

URBAN PLANNING SOLUTIONS TO CONTEMPORARY URBAN PROBLEMS

URBPLAN 141-201, 3.0 credit hours, Spring 2023
Department of Urban Planning in the School of Architecture and Urban Planning
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

PROFESSOR: Kirk E. Harris, M.P.A., J.D., Ph.D., Esq.

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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday and Thursday 3:00-4:30, or by appointment

Lecture: Tuesday & Thursday, 2:30 – 3:20pm, AUP 110

Discussion Sections: Tuesday 3:30 – 4:20pm & Tuesday 4:30 – 5:20 pm, AUP 345/AUP343

TEACHING ASSISTANTS:

Natalie Marshall; marsh298@uwm.edu

Office Hours: Thursday after lecture
(Marcus Commons) or by appointment

Ava Gagner; acgagner@uwm.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description and Objectives

This class is intended to be a survey course in urban planning that familiarizes students with emerging and dominant issues within urban planning. The course seeks to acquaint students with the professional concerns and roles of those occupying the urban planning domain and expose students to matters of central importance in urban planning practice. This course will also help students appreciate the social and economic justice considerations inherent in the urban planning process.

Expected Time Commitment

Lecture: 2 hours per week

Discussion Section: 1 hour per week

Group work: 1 hour per week (on average)

Discussion section work: 1 hour per week (on average)

Readings: 2 hours per week

Required Texts, Articles and Materials

- *The Just City Essays* - <http://www.thenatureofcities.com/the-just-city-essays>
- *Encyclopedia of Earth* - <http://www.eoearth.org/view/article/152626/>
- *Next City Articles* - <http://nextcity.org>
- *Other online articles as assigned*

STUDENT ASSESSMENT & GRADING

Course Project - 50%

Preparation & Development (checkpoint evaluations): 10%

Final Oral Presentation: 20%

Final PowerPoint Quality: 20%

Lecture Attendance & Participation - 20%

Reflection on Learning activities: Students will write a brief response explaining key takeaways from lecture in a few sentences. This will occur ten times throughout the semester when "Reflection on Learning" is stated on the schedule. If you know you will be missing class on the date of a Reflection on Learning, inform a Teaching Assistant prior to that date for options to make it up.

10 reflections @ 2% of the grade each

Discussion: 30%

Attendance/Participation: 15%

Current Events Presentations: 15%

SCHEDULE

Week 1: Introduction to Course - January 24 / January 26

- Tues: Individually look over course syllabus and course requirements on Canvas in advance of class. Look over group project assignment and schedule. Prof. Harris responding to questions about course
- Thurs: Introduction of Just Cities by Prof. Harris

Week 2: Historic Overview – January 31 / February 2

- Tues: Facilitated Discussion by Prof. Harris
- Thurs: Facilitated Discussion of Week 2 Readings by Prof. Harris

READINGS - Tearing Down Invisible Walls

- [Defining the Just City Beyond Black and White](#), Toni L. Griffin
- [In It Together](#), Lesley Lokko
- [Cape Town Pride. Cape Town Shame](#), Carla Sutherland
- [Urban Spaces and the Mattering of Black Lives](#), Darnell Moore
- [Ceci n'est pas une pipe: Unpacking Injustice in Paris](#), François Mancebo

Week 3: Governmental Policy and Racial Inequality - February 7/ February 9

- Tues: Introduce and Initiate Project Topic Discussions by Prof. Harris
- Thurs: Podcast - How the Government Created the Ghetto
<http://www.npr.org/2015/05/14/406699264/historian-says-dont-sanitize-how-ourgovernment-created-the-ghettos>

Reflection on Learning 1

Course Project: Group meeting schedule due on Canvas before Lecture

Week 4: Economic Development - February 14 / February 16

- Tues: Facilitated Discussion of How the Government Created the Ghetto by Prof. Harris and video presentation - Segregation by Design <https://vimeo.com/328684375>
- Thurs: Facilitated Discussion of Week 4 Readings by Prof. Harris
Reflection on Learning 2

READINGS - Inclusive Growth

- [The Case for All-In Cities](#), Angela Glover Blackwell
- [A Democratic Infrastructure for Johannesburg](#), Benjamin Bradlow
- [Creating Universal Goals for Universal Growth](#), Betsy Hodges
- [The Long Ride](#), Scot T. Spencer
- [Turning Migrant Workers into Citizens in Urbanizing China](#), Pengfei Xie

Week 5: Planning Ethics and Politics - February 21 / February 23

- Tues: Video Presentation - Planning, Planners and Applied Ethical Practice (Case Study of Minneapolis, MN)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ka5eDMv0W4g&list=UUvqWCr2888S3boRqcOCc0HA>

Reflection on Learning 3

- Thurs: Video Presentation - Unbreaking America: Solving the Corruption Crisis

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfQij4aQq1k>

Course Project: Topic Statement rough draft due - submit on Canvas before lecture

READINGS - Reinvigorating Democracy

- [Right to the City for All: A Manifesto for Social Justice in an Urban Century](#), Lorena Zárte
- [How to Build a New Civic Infrastructure](#), Ben Hecht
- [Turning to the Flip Side](#), Maruxa Cardama
- [A Just City is Inconceivable Without a Just Society](#), Marcelo Lopes de Souza
- [Public Imagination, Citizenship and an Urgent Call for Justice](#), Teddy Cruz and Fonna Forman

Week 6: Design, Institutional Influences, Participation, and the Shaping of Just Cities – February 28 / March 2

- Tues: Facilitated Discussion by Prof. Harris: Hierarchy of Community Needs

- Thurs: Facilitated Discussion of Week 6 Readings by Prof. Harris

Reflection on Learning 4

Course Project: Topic Statement due - submit on Canvas before lecture

READINGS - Designing for Agency

- [Karachi and the Paralysis of Imagination](#), Mahim Maher
- [Up from the Basement: The Artist and the Making of the Just City](#), Theaster Gates
- [Justice that Serves People, Not Institutions](#), Mirna D. Goransky
- [Resistance, Education and the Collective Will](#), Jack Travis

Week 7: Gentrification – March 7 / March 9

- Tues: Audio Presentation & Facilitated Discussion of Week 7 Readings by Prof. Harris
<https://soundcloud.com/620-wtmj/kirk-harris-gentrification>
Reflection on Learning 5
- Thurs: Video Presentation <https://www.pbs.org/video/gentrification-and-displacement-impact/>
Reflection on Learning 6

READINGS - Elevating Planning and Design

- [Why Design Matters](#), Jason Schupbach
- [Claiming Participation in Urban Planning and Design as a Right](#), P.K. Das
- [Home Grown Justice in a Legacy City](#), Karen Freeman-Wilson
- [Portland Renters Create Plan for Facing Gentrification](#), Kelsey E. Thomas

Week 8: Affordable Housing I - March 14 / March 16

- Tues: Public Housing film - *The Pruitt-Igoe Myth* - Identify 3 things that stand out (for reflection on learning 7)
Course Project: Distribute presentation order
- Thurs: Follow-up discussion of *Pruitt-Igoe Myth*
Reflection on Learning 7

READINGS - Housing

- [How Segregation Destroys Black Wealth](#), New York Times
- [Busting 3 Myths About Public Housing](#), Jake Blumgart

SPRING BREAK: March 19, 2023 – March 26, 2023

Week 9: Affordable Housing II – March 28 / March 30

- Tues: Ms. Kori Schneider-Peragine, Senior Administrator of Community and Economic Development Program, Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council – History of Segregation in Milwaukee
- Thurs: Benjamin R. McKay, Principal Planner, Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission

Course Project: Annotated Bibliography rough draft due on Canvas before lecture

Week 10: Community Health, Well-Being and Environment I – April 4 / April 6

- Tues: Follow-Up Discussion of Guest Speaker Presentations from Ben McKay and Kori Schneider-Peragine by Prof. Harris
- Thurs: David Nelson, PhD, MS, Department of Family and Community Medicine, Medical College of Wisconsin, Health and Community Equity Issues

Course Project: Annotated Bibliography due on Canvas before lecture

READINGS - The Big Detox

- [A City that is Blue, Green and Just All Over](#), Cecilia P. Herzog
- [An Antidote for the Unjust City: Planning to Stay](#), Mindy Thompson Fullilove
- [Justice from the Ground Up](#), Julie Bargmann
- [Parklets are Great, But Big Parks Pack a Big Punch](#), Cassie Owens

Week 11: Community Health, Well-Being and Environment II - April 11 / April 13

- Tues: Environmental Justice film - Green by Laura Dunn
Reflection on Learning 8
- Thurs: Facilitated Discussion of Week 10 readings (The Big Detox) by Prof. Harris

READINGS – Sustainability

- [Encyclopedia of Earth](#)
- In Flint, Mich..., Yanan Wang <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/12/15/toxic-water-soaring-lead-levels-in-childrens-blood-create-state-of-emergency-in-flint-mich/>

Week 12: Community Health, Well-being and Environment III - April 18 / April 20

- Tues: Bogota: Building a Sustainable City video - PBS
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zWI1_EaUPLI
Reflection on Learning 9

- Thurs: Facilitated Discussion by Prof. Harris

Course Project: Presentation rough draft due on Canvas before lecture

Week 13: Race and Regional Inequality & Course Project Presentations – April 25/ April 27

- Tues: Course Project presentation questions and worktime
- Thurs: Video Presentation - Buffalo, NY Incident Race and the Busline and Discussion by Prof. Harris
Reflection on Learning 10

**Week 14: Course Project Presentations – May 2 / May 4 (Attendance taken)
Submit course project presentation on Canvas**

**Week 15: Course Project Presentations – May 9 / May 11 (Attendance taken)
Submit course project presentation on Canvas**

**Final: Course Project Presentations – Tuesday May 16, 3:00-5:00 (Attendance taken)
Submit course project presentation on Canvas**

COURSE POLICIES

Changes to syllabus

Students are responsible for any changes in this syllabus which are announced.

Academic Misconduct

Any students found guilty of academic misconduct (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) will be given a grade of "0" on the relevant assignment and disciplined according to the UWM Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures (see attached list of "University and Department Policies").

COVID-19 and Virtual Attendance

If you are feeling sick or have tested positive for COVID-19, please notify your TA and do not come to class. Make-up assignments will be given as needed.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Participation by Students with Disabilities

If you need special accommodations in order to meet any of the requirements of this course, please contact the Accessibility Resource Center (ARC) as soon as possible. You can learn more about the ARC at <http://uwm.edu/arc/>

Accommodation for Religious Observances

Students will be allowed to complete examinations or other requirements that are missed because of a religious observance (from UWM Faculty Document #1853 amended). Please let your instructor know about such absences as soon as possible, and preferably before the day(s) missed.

Academic Misconduct

The university has a responsibility to promote academic honesty and integrity and to develop procedures to deal effectively with instances of academic dishonesty. Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. A more detailed description of Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures may be found in Regents Policy Statements, UWS Chapter 14 and UWM Faculty Document #1686.

Complaint Procedures

Students may direct complaints to the Department Chair or the Associate Dean for Social Sciences (College of Letters & Sciences). If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the Department Chair, the Associate Dean for Social Sciences

(College of Letters & Sciences), or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual Harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated by the University. It subverts the mission of the University and threatens the careers, educational experience, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. The University will not tolerate behavior between or among members of the University community which creates an unacceptable working environment. A more detailed description of Sexual Harassment Policy may be found in UWM Selected Academic and Administrative Policies, Policy #S-36.1 and UWM Faculty Document #1605.

Discrimination Against Students

No student may be denied admission to, participation in or the benefits of, or discriminated against in any service, program, course, or facility of the [UW] system or its institutions or centers because of the student's race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, disability, ancestry, age, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital status, or parental status. A more detailed description of the policy may be found in UWM Selected Academic and Administrative Policies, Policy #S-49.7.

OTHER UWM POLICIES AFFECTING THE CONDUCT OF A COURSE

Attendance

The Department expects students to attend class regularly, but any specific attendance requirements are established by the instructor and made clear to the class during the first week of class. Students are responsible for getting notes or assignments for any classes they may have missed. Instructors may have additional requirements for exams that may be missed.

Incompletes

You may be given an incomplete if you have carried a course successfully until near the end of the semester but, because of illness or other unusual and substantiated cause beyond your control, have been unable to take or complete the final examination or to complete some limited amount of course work. An incomplete is not given unless you prove to the instructor that you were prevented from completing the course for just cause as indicated above.

Undergraduates are required to complete a course marked incomplete during the first eight weeks of the next semester (excluding summer sessions). An extension to the end of the semester is possible if extenuating circumstances prevent you from completing the required course work during the first eight weeks. Extensions must be recommended by the instructor

and approved by the dean of your school or college. If you do not remove the incomplete during the first eight weeks of the next semester, the report of I will lapse to F. Audits will lapse to U. Credit/No Credit will lapse to No Credit.

A more detailed description of the Incomplete Policy may be found in UWM Selected Academic and Administrative Policies, Policy #S-31 and UWM Faculty Documents #1558 and #1602. Also, a description of this policy may be found at www.uwm.edu/ugbulletin/AcademicInfo.html#DD

Safety

In some class settings (e.g., classes with labs or field trips), the instructor will present safety guidelines and procedures. These procedures must be followed carefully to ensure your safety and the safety of your fellow classmates. Failure to follow safety procedures may result in disciplinary action.

Panther Community Health and Safety Standards

UWM has implemented reasonable health and safety protocols, taking into account recommendations by local, state and national public health authorities, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As a member of our campus community, you are expected to abide by the [Campus Guidelines](#), which was developed in accordance with public health guidelines. These standards apply to anyone who is physically present on campus, UWM grounds, or participating in a UWM-sponsored activity.

Urban Planning Solutions to Contemporary Urban Problems

Urban Planning 141 Discussion Sections – Spring 2023 – University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Teaching Assistants:

Ava Gagner

acgagner@uwm.edu

Office Hours: By appointment

Natalie Marshall

marsh298@uwm.edu

Office Hours: Thursday after lecture or by appointment

Discussion Sections

Tuesdays 3:30 – 4:20

Objectives

Discussion sections provide students in Urban Planning 141 an opportunity to have in-depth conversations on topics presented in lecture to further their understanding of urban planning. Assignments both in and outside of class will give students a chance to make connections to current real-world examples and to develop the communication skills that are crucial for urban planners.

Grading

The discussion section comprises 30% of the final course grade for Urban Planning 141. Grades may be checked at any time on Canvas.

ATTENDANCE	5%
PARTICIPATION	10%
CURRENT EVENTS	15%
TOTAL:	30%

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all discussions and arrive on time to class. Please contact your TA **before** class begins if you are going to be absent for a reason such as illness or family emergency. For these excused absences, attendance and participation grades will be dropped and will not affect the overall grade. If you will be missing more than one discussion for an excused reason, make-up work will be assigned as needed.

More than two unexcused absences will result in a zero for the entire discussion grade (30% of total grade).

Discussion Participation

Students will receive a participation grade for each class. To receive full points, students must:

- Actively participate in class discussions and activities, including both speaking and listening
- Respect fellow students and the TA, including not interrupting or distracting them

Current Events

Each student will present a current event related to urban planning to the class at one point over the course of the semester. These short presentations will be accompanied by a written summary. It is essential to discuss the current event from an equity context.

Other Policies

For issues such as academic misconduct, participation by students with disabilities, or discrimination, official University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee guidelines will be followed.

Urban Planning 141 Schedule

	LECTURE	DISCUSSION
Jan 24	Introduction to Course	Introduction to course, course project, and current event Assignment. Urban Planning Overview
Jan 26	Introduction to Just City Essays	
Jan 31	Historic Overview / Facilitated Discussion	Current event example, overview of local government structure
Feb 2	Discussion of Week 2 Readings	
Feb 7	Gov't Policy and Racial Inequality Introduce and Initiate Project Topic Discussions	Current event presentations, Urban Planning history
Feb 9	Podcast Discussion	
Feb 14	Facilitated Discussion of How the Government Created the Ghetto	Current event presentations, zoning overview and activity
Feb 16	Discussion of Week 4 Reading	
Feb 21	Video Presentation: Planning Ethics	Current event presentations, transportation, course project work time (topic statement rough draft)
Feb 23	Video Presentation	
Feb 28	Discussion of Week 5 Readings	Current event presentations, urban design overview/activity, course project work time (topic statement)
March 2	Discussion of Week 6 Readings	
March 7	Audio Presentation / Discussion of week 7 Readings	Current event presentations, gentrification and housing discussion/activity
March 9	Video Presentation	
March 14	Film: Pruitt-Igoe Myth (*Take notes: 3 issues/ideas that stood out most to you)	Finish Pruitt-Igoe Myth
March 16	Follow up discussion on Pruitt-Igoe	

SPRING BREAK March 19-26

March 28	Guest lecture: Kori Schneider-Peragine	Current event presentations, sustainable housing overview/activity
March 30	Guest lecture: Benjamin McKay	
April 4	Follow-up discussion of Ben and Kori lectures	Current event presentations, public health overview/activity
April 6	Guest lecture-David Nelson	
April 11	Environmental Justice film <i>Reflection on Learning 8</i>	Current event presentations, sustainability and environmental justice
April 13	Discussion of Week 10 readings	
April 18	Bogota Sustainability Video <i>Reflection on Learning 9</i>	Course Project work time
April 20	Facilitated Discussion	
April 25	Race and Economic Inequality	Semester overview, trends in urban planning, course project work time
April 27	Video Presentation <i>Reflection on Learning 10</i>	
May 2	Course Project Presentations	Course reflections
May 4	Course Project Presentation	
May 9	Course Project Presentations	NO DISCUSSION