

UPP 500: History and Theory of Planning

Fall 2011: Thursday, 6:00-9.00 pm, Lecture Centre Building A003

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Office hours: By appointment

Course description

This core course has two explicit purposes. First, it offers a concise and critical history of the planning field. By comprehending the development of urban planning—both as practice and as a discipline—students will learn how the field has evolved over the last two centuries and why an appreciation for the recent history could potentially help us make better plans. Second, the course provides an overview of theoretical frameworks and normative beliefs that have shaped the field in crucial ways. By exploring the linkages between the ideals, principles, and ethics of the planning field and historic and contemporary debates, students will learn how broader intellectual and design movements have influenced the thinking and actions of planners over time.

Since the readings and deliberations would continuously move back and forth between the ostensibly separate realms of planning practice and scholarship, students would do well by consciously reflecting upon their professional experiences and knowledges acquired in other courses. Bringing in pertinent insights and observations to the class discussions will not only help broaden their scope but also enable your colleagues to appreciate their own experiences from different viewpoints.

Course objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students should have accomplished the following:

- Demonstrate knowledge of major intellectual and design movements over the past two centuries as they relate to the emergence and evolution of planning.
- Demonstrate knowledge of critical interpretations of past and on-going debates in planning theory and practice.
- Demonstrate knowledge of how democratic governance and activity shape roles and practice of planning.

Course Organization and Readings

We will usually explore one and sometimes two key themes in a class session. Each session will comprise part lecture, part seminar-style discussion, and students' presentations described a little later. Apart from supplementary readings available on blackboard, each student will read two books in this course:

1. Peter Hall, *Cities of Tomorrow* (Blackwell, 2002) – referred to as “PH”
2. Scott Campbell and Susan Fainstein, *Readings in Planning Theory* (Blackwell, 2003) – referred to as “C&F”

These texts are available for purchase at the UIC Bookstore. Each student will also select, from annexure one, one additional book/project to research, analyze, and present in the class, in effect becoming an 'expert' on that topic for the rest of the sessions. Feel free to buy the third text or borrow it from the Daley library but please do so immediately.

Course requirements and evaluation

Weekly Readings and Class Participation: I expect you to read all the required materials and come to class prepared for discussion. Given the nature of this course, you will not do justice to self and colleagues by failing to participate in class deliberations. In addition, two students will lead each session's discussion on a self-selected basis. I expect the discussants to come prepared—with notes, comments, and a set of questions that generate a debate—in order to present their understanding and summary of the assigned readings. Feel free to show illustrative examples using a power point presentation. The instructor will circulate a sign-up sheet on the first day of the class.

Essays: Students will write two short essays (7-8 pages), one each on historical and theoretical topics, related to different themes of the class. The first essay should focus on a historical event, movement, or a plan and the second on a theory or topic of significant importance for planning. Both essays should clearly communicate your original analysis and the issue's context and description. Context refers to the historical moment or circumstances that led to the phenomenon; description is the actual account of the selected theory, plan, or event; and analysis is an individual's scrutiny of the topic identifying and critiquing legacy, strengths, shortcomings etc. Please refer to O. B. Harrison's influential essay 'In praise of the essay' available on the blackboard and Prof. Scott Campbell's website which contains some great advice for writing planning/urban theory papers. (<http://www-personal.umich.edu/~sdcamp/up540/writingtips.html>)

Book/Project Presentation: Students will prepare a short presentation (max. 10 minutes) analyzing their self-selected third book or planning project in overall light of the reading done for that class session. The presentation will be structured as follows: (a) an extremely brief summary of the book's propositions or project's salient features (b) analysis of the key arguments/features by using the issues and/or questions raised by the reading as a lens and (c) 2-3 provocative questions for subsequent discussion. Each student will also prepare a 2-page, double-sided, single-spaced handout of their presentation which includes components (a), (b), and (c), as well as (d) a list of references consulted for the presentation. Please email the handout to the instructor, a day before the session, and make copies for everyone in the class. I expect students to prepare thoroughly for both the verbal and written portions of the presentation by adhering strictly to time and page limits, by being focused and precise, and by being well organized. The instructor will circulate a sign-up sheet on the first day of the class.

The weight of each of these components in the final grade will be as follows:

Essay 1	30 points
Essay 2	30 points
Book/Project Presentation	20 points
Session Discussant	10 points
Attendance and Participation	10 points

The attendance and participation grade is based on informed contribution to the class discussions. One point will be deducted for the first class missed, two for the second class missed, etc. Final letter grades will be assigned according to a standard ten-point scale (A = 90 to 100; B = 80 to 89, etc.).

Office hours

The instructor is available, by prior appointment through email, to meet and discuss issues that are of interest to you. Students are encouraged to be proactive and seek appointments as often as needed during the course of their study.

