

URBAN STUDIES COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2018

(UBST) 461

The Transit City

Course Hours	Day of the week	Time	Location
3 units; H(3-0)	Thursday evening	18:00 – 20:45	KNB133

INSTRUCTORS

Name	Phone	Email
Desmond Bliet	403.370.2330	ubst461@gmail.com
Jon Lea	403.880.8601	ubst461@gmail.com
Office hours: by appointment before or after class.		

Prerequisites: One of Geography 341, 351, or 451

Antirequisites: 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 to achieve objectives of politicians, professionals and citizens. This course explores land use, urban form, development, and transit projects in Calgary, North America and overseas to understand how policies and practices are interconnected.

This course will require students to 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.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Gain a clear understanding of the transportation/land use relationship, its benefits and the factors influencing the relationship.
- 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.

Course Learning Outcomes:

The Department of Geography is committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO (s)	Level(s)
Students will gain a clear understanding of the transportation/land use relationship and the factors shaping this relationship	2,4	3
Students will make observations and discern key details in patterns and changes to the transportation/land use relationship and related processes	1,2,7	2,3
Effectively communicate major research findings through oral and written means	7,8	3
Students should be able to show and analyze the effects of urban politics on social justice and sustainability concerns	4,5	3

Students will employ knowledge of urban political processes in classroom discussions	1,4,5,7	2,3
Work in team and collaborate to produce research outcome, present and support their argument and structure their idea	1,4,5,7	2,3
Acquire a methodology to undertake literature review and comparative research	3	3
Students will collaboratively produce a research paper that will connect apply theories and concepts from class, discussion and observation, to the analysis of a particular urban-political issue	1,4,5,7,8	3

COURSE RESOURCES:

There is no text requirement for the course. A list of readings (journal articles, news clippings, online sources, etc) will be posted on D2L. Students are expected to review the readings each week before the class on Thursday evening.

GRADES

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, statutory declaration). 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

FOIP: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP) prohibits 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 will provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

UNDERGRADUATE GRADING SYSTEM

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	95-100	4.00	Outstanding performance
A	90-94	4.00	Excellent performance
A-	85-89	3.70	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80-84	3.30	Exceeding good performance
B	75-79	3.00	Good performance
B-	70-74	2.70	Approaching good performance
C+	67-69	2.30	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	64-66	2.00	Satisfactory performance
C-	60-63	1.70	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55-59	1.30	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in same subject
D	50-54	1.00	Minimal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in same subject
F	0-49	0.00	Failure. Did not meet course requirements

ASSIGNMENTS AND PROJECTS

Mini Assignments (25% of Final Grade – each assignment is 5%)	Due Date
Green Line	October 11
Engagement and Public Hearing Selfies	December 6
CPTED Checklist	September 27
Good, Bad and Ugly	September 20
East Village	October 4

Large Assignments (30% of Final Grade)	Due Date
Case study 15% of Final Grade	October 25
Site analysis presentations 15% of Final Grade	November 22

Final Group Project (45% of Final Grade)	Due Date
Final Term Project 25% Written Submission 20% Group Presentation	Presentations: December 6 Final Report: December 13

Assignment and project handouts will be provided in electronic format on D2L.

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: assignments, presentations and reports can be submitted electronically by email/shared drive, except when specifically stated that a hard copy must be provided.

Schedule of Lectures and Site Visits

Date	Topic	Instructors	Assignments	Additional Notes
Sept. 6	Course & Assignments Overview Blocks & Lots Game	Jon, Des	Electronic handouts: Course outline Mini Assignments (various due dates)	Identify final group project preferences during class
Sept. 13	Transit Planning 101	Jon	Electronic handouts: Large Assignments & Final Group Project (Various Due Dates)	
Sept. 20	Site Visit: The Bridges	Des	Mini Assignment due: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly	Meeting point to be posted on D2L.
Sept. 27	Site Visit: CPTED and station area design	Jon	Mini Assignment due: CPTED Checklist	Meeting point to be posted on D2L.
Oct. 4	Site Visit: East Village	Des	Mini Assignment due: East Village Challenges and Opportunities	Meeting point to be posted on D2L.
Oct. 11	Green Line	Jon	Mini Assignment due: Green Line	Provide class with final group project teams. GUEST SPEAKER
Oct. 18	Transit Supportive Land Use Planning	Des		
Oct. 25	Case Study Poster Session Public Engagement	Des, Jon	Large Assignment DUE: Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Case Studies	
Nov. 1	Project Economics The 'D' in TOD	Des		
Nov. 8	Industry Night	Des		GUEST SPEAKERS
Nov. 15	Term break – no classes!		READ YOUR READINGS!	
Nov. 22	Presentations: Site Analysis	Jon, Des	Large Assignment DUE: SWOT Site Analysis	
Nov. 29	Complete Streets & Walkability	Jon		GUEST SPEAKERS

Dec. 6	Final Group Project Presentations	Des, Jon	Mini Assignment due: Engagement and public hearings selfies	
Dec. 13		No class	Large Assignment DUE: Final Group Project - Station Area Plan	Digital submissions must be received by ubst461@gmail.com by 16:00 Calgary time.

Human Subjects

Students are not expected to participate as subjects or perform research involving human subjects for this course.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

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, faculty members can and should consider quality of writing as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by Writing Support Services can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance: www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing_support/overview.

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations, according to the university policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar.

The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Department Head (email: geograph@ucalgary.ca).

Principles of Conduct

The University 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 university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

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 at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. 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 adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-5.html.

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.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, such as outside an 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 must provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during schedule lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Faculty of Arts Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS 102, call us at 403-220-3580, or email us at ascarts@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which provides detailed information about common academic concerns.

For guidance on course registration (add, drop, swap), information about paying fees, and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- Student Union VP Academic –403-220-3911, suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness, and academic success and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support, or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

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 station, 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.

USRI Surveys

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference, so please participate in USRI surveys.