

Urban Studies (UBST) 461
University of Calgary
The Transit City
 Fall 2013
 T 18:00-20:50 ST 126

Instructors:

Jen Malzer	Email: ubst461@gmail.com	Phone: (403) 880-9786
Chris Jordan	Email: ubst461@gmail.com	Phone: (403) 852-5004
David Cooper	Email: ubst461@gmail.com	Phone: (403) 836-3796

Webpage: See Blackboard Site: blackboard.ucalgary.ca

Office Hours: before or after class / by appt.

Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for all classes taught in Science Theatres is Professional Faculties Food Court.

Additional Information:

- **Prerequisite:** One of Geography 341, 351, or 451
- **Antirequisite(s):** Credit for Urban Studies 461 and 505.03 will not be allowed
- **Supplementary Fees:** *Students must possess a Calgary Transit pass or fare for field trips*

Course Description:

Developing a Transit City is increasingly important to cities in North America, and forms more and more of the conversation by politicians, professionals and the general public. This course explores land use, urban form and transit projects in Calgary, North America and overseas to understand how policies and practices are interconnected. This course will require students examine topics through a sustainability lens to understand social, environmental and economic impacts associated with policy and design. The course will involve lectures, site tours and class discussions. Projects will require students to develop real-world case studies and critical assessments of local land use, urban form and transit examples. Class presentations and technical writing are also key elements of this course.

Objectives of the Course:

- Gain a clear understanding of the transportation-land use relationship, its benefits and the factors influencing it.
- Understand the basic features of public transportation and their application to shape urban form and function, including transit-supportive land use and transit-oriented development.
- Use knowledge gained throughout the course to explore a 'real world' case example of transit and land use integration.

Textbooks and Readings / Course Resources:Required Text

- Walker, J. (2012). Human Transit: How Clearer Thinking About Public Transit Can Enrich Our Communities and Our Lives. Washington D.C.: Island Press

Online Resources

- City of Calgary (2004). Transit Oriented Development Best Practices Handbook. <http://www.calgary.ca/PDA/LUPP/Documents/Publications/tod-handbook.pdf>, Calgary, January 2004.
- City of Calgary (2005). Transit Oriented Development Policy Guidelines. <http://www.calgary.ca/PDA/LUPP/Documents/Publications/tod-policy-guidelines.pdf> Calgary, December 2005.
- City of Calgary (2006). Transit Friendly Design Guide http://www.calgarytransit.com/pdf/transit_friendly.pdf Calgary, April, 2006.
- City of Calgary (2010). Municipal Development Plan. <http://www.calgary.ca/mdp>, Calgary, Aug. 2010.
- City of Calgary (2010). The City of Calgary: Transit Oriented Development (TOD). <http://www.calgary.ca/todplanning>, Calgary, April 29, 2010.
- Calgary Regional Partnership (2009). Calgary Regional Transit Plan. <http://calgaryregion.ca/dms/Website/reports/General/Regional-transportation/Regional-transit-plan---november-20--2009/Regional%20transit%20plan%20-%20November%2020%2C%202009.pdf>, Calgary, August 28, 2011.
- Ontario Ministry of Transportation (2012). Transit Supportive Guidelines <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/transit/supportive-guideline/index.shtml> Government of Ontario.
- Railvolution Conference Presentations (various). <http://www.railvolution.org/past-conferences/all-conferences>
- Reconnecting America (various). <http://reconnectingamerica.org/>
- Project for Public Spaces (various). <http://www.pps.org/>
- Transit Cooperative Research Program (various). <http://www.tcrponline.org/>
- TransLink: Managing the Transit Network (various). <http://www.translink.ca/networkmanagement>
- Victoria Transport Policy Institute (various). www.vtppi.org

Selected Journals & Industry Publications (available online or through the Library)

Some key academic and industry publications normally including material on transit and land use planning... A good place to start for the literature review assignment.

Access -- offers free subscriptions (available online at <http://www.uctc.net/access/>)

Canadian Journal of Urban Research

Canadian Transit Forum (Canadian Urban Transit Association)

Environment and Behaviour

Environment and Planning A: Environment and Planning

Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design

Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy

Environment and Planning D: Society and Space

ITE Journal

Journal of the American Planning Association

Journal of Public Transportation -- free online access

Journal of Transport Geography

Journal of Transport Economics and Policy

Transport Policy

Transport Reviews

Transportation (published by Springer Netherlands)

Transportation Journal (published by American Society of Transportation & Logistics)

Transportation Quarterly -- free online access

Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice

Transportation Research Part B: Methodological

Transportation Research Part C: Emerging Technologies

Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment

Transportation Research Part E: Logistics and Transportation Review

Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour

Transportation Research Record (Transportation Research Board)

Urban Studies

Assignments and Evaluation / Grading Components:

Mini Assignments (20% of Final Grade – each assignment is weighted equally)	Due Date
The Good, The Bad and The Ugly TOD Critical Assessment	Week 4: Oct 1
North Central LRT Evaluation	Week 6: Oct 15
Route Impressions	Week 8: Oct 29
Fieldtrip Summary	Week 13: Dec 3

Large Assignments (40% of Final Grade – each assignment is worth 20% each)	Due Date
Project Proposal & Site Assessment	Week 5: Oct 8
Literature Review	Week 8: Oct 29

Group Components (40% of Final Grade)

Assignment	Due Date
Complete Streets Assessment	Week 9: Nov 5
Final Term Project (TOD Plan)	Preliminary Written Outline: Week 11: Nov 19 Group Presentation: Week 13: Dec 3 Final Report: Dec 10

Assignment and project handouts will be provided in class and on blackboard.

It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Hard copies of all assignments, presentations and reports must be handed in person or the submission will receive a grade of zero on the assigned due date. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination:

THERE IS NO MIDTERM TEST OR FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE

Policy for Late Assignments:

"Make-up" assignments will *not* be arranged for any student without *prior* notification for absence and appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note, etc.). If you suspect you might be unable to complete a project or assignment by the required timelines, please contact the instructors *in advance* to see whether alternate arrangements can be made.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written**

work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System:

91-100	A+	73-76	B	60-62	C-
85-90	A	70-72	B-	57-59	D+
80-84	A-	67-69	C+	50-56	D
77-79	B+	63-66	C	0-49	F

Schedule of Lectures and Field Visits (tentative):

WEEK 1: Sept 10 – Course and Assignments Overview and Lecture/Discussion: What is transit oriented development? What makes up a transit system? (Chris, David, Jen)

>>> Assignment Handout: Mini Assignments (Various Due Dates)

WEEK 2: Sept 17 – Field Visit 1: Transit and Land Use in Calgary –Successes and Challenges with Suburban TOD’s- (Meet at 6:30 sharp at Chinook Station southern end of platform -- trip via C-train) Note: Field Trip will end either at Chinook or Anderson LRT Station. (Chris)

WEEK 3: Sept 24 – Transit and urban form through time. Transit Service Planning and TOD in class activity. (David)

>>> Identify project preference during class on Tuesday Sept 24

>>> Assignment Handout: Project Proposal & Site Assessment (Due: Week 5: Oct 8)

>>> Assignment Handout: Final Term Project (Outline Due: Week 11: Nov 19, Presentation Week 13: Dec 3 & Final Report Due: Dec 10)

WEEK 4: Oct 1 – Lecture/Discussion: Land Use Planning 101, Place making opportunities with TOD. (David)

>>> Assignment Presentations: The Good, The Bad and The Ugly TOD Critical Assessment

WEEK 5: Oct 8 – Lecture/Discussion: How to get Developer buy in? Policies to encourage development, looking from the developer’s perspective and City driven TOD projects (guest speakers). Implementation tools for TOD. (David)

>>> Assignment Submission: Project Proposal & Site Assessment

WEEK 6: Oct 15 – Lecture: Developing a Plan: Project management 101. Public engagement: “Wisdom of the crowds”. Transit and land use planning projects in Calgary. (Jen)

>>> Assignment Presentations: North Central LRT Evaluation

>>> Assignment Handout: Literature Review (Due: Week 8: Oct 29)

WEEK 7: Oct 22 – Lecture/Discussion: Perspectives around integration: Complete streets, connecting transit for all modes – policy and practice. (Chris)

>>> Assignment Handout: Complete Streets Assessment: (Due: Week 9: Nov 5)

WEEK 8: Oct 29 – Lecture/Discussion: Transit & Society: Equity considerations in transit planning and balancing priorities. Overview of Complete Communities (Jen)

>>> Assignment Submission: Route Impressions

>>> Assignment Submission: Literature Review

WEEK 9: Nov 5 – Lecture/Discussion: How do we integrate? Urban design and transit integration with TOD. Mode succession and selection. (Chris)

>>> Assignment Presentations: Complete Streets Assessment

WEEK 10: Nov 12 – No Class (Reading Days)

WEEK 11: Nov 19 – Field Visit 2: Public Safety and TOD: What is Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design and Land Uses that encourage consistent activity (Location: To be determined) (David/Jen)

>>> Assignment Submission: Preliminary Written Outline for Final Report

WEEK 12: Nov 26 – Field Visit 3: Community Scale TOD Fieldtrip (*Meet at Sunnyside Station*) at 6:30 pm - trip via C-train). (Jen)

WEEK 13: Dec 3 – Group Project Presentation (Chris, David, Jen)

>>> Final Group Project Presentations

>>> Assignment Submission: Fieldtrip Summary

Final Project Submission: December 10, 2012

>>> WRITTEN PROJECT SUBMISSIONS due in person to instructor on **December 10, 2013** between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. in Science Theatres 126.

Writing across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are 1) presenting another student's work as your own 2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without proper referencing and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/plagiarism>

Please consult your instructor if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Internet and electronic communication device information:

The use of the Internet and electronic devices is okay, provided there is no interruption to the instructor or other students due to their use. In this case, you may be asked to suspend use. Please turn off all cellphone ringers and text message indicators to avoid possible disruption.

Principles of Conduct

The University of Calgary Calendar includes a statement on the Principles of conduct expected of all members of the University community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors and volunteers) whether on or off the University's property. This statement applies in all situations where the members of the University community are acting in their University capacities. All Members of the University Community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with this statement which is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>

Student Accessibility Services Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services 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.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

FOIP: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments will be returned to students individually, during class or during the instructor's office hours; if students are unable to pick up their

assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- All assignments will be handled through Blackboard or personally.
- Their own grades will be available to each student on Blackboard by password access. Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: suypaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: arts1@ucalgary.ca

The students ombudsman office information can be found at:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>

Campus Safewalk

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security officer will accompany you to your Campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3rd Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

The Instructors will regularly post additional course information/updates on Blackboard at:

<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>