UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
Faculty of Environmental Design

EVDP 635 (3-0)
Analytical Methods for Planners
Fall 2015

Instructors:
Professor Tom Harper (Course Manager), (harper@ucalgary.ca) PF 3174, hours by appointment
Dr. Sasha Tsenkova (tsenkova@ucalgary.ca), PF 3193, hours by appointment
Teaching Assistant: TBA

Date/Time: Tuesday & Thursday (11:00 - 12:20 pm)
Location: PF 2165

Introduction
The purpose of this course is to learn approaches to identify, gather and critically analyze strategic information needed to assess planning situations and support decision-making. It focuses on both quantitative and qualitative planning techniques. Topics include population forecasting, statistical trend analysis, needs assessment, qualitative assessments, SWOT analysis, and program & policy evaluation. Techniques to effectively present information are also covered. The emphasis is on approaches and techniques that are not covered in other courses in the planning program.

Objectives
- To become familiar with the various analytical approaches to assess existing conditions and future projections in support of planning policy, land use and community plans, and urban design;
- To learn applied methods for analyzing and resolving planning and policy issues at regional and urban levels;
- To learn about various sources of data and how to turn them into meaningful information;
- To learn how to communicate information in a meaningful form to planning bodies and interested citizens.

Teaching Approach
The course format will involve a mix of in-class exercises, formal assignments, seminar discussion, presentations, lectures, and assigned reading. The course is organized around three broad thematic areas: Qualitative Analysis, Projections & Demand Analysis, and Program and Policy Analysis for the purpose of moving through a sequence of exploratory and experiential learning exercises.

Content: Topic Areas & Class Schedule
Week 1 (Sep 8,10): Introduction to course (both) & Information Presentation (Harper)
Part I: Projections & Demand Analysis
Week 2 (Sep 15,17): Population Projections (Harper)
Week 3 (Sep 22,24): Population Projection In-Class Tutorial (Harper)
Week 4 (Sep 29, Oct 1): Economic Base & Econometric Projections (Harper)
Week 5 (Oct 6,8): Needs Assessment: Housing + Parks, Recreation & Open-Space (Harper)
Block week (Oct 13,15)

Part II: Qualitative Analysis
Week 6 (Oct 20,22) : Field Survey & Field Exercise (Tsenkova)
Week 7 (Oct 27,29): Techniques for Projecting Possible Futures: Opportunities & Constraints,
                        SWOT & Issues Identification (Harper)
Week 8 (Nov 3,5): Student Community Assessment Presentations (Tsenkova)
Part III: Policy Evaluation
Weeks 9-11 (Nov 7 – 26): Policy Evaluation (Tsenkova)
Week 12-13 (Dec 1-10): Student Policy Presentations (Tsenkova)

Expectations
- Students are expected to attend all classes (including presentation sessions) and participate in discussions. Absence from 3 consecutive classes for other than medical reasons may result in required withdrawal from the course. Please contact the course instructors if there are issues likely to affect your class attendance and participation.
- Please contact the course instructors if you are having any assignment-related questions or problems well before the assignment due dates so that assistance can be provided in a timely manner.
- Course Readings are required reading and are a critical component of course instruction and student learning. The Course Instructor will identify important course readings in the context of specific course content and assignments and it is the student's responsibility to ensure this reading is done.
- Compliance with all applicable academic regulations including intellectual honesty is expected. For definitions of plagiarism, cheating and academic misconduct, and associated penalties see the 'notes' section below and please refer to the 2015-16 University Academic Calendar http://www.ucalgary.com/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html

Means of Evaluation
Student evaluation will be based on the following 3 thematic assignments:
➢ Assignment 1: Population Projection   30%
➢ Assignment 2: Community Assessment   30%
➢ Assignment 3: Policy Evaluation   40%

Total = 100%

Required Readings

Kelly, E. (2009) *Community Planning: An Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan*. Island Press (ebook at UofC library).

Wang, X. & Reiner, H. (2007) *Research Methods in Urban and Regional Planning*. Tsinghua Press and Springer Publishing (ebook at UofC library).

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. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2.   Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS,

Jennifer Taillefer (jtaillef@ucalgary.ca). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/

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/contact) 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

Please note that a passing grade is required in each individual assignment in order to pass the course as a whole.
Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range.

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	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	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

Notes:
A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.