* (NY: Wiley)
Rapoport, Amos (1977, reprinted 1980) *Human Aspects of Form* (Toronto: Pergamon Press)
Relph, Edward (1976) *Place and Placelessness* (London: Pion Ltd.)
Relph, Edward (1981) *Rational Landscapes & Humanistic Geography* (London: Croom Helm)
Relph, Edward (1987) *The Modern Urban Landscape* (London: Croom Helm)
Rossi, Aldo (1982) *The Architecture of the City* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)
Sandalack, Beverly A. and Andrei Nicolai (2006) *The Calgary Project: urban form / urban life* (Calgary: University of Calgary Press)
Sandalack, Beverly A. and Andrei Nicolai (1998) *Urban Structure – Halifax: An Urban Design Approach* (Halifax: Tuns Press)
Sennett, Richard (1990) *The Conscience of the Eye: The Design & Social Life of Cities* (NY: Norton)
Sitte, Camillo (1965) *City Building According to Artistic Principles* (New York: Random House)
Trancik, Roger (1986) *Finding Lost Space: Theories of Urban Design* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold)
Tugnutt, Anthony and Mark Robertson (1987) *Making Townscape: a Contextual Approach to Building in an Urban Setting* (London: Mitchell Publishing Co. Ltd.)
Unwin, Raymond (1909) *Town Planning in Practice: an Introduction to the Art of Designing Cities and Suburbs* (New York: Princeton Architectural Press)
Vidler, A, and L. Krier (eds.) (1978) *Rational Architecture* (Brussells: Archives of Modern Architecture)
Whitehand, J.W.R. and P.J. Larkham, eds. (1992) *Urban Landscapes: International Perspectives* (London and New York: Routledge)
Whyte, William H. (1980) *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces* (Washington DC: Conservation Foundation)

## Landscape Architecture/Natural Form & Process/Cultural Landscape

Appleton, J. (1975) *The Experience of Landscape* (London: John Wiley)
Cranz, Galen (1982) *The Politics of Park Design: A History of Urban Parks in America* (Cambridge: MIT Press)
Evernden, Neil (1986) *The Natural Alien* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press)
Fairbrother, Nan (1970) *New Lives, New Landscapes* (New York: A. Knopf)
Friesen, Gerald (1984) *The Canadian Prairies: A History* (University of Toronto Press)
Hoskins, W.G. (1955) *The Making of the English Landscape* (London: Penguin Books)
Hough, Michael (1984) *City Form and Natural Process* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold)
Hough, Michael (1994) *Cities and Natural Process* (Routledge)
Jackson, J.B. (1970) *Landscapes: Selected Writings of J. B. Jackson,* ed. E.H. Zube (Amherst: U Mass. Press)
Jackson, J.B. (1984) *Discovering the Vernacular Landscape* (New Haven: Yale University Press)
Laurie, Michael (1975) *An Introduction to Landscape Architecture* (New York:Elsevier)
Leopold, Aldo (1949) *A Sand County Almanac* (Oxford University Press)

Lowenthal, D. & E.C. Penning-Rowsell (eds.) (1986) *Landscape Meanings & Values* (London: Allen & Unwin)

Lowenthal, D. (ed.) (1976) *Geographies of the Mind: essays in historical geosophy in honour of John Kirkland Wright* (New York: Oxford University Press)

Lynch, Kevin (1976) *Managing the Sense of a Region* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)

Lynch, Kevin (1971) *Site Planning* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press) or later versions with Garry Hack

McHarg, Ian (1969, 1994 reprint) *Design With Nature* (New York: Doubleday)

Meinig, D.W. (ed.) *The Interpretation of Ordinary Landscapes: Geographical Essays* (Oxford University Press)

Newton, Norman (1971) *Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture* (Harvard University Press)

Sauer, Carl O. (1963) *Land & Life: a selection from the writings of C.O. Sauer* (Berkeley: U.Cal. Press)

Spirn, Anne Whiston (1984) *The Granite Garden: Urban Nature and Human Design* (NY: Basic Books)

Treib, Marc (ed.) (1993) *Modern Landscape Architecture* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press)

Von Baeyer, Edwinna (1984) *Rhetoric and Roses: A History of Canadian Gardening* (Markham: Fitzhenry and Whiteside)

Watts, May Theilgaard (1957) *Reading the Landscape of America* (Rochester: Nature Study Guild)

Wilson, Alexander (1991) *The Culture of Nature: North American Landscape from Disney to the Exxon Valdez* (Toronto: Between the Lines)

## Ideas

Bachelard, Gaston (1958) *The Poetics of Space* (Boston: Beacon Press)

Castells, M. (1989) *The Informational City* (Oxford:Blackwells)

Kingwell, Mark (2000) *The World We Want: Virtue, Vice and the Good Citizen* (Penguin)

Knox, Paul (ed.) (1988) *The Design Professions and the Built Environment* (London: Croom Helm Ltd.)

Norberg-Schulz, Christian (1979) *Genius Loci: Towards a Phenomenology of Architecture* (NY: Rizzoli)

Quantrill, M. (1987) *The Environmental Memory: Man and Architecture in the Landscape of Ideas* (New York: Schocken Books)

Thompson, Darcy (1917, reprinted 1992) *On Growth and Form* (Dover Reprint)

Venturi, R. (1966) *Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture* (New York: Doubleday)

## Graphic Communication

Ching, Frank (1975) *Architectural Graphics* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold)

Kirby, Robert, Andrei Nicolai and Beverly A. Sandalack (2002) *Making Better Civic Places: Urban Design at the University of Calgary* (Faculty of Environmental Design)

*Landscape Architecture Magazine* especially issues that focus on drawings or design awards

Lynch, Kevin and Garry Hack (1984) *Site Planning* (MIT Press: Cambridge, Mass.)

McGinty, Tim (1976) *Drawing Skills in Architecture* (Dubuque, Iowa:Kendall/Hunt Publishing Company)

*Places, A Forum for Environmental Design,* Summer 1996, Vol.10, No.3, and other issues

Porter, Tom and Sue Goodman (1985) *Manual of Graphic Techniques 4 for architects, graphic designers and artists* (New York:Charles Scribner's Sons)

Smith, Elizabeth A.T. and Russell Fergusen (1994) *Urban Revisions* (Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press)

Stirling, Norman (1970) *Introduction to Technical Drawing* (Toronto:The MacMillan Company)

Walker, T.D. (1977) *Plan Graphics* (PDA Publishers: Indiana)

Wang, Thomas C. (1979) *Plan and Section Drawing* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold)

Wester, Lari M. (1976) *Think and Do Graphics* (School of Landscape Architecture, University of Guelph)

White, Edward T. (1975) *Concept Sourcebook* (Tucson, Arizona: Architectural Ltd.)

White, Edward T. (1983) *Site Analysis* (Tucson, Ariz.: Architectural Media Ltd.)

## Technical

American Planning Association (2006) *Planning and Urban Design Standards* (Wiley Graphic Standards)

The Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, (1985) *The Canadian Style: A Guide to Writing and Editing* (Toronto and London: Dundurn Press)

Neufert, Ernst (various editions) *Architects' data* (London: Crosby Lockwood Staples)

Turabian, Kate (1982) *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, Dissertations* (London: Heinemann)

Zeisel, John (1984) *Inquiry by Design: Tools for Environment-Behaviour Research* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

## EVDS 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.

## Notes:

1. This course may not be repeated for credit.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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

6. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints)

7. Safewalk information (http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk)

8. 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).