

# **Professional Planning Practice**

**EVDP 621 H(3-0)**  
**Winter 2011**

**INSTRUCTORS:** Chris Elkey ([chris.elkey@shaw.ca](mailto:chris.elkey@shaw.ca))  
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**COURSE MANAGER:** Tom Harper  
**DAY AND TIME:** Wednesdays, 18:00 to 20:50

## **INTRODUCTION**

Familiarizes students with the various plans, policies, regulatory processes, legal institutions and administrative frameworks of urban and regional planning, with a focus on the Alberta context. Topics include the Municipal Government Act, the Alberta Land Use Framework, environmental law and various legal planning tools such as Municipal Development Plans, Land Use By-Laws, and Area Structure Plans. Examines municipal development processes related to land use redesignations, development permits, subdivision and appeals.

## **OBJECTIVES**

Students are expected to develop:

1. A basic familiarity with history, context and theory for planning in Canada, including urban history and planning, and the inter-relationships amongst the component sub-systems of the city.
2. A working knowledge of the Alberta statutory planning framework and various related planning documents and processes involved in municipal planning (including public participation).
3. An understanding of some of the many varieties of functional planning (sustainability planning, transportation planning and environmental planning).
4. An understanding of information and analyses, which supports planning (human and social, urban design, demographics, and impact assessment).
5. An understanding of the organization and finance of local government, private development, and the interactions between them.

## **TEACHING APPROACH**

Topics will be presented in lectures by the instructors, with guest presentations by practicing professionals. Lectures and presentations will be supplemented by readings. Project work will be done by student groups. Students are also required to attend meetings of Calgary's Council, Planning Commission, as well as community-based open houses.

## **CONTENT - ELEMENTS OF THE COURSE**

The course is divided into 5 theme areas, namely:

1. The History, Context, and Theory for Planning
2. Land Use Plans and Planning Processes
3. Related Plans and Planning Processes

4. Analysis, Information, Government and Finance
5. Planners and Planning

A detailed outline of topics included within each major theme is provided on the *EVDP 621 Class Schedule*.

### **EVALUATION**

Evaluation for the course is based on 3 group assignments and an individual assignment. Group assignments are comprised of both written and presentation components. All students are required to participate in the group work and students must perform satisfactorily (i.e. receive a grade of B- or better) in each of the evaluative components in order to receive a passing grade in the course. Evaluation in the course is broken down as follows:

*Group Components:*

- Assignment #1 – The Plans in Your Community – 25%
- Assignment #2 – Related Plans and Planning Processes in Your Community – 25%
- Assignment#3 – Analysis of Your Community – 25%

*Individual Component:*

- Assignment #4 – The Role of the Planner and Planning

A more detailed overview of the assignments for the course is provided on the *EVDS 621 Assignment Overview*.

### **GRADING SCALE**

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>4-Point Scale</b>	<b>4-Point Range</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Description</b>
A+	4.00	4.00	92.5-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	85-92.49	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	80-84.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	76-79.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	73-75.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-72.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	66-69.99	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	63-65.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	60-62.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	56-59.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	50-55.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-49.99	

Note: A student who receives a B- or lower in two or more courses will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average unless the program recommends otherwise. Individual programs may require a higher minimum passing

grade. A grade point value of 3.0 on the 4-Point Scale is the minimum acceptable average that a graduate student must maintain throughout the program as computed at the end of each registration anniversary year of the program. A student who receives a grade of F will normally be required to withdraw unless the program recommends otherwise.

## **READINGS**

Gerald Hodge and David L.A. Gordon, *Planning Canadian Communities* (Fifth Edition) will provide the background for the majority of the topics covered in the class. In addition, various government publications and other readings will be assigned by the instructors prior to each class. These will be available on the Blackboard, online, and in the library. Students are expected to read assigned materials in advance and to participate in all class discussions.

A more detailed list of reading required for each class is provided in the EVDP 621 Class Schedule. The reading schedule will be updated throughout the term and therefore students are asked to check for updates to the reading schedule regularly (the class schedule will be posted and updated on the Universities Blackboard system).

In addition to the above, other readings of potential interest to students include:

- CIP Professional Practice Manual
- CIP Statement of Values and Code of Ethics

## **SPECIAL BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS**

Special budgetary requirements are limited to the optional purchase of course readings and, in specific courses, mandatory supplementary fees to cover certain expenditures, such as field trips. Mandatory supplementary fees must be approved by the University prior to implementation.

## **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.
2. It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/drc/node/46>) Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre 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.
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/su-structure/contact-info>); 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>).