

**INTRODUCTION TO LAND USE:
SUSTAINABILITY AND PLANNING WITH THE ENVIRONMENT
URBP 719**

**Hunter College Department of Urban Affairs and Planning
Fall 2007**

Tuesday 3:10-5:00 pm

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Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1-3 pm
Hunter West 1615

The purpose of this class is to introduce students to the theory and practice of land use planning. The starting point is a comprehensive approach to land that sees land as part of a set of social relations that define the way cities and urban regions develop. Urban and rural land use planning must be understood as related to one another, and land use planning cannot be divorced from environmental conservation, environmental justice, air and water quality, public health, energy, infrastructure, and global sustainability.

REQUIRED TEXTS

(On order at the Hunter College Bookstore)

Timothy Beatley and Kristy Manning, *The Ecology of Place*. Island Press, 1997.

Eric Damian Kelly and Barbara Becker, *Community Planning: An Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan*. Island Press, 2000.

Bernie Jones, *Neighborhood Planning: A Guide for Citizens and Planners*. American Planning Association, 1990.

TOPIC SEQUENCE

I. OVERVIEW OF LAND USE PLANNING

1. Natural resources, land and people

Beatley and Manning, pp. 1-85.

“The Bioregional Heritage,” in Kirkpatrick Sale, *Dwellers in the Land*. New Society, 1991, pp. 1-37.

2. The comprehensive plan; strategic planning

Kelly and Becker, pp. 1-61, 93-144.

Lewis D. Hopkins and Marisa A. Zapata, “Engaging the Future: Tools for Effective Planning Practices, in Hopkins & Zapata, Eds. *Engaging the Future*, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2007, pp.

3. Sustainability plans

Kent E. Portney, *Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously*, MIT Press, 2003, pp. 1-29.

Case study: New York City’s PlaNYC2030 (www.planyc2030.gov)

4. Community-based planning

Jones, pp. 1-38.

II. TOOLS OF LAND USE PLANNING

5. The land use inventory, mapping, demographic and economic data

Kelly and Becker, pp. 63-92.

Jones, pp. 39-106.

6. Zoning and subdivision controls

J. Barry Cullingworth, *The Political Culture of Planning*, Routledge, 1993, pp. 32-75.

Kelly and Becker, pp. 203-244.

7. Environmental impact analysis

Handout from Atlantic Yards Primer for Environmental Review

8. Growth control

J. Barry Cullingworth, *The Political Culture of Planning*, Routledge, 1993, pp. 123-155.

9. Land preservation, trusts, easements

Kelly & Becker, pp. 301-320.
Handouts

III. SUSTAINABLE LAND USE PLANNING, UNITING LAND AND PEOPLE

10. Planning for Public Facilities

Kelly & Becker, pp. 145-173, 245-280

11. Transportation Planning

Vukan R. Vuchic, "Implementing the Solutions: Measures for Achieving Intermodal Balance," in *Transportation for Livable Cities*, Rutgers University Center for Urban Policy Research, 1999, pp. 259-319.

Rodney Tolley, "A Hard Road: The Problems of Walking and Cycling in British Cities," in Rodney Tolley, Ed. *The Greening of Urban Transport*, Belhaven, 1990, pp. 13-33.

12. Healthy cities, quality of life indicators, environmental justice

Lawrence D. Frank, Peter O. Engelke and Thomas L. Schmid, *Health and Community Design: The Impact of the Built Environment on Physical Activity*, Island Press, 2003, pp. 99-177.

"Creating Walkable Environments," in Marie Demers, *Walk for Your Life*, Vital Health Publishing, 2006, pp. 163-190.

13. Food security

Robert Gottlieb, *Environmentalism Unbound*, MIT Press, 2002, pp. 181-272.

14. Urban design, New Urbanism, green building

Timothy Beatley and Kristy Manning, *The Ecology of Place*, Island Press, 1997, pp. 86-136, 194-232.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class attendance and participation	25%
Mid-term project	35%
Final project/paper	40%

Mid-term Project – Due October 16

Perform a detailed inventory of land use in any four square block area (about 28 acres) of New York City or another city in the New York region. The inventory should include:

- A color-coded land use map or maps showing land uses for every lot
- Topographical lines with elevations, where relevant
- A summary of demographic information, including:
 - Total population
 - % 18 and under
 - % 65 and over
 - % below poverty level
 - % by major ethnic group
 - any other relevant data
- Photographs or sketches of all blockfronts, major landmarks, and public spaces
- Descriptions of all natural resources, including flora and fauna
- Inventory of all public facilities and infrastructure, including capacities and uses
- Description of all public spaces and private spaces serving public functions, including temporary and seasonal uses
- Your observations about the relationships between the land and people
 - How do people use public and semi-public space?
 - What conflicts are there in the use of this space?
 - Where are the barriers and bridges?

Final Project/Paper – Due December 18

Forthcoming

RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTARY TEXTS

- Anderson, Larz T., *Guidelines for Preparing Urban Plans*, APA Planners Press, 1995.
- Anderson, Larz T., *Planning the Built Environment*, APA Planners Press, 2000.
- Babcock, Richard F. *The Zoning Game: Municipal Practices and Policies*. University of Wisconsin Press, 1966.
- Babcock, Richard F. and Charles L. Siemon. *The Zoning Game Revisited*. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 1985.
- Beatley, Timothy Green *Urbanism: Learning from European Cities*, Island Press, 2000.
- Beatley, Timothy and Kristy Manning, *The Ecology of Place*, Island Press, 1997.
- Benedict, Mark A. and Edward T. McMahon *Green Infrastructure: Linking Landscapes and Communities*, Island Press, 2006.
- Branch, Melville C. *Comprehensive City Planning*, APA Planners Press, 1985.
- Bruson, John M. and Robert C. Einsweiler, Eds. *Strategic Planning*, APA Planners Press, 1988.
- Bullard, Robert D., Ed. *Growing Smarter: Achieving Livable Communities, Environmental Justice, and Regional Equity*, MIT Press, 2007.
- Center for Livable Communities, *Participation Tolls for Better Land-Use Planning*, 1997.
- Cullingworth, J. Barry, *The Political Culture of Planning*, Routledge, 1993.
- Daniels, Tom and Katerine Daniels, *Environmental Planning Handