

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

Contact Info

Community Planning Studio // EVDL 637 // H(0-8) // Winter 2017

Instructors:

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Course Description

The overall objective of the Community Planning Studio is to introduce students to theoretical approaches and practical applications to land use planning and development issues in urban and suburban contexts. Students will be provided opportunities to identify, discuss and address challenges related to the implementation of contemporary urban design theories and principles in each of these settings. Application of this progressive learning will be provided through the preparation of master planning documents for a land development project area. Each project will offer a step-by-step introduction to community planning processes and essential planning policies to create a development that is economically feasible, socially inclusive and environmentally friendly.

Objectives

Upon successful completion of the course you should have developed an understanding of the knowledge, skills, and technologies required to:

1. Gain experience in documenting, analyzing and understanding communities and their evolution, specifically within the regional context of Alberta and Western Canada.
2. Develop knowledge of key theoretical frameworks (approaches to urbanism, sustainability, infrastructure etc.), concepts and principles of community planning and their application through the exploration of an approach and methodology for community planning.
3. Gain experience in using an iterative design approach as it relates to community planning wherein conducting research, analysis and design is not treated as a linear approach.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of 2D and 3D design thinking at urban and suburban scales when addressing the existing site / landform, urban and natural systems, block / lot / transportation structures and building massing in creating a community plan.
5. Demonstrate an understanding of 2D and 3D representation techniques in the context of any existing and proposed design features.

Teaching Approach

This is a studio-based course that will consist of lectures, field trips, studio work time, course projects and project presentations. Lectures will provide a survey of theoretical approaches to the course material, information about the regional context and technical instruction. Student work will consist of a series of projects that will gradually build towards the completion of a master plan as basis for a statutory Structure Plan or Outline Plan. Much of the work will be done in a studio setting, where students will learn by doing, through input from instructors, collaboration with peers, and evaluation of assignments. It is essential that students bring project materials to scheduled studio times that demonstrate progress on their work during each scheduled class time. Project and course feedback will be provided through discussions during studio time and formal reviews. The more a student's work is presented and discussed, the more concrete feedback and clear direction will be offered by the instructors. The studio is largely self-directed, that is, you must work to identify the project scope, analyze the site, determine a vision and design principles, generate

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

and present an integrated plan. The instructional team is there to support this iterative process through teaching, feedback and discussion.

Readings will be assigned to complement the lectures. Students will be required to complete these readings prior to the related lecture. You may be questioned in class regarding these readings -- come prepared. All of the readings are available through the Taylor Digital Library, with many in the form of e-books / e-periodicals. A bibliography will be provided in the project briefs.

The Semester-Long Course Planning and Design Project will apply the knowledge gained from lectures and in-class exercises to specific site contexts. Individual phases of the course project will be discussed in class with benchmark deliverables due at the beginning of class time (2:00pm collection and/or pin-up).

Special Budgetary Considerations

Required base maps and aerial photos will be provided, or will be available from the Spatial and Numeric Data Services (SANDS) or on-line, and any additional information and associated costs will be at the discretion of the student. Students should have basic drawing tools and the software outlined below. Some costs for plotting and printing should be anticipated, per typical studio practice.

Equipment & Software Needed

For this course, you will need the drawing / drafting supplies and knowledge of the computer programs from the lists below. Please have those materials on hand and available at all times during class studio hours.

Drawing & Drafting Supplies

- Metric scales (scales ranging from 1:25 to 1:10,000 will be used)
- Rolling ruler with no-slip wheels (highly recommended by K. Fox)
- Pens, pencils and markers (black ink)
- Pencil sharpeners and erasers
- Erasing shield
- Drafting brush (clean up those big mistakes)
- Drafting (or painters) tape or dots, (tape is more flexible)
- Rolls of trace paper: comes in 12", 18", 24", long rolls, yellow, canary or white.
- Other types of paper
- Colored pencils and/or markers (Prismacolor, AD or equivalent)
- Cutting matt and X-Acto knives (or equivalent)

Graphics and Computer Skills

Students should have some previous knowledge with the following:

- Image editing software, such as Photoshop
- Vector drawing software, such as Illustrator, AutoCAD / Vectorworks etc, Rhino
- 3D modeling software, such as SketchUp, Rhino
- Desk top publishing software, such as InDesign
- Presentation software, such as PowerPoint, Keynote, Adobe Acrobat, video players
- GIS might also be useful but will not be required or taught in this course. Please consult the university calendar for various GIS courses.

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

Course Schedule*

Date	In-Class / Lecture	Assignment / Deadlines
Jan 11	Introduction Joint Lecture: Urbanisms and Sites	Project Brief Assigned Begin Phase I
Jan 13	Field Trip to Site 11:45am pick up @ EVDS	Student project groups named
Jan 18	Guest Lecture by Beverly Sandalack: The Evolution of Calgary's Built Landscape Studio work day	
Jan 20	Lecture by K Fox: Data, Site Analysis & Infographics - Studio work day	
Jan 25	Lecture by K Fox: Principles and Elements of Design - Studio work day	
Jan 27	Lecture by D Leighton: Process for Developing a Community and Neighborhood plan - Studio work day	
Feb 1	In-house Review: Research & Infographics	Phase I Review
Feb 3	Lecture by M Axworthy: Legislative Framework and the Role of Policy	Begin Phase II
Feb 8	Guest Lecture by Francisco Alaniz Uribe: Neighborhood and Subdivision Design	
Feb 10	Studio work day	
Feb 15	Studio work day	
Feb 17	Review: Analysis & 3 Design Concepts	Phase II Review
Feb 22	Block Week – No Class	
Feb 24	Block Week – No Class	

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

Date	In-Class / Lecture	Assignment / Deadlines
Mar 1	Guest Lecture by Doug Olson: Open Space Planning	Begin Phase III
Mar 3	Studio Work Day	
Mar 8	Guest Lecture by Joe Olson and Phil Nottveit: Transportation and Infrastructure Planning	
Mar 10	Studio Work Day	
Mar 15	Review of ULI Competition Entries - Studio work day	
Mar 17	Studio Work Day	
Mar 22	Review: Mid Review Master Plan Draft & Presentation	Phase III Review
Mar 24	Guest Lecture by Kathy Dietrich: Growth Management – Who Pays for What?	Begin Phase IV
Mar 29	Studio Work Day	
Mar 31	In-house Progress Review: Numbers Day – Do Your Project Metrics Add Up?	In-house Progress Review
Apr 5	Studio Work Day	
Apr 7	Studio Work Day / Production Crits	
Apr 12	Production Crits (last day of class)	
Apr 14	Good Friday – No Class	
Apr 17	Final Review (exact date / times TBA)	Phase IV Review
Apr 20	Final Documentation Due	

* - Note: dates, lectures and guest speakers subject to change.

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

Means of Evaluation

EVDP 637 is a graded course. Incomplete (INC) and deferred term (DT) grades will be issued only for documented circumstances for which the student is clearly not able to complete the work due to significant illness, injury, etc. (please refer to Note #2 at the end of the syllabus). Evaluation will be based on the elements listed below. There will be no final examination. Assessment will be done on the basis of day-to-day performance as well as on the quality of work presented at reviews. While the **product** of studio work is important, equally important is the student's ability to develop a practical, appropriate and coherent planning and design **process**. Students are expected to be in attendance for the entirety of each studio period.

Each component of the course must be completed, and a passing grade (i.e. minimum B-, or the 4-point or percentage equivalent) achieved, in order to pass the course as a whole. Because the studio work is evaluated during the interim and final reviews, all work must be completed on time, and all students must take part in the presentations and reviews. Late pinning up/submission of material to be presented in studio reviews is not acceptable (grades will be deducted for work pinned up or submitted later than the deadline specified in the course/project brief or as discussed in class). Some work will be completed individually with some completed in groups. Students will receive a common grade for work done in groups, unless it is determined by the instructional team that there has been an unfair distribution of work or unequal completion of work, in which case group members shall be evaluated individually. Attendance and engagement are expected as a requirement for progress in the planning and design process, and is characterized by active involvement in the work and discussions.

Preliminary Course Assignment List & Evaluation Values

Project Deliverables*	Value
Phase I: Research & Infographics	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work assessed on individual student basis</i> 	
Phase II: Analysis & 3 Design Concepts	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work assessed on both individual student and group basis</i> 	
Phase III: Mid Review Master Plan Draft & Presentation	25%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work assessed on both individual student and group basis</i> 	
Phase IV: Final Master Plan & Presentation	35%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Work assessed on both individual student and group basis</i> 	
Total	100%

* Full descriptions of project deliverables available in project briefs.

A Note on Critical Review

Critical review of student work is vital to design projects. This is part of feed-back for learning purposes. Such reviews must not be misunderstood as indicators of standards and they are different from assessment. Students have a responsibility to attend critical reviews at the appointed time as part of the learning process. Review panels are composed of internal and external members for the appointed times and cannot be re-composed to consider late submissions. Consequently, late work will not receive a critical review, though it will be assessed with marks.

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

- **Critical Review:** May take place during the development phases of a project as well as at the time of the final submission. Its purpose is to identify strengths and weaknesses in the work and to offer suggestions to generally encourage the student. An encouraging critical review does not necessarily mean a good assessment result.
- **Assessment:** May take place at a stage in a project or on final submission (or both). Its purpose is to value the work in terms of the objectives stated in the Syllabus and project brief and to express this as a grade. Students are expected to be aware of and comply with the academic regulations set out in the University of Calgary and Faculty of Graduate Studies calendars.

Grading Scale

Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range. Assignments will be evaluated by percentage grades, with their letter grade equivalents as shown.

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95-100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	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	60-64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	

Notes:

- A student who receives a "C⁺" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

EVDP 637 Community Planning Studio

Timely Completion of Projects

Unless agreed to by the Instructor on compassionate grounds, illness, or for reasons of academic accommodation (see note 2 below), assigned work that is handed in late will be penalized 10% of the total available grade per calendar day late (this includes weekends and holidays). Assignments more than two calendar days late will not be accepted and no credit will be given for them. Assignments must be handed in or presented during scheduled class hours.

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. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS, Jennifer Taillefer (jtaillef@ucalgary.ca). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/
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 (<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/contact/>); Graduate Student representative(<http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa/>) and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>).