Academic Integrity

I will not tolerate “plagiarism,” i.e., intentionally or knowingly representing the words or ideas of another person as one’s own without proper acknowledgement. I will also strictly adhere to University’s policy regarding academic integrity and expected conduct in dealing with students who plagiarize or cheat. Please review the relevant guidelines, and the consequences for violating them, at:

<http://www.uic.edu/depts/dos/studentconduct.html>

Special Needs/Disabilities Accommodation

Please register with the Office of Disability Services at SSB (1200 W. Harrison St. Room 1190), 312-413-2183 or 312-413-012 if you require reasonable accommodations for access to or participation in the course.

Schedule of Classes

8/25: Introduction. Who is a planner? What is planning?
9/01: Why Plan? Why study Planning Theory?
9/08: From the City to the Garden
9/15: City Beautiful and Civic Improvements
9/22: The Corbusian ideal
9/29: New Deal and the ideal of regional planning
10/06: Postwar planning: rational models and suburbanization (Essay 1 Due 10/06)
10/13: No Class; Instructor out-of-town
10/20: Urban Renewal
10/27: Planning under fire
11/03: Advocacy, fairness, and justice
11//10: The Interpretive Turn
11/17: No Class; Instructor out-of-town (Essay 2 due 11/21)
11/24: Thanksgiving; No class
12/01: Ethics and Deep Skepticism
12/08: Contemplating the Future

Week 1 (8/25): *Introduction and overview*

Readings:

Robert Fishman. 1808-1908-2008: National Planning for America. *Blueprint America*, January 8, 2010.

Charles Hoch. 2011. Planning Theory for Practice, *Town Planning Review*, 82(2): vi-xv

Nicholas Lemann. Get Out of Town: Has the Celebration of Cities gone too far? *The New Yorker*, June 27, 2011

Week 2 (9/01): Why Plan?

Campbell and Fainstein, "Introduction: The Structure and Debates of Planning Theory" (in C&F)
Bob Klosterman, "Arguments For and Against Planning" (in C&F)
PH, Chapter 1

Week 3 (9/08): From the City to the Garden

PH, Chapters 2 and 4
Robert Fishman, "Urban Utopias: Ebenezer Howard and Le Corbusier" (in C&F)

Week 4 (9/15): City Beautiful and Civic Improvements

PH, Chapter 6
Platt, Lorne A. 2010. Planning Ideology and Geographic Thought in the Early Twentieth Century: Charles Whitnall's Progressive Era Park Designs for Socialist Milwaukee, *Journal of Urban History*. 1-21.

Week 5 (9/22): The Corbusian ideal

PH, Chapter 7
James Scott, "Authoritarian High Modernism" in C&F
Le Corbusier, "Order" and "The Great City" in *The City of Tomorrow*. Dover Publications, 1987

Week 6 (9/29): New Deal and the idea of regional planning

PH, Chapters 5 & 8
Robert Fishman. 2000. The Death and Life of American Regional Planning. In Bruce Katz (Ed.) *Reflections on Regionalism*. Washington, DC: Brookings

Week 7 (10/06): Postwar planning: rational models and suburbanization (Essay one Due 10/06)

PH, Chapter 10
Silver, Chris. 1985. Neighborhood planning in historical perspective, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 52(2): 161-174.

Week 8 (10/13): No class, Instructor out of town

Week 9 (10/20): Urban Renewal

Berman, Marshall. "Robert Moses: The Expressway World" and "The 1960s: A Shout in the Street," in *All That is Solid Melts into Air: The Experience of Modernity*. New York: Penguin, 1988, pp. 290-329.
Hirsch, Andrew R. 2003. Second thoughts on the Second Ghetto. *Journal of Urban History*, 29(3): 298-309
Susan Fainstein, "The Return of Urban Renewal," *Harvard Design Magazine*, Available online at:
http://www.gsd.harvard.edu/research/publications/hdm/back/22_Fainstein.pdf

Week 10 (10/27): Planning under fire

PH, Chapter 11
Jane Jacobs, "The Death and Life of Great American Cities" in C&F
Friedmann, Jonathan. 1987. Two Centuries of Planning Theory. In *Planning in the Public Domain*. Princeton University Press.

Week 11 (11/03): Advocacy, fairness, and justice

PH, Chapter 13

Paul Davidoff, "Advocacy and Pluralism in Planning" in C&F

Norm Krumholz, "Equitable Approaches to Local Economic Development" in C&F

Week 12 (11/10): The Interpretive Turn

Patsy Healey, "The Communicative Turn in Planning Theory and its implication for Spatial Strategy Formation" in C&F

Throgmorton, James A. 2003. Planning as Persuasive Storytelling in a Global-Scale Web of Relationships *Planning Theory* 2, no. 2: 125-151

Week 13 (11/17): No Class, Instructor out-of-town (Essay 2 due 11/21)

Week 14 (11/24): No class, Thanks giving Holidays

Week 15: (12/01): Ethics and Deep Skepticism

William Lucy, "APA's Ethical Principles Include Simplistic Planning Theories" in C&F

Bent Flyvbjerg, "Rationality and Power," in C&F

Watson, Vanessa. 2003. Conflicting Rationalities: Implications for Planning Theory and Ethics, *Planning Theory & Practice* 4(4): 395-407.

Week 16: (12/08): Contemplating the Future and Feedback

Sanyal, Bish. 2005. Planning as Anticipation of Resistance, *Planning Theory* 4(3): 225-245.

Healy, Patsy. 2008. The Pragmatic Tradition in Planning Thought. *JPER* 28:277-292.

Birch, Eugenie L. and Chris Silver. 2009. One Hundred Years of City Planning's Enduring and Evolving Connections. *JAPA*, 75(2): 113-122.

Annexure-1

List of Books and Projects

(Maximum 3 per session)

Week 4 (9/15): City Beautiful and Civic Improvements

Moody, Walter D. 1916. *Wacker's Manual of Plan of Chicago*. Calumet Publishing Company, Chicago
Campanella, Thomas. 2008. *The Concrete Dragon: China's Urban Revolution and What it Means for the World*. Princeton Architectural Press.
City Plan for St. Louis, Missouri by St Louis Civic League, 1907
Renaissance Center, Detroit, by John Portman, 1977

Week 5 (9/22): The Corbusian ideal

Sarin, Madhu. 1982. *Urban Planning in the Third World: Chandigarh Experience*. London: Mansell Publications
Frampton, Kenneth. 1987. *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*. London: Thames and Hudson.
Brasília, Brazil by Oscar Niemeyer. 1956
Unité d'Habitation, Berlin by Le Corbusier, 1957

Week 6 (9/29): New Deal and the ideal of regional planning

Welter, Volker M. 2003. *Biopolis: Patrick Geddes and the City of Life*. Cambridge: MIT Press
Luccarelli, Mark. 1997. *Lewis Mumford and the Ecological Region: The Politics of Planning*. London: Guildford Press.
Calthorpe, Peter, and William Fulton. 2001. *The Regional City: Planning for the End of Sprawl*. Washington DC: Island Press.
Greenbelt, Maryland by Rexford Tugwell, 1935

Week 7 (10/06): Postwar planning: Rational models and suburbanization (Essay 1 Due 10/06)

Doxiadis, Constantinos .A. 1968. *Ekistics: An Introduction to the Science of Human Settlements*. London: Oxford University Press.
Lassiter, Matthew D. 2006. *The Silent Majority: Suburban politics in the Sunbelt South*. NJ: Princeton University Press.
Levittown, Pennsylvania by Levitt and Sons, early 1950s
Irvine, California by William Pereira and Raymond Watson, early 1960s

Week 9 (10/20): Urban Renewal

Sugrue, Thomas J. 1996. *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in postwar Detroit*.
Ballon, Hillary and Kenneth T Jackson. 2007. *Robert Moses and the Modern City: The Transformation of New York*. New York: W. W. Norton
Henry Horner Homes, Chicago by Quinn and Christiansen, mid 1950s
Hyde Park-Kenwood Urban Renewal Project, Chicago, late 1950s

Week 10 (10/27): Planning under fire

Holston, James. 1989. *The Modernist City: An Anthropological Critique of Brasilia*. University of Chicago Press
Duany, Andres, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Jeff Speck. 2000. *Suburban Nation: The Rise of Sprawl and the Decline of the American Dream*. New York: North Point Press.

Wilson, William J. 1996. *When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor*. New York: Knopf
Asian Games Village, New Delhi, India by Raj Rewal. 1982.

Week 11 (11/03): Advocacy, fairness, and justice

Keating, Dennis and Norman Krumholz. 1999. *Rebuilding Urban Neighborhoods: Achievements, Opportunities, and Limits*. New York: Sage Publications

Levine, Jonathan. 2006. *Zoned Out: Regulations, Markets, and Choices in Transportation and Metropolitan Land use: Washington DC: Resources for the Future*

Little Italy Neighborhood Development, San Diego, USA. by Little Italy Neighborhood Developers. 1995-1999
Hannibal Square, Winter Park, Florida by City Planners of Winter Park, early 2000s

Week 12 (11/10): The Interpretive Turn

Forester, John. 1988. *Planning in the Face of Power*. Berkeley: University of California Press.

Eckstein, Barbara and James Throgmorton. 2003. *Story and Sustainability: Planning, Practice, and Possibility for American Cities*. Cambridge: MIT Press.

Week 16: (12/08): Contemplating the Future

Garvin, Alexander. 2002. *The American City: What works, What doesn't*. New York: McGraw-Hill professional, second edition.

Innes, Judith and David Booher. 2010. *Planning with Complexity: An Introduction to Collaborative Rationality For Public Policy*. New York: Routledge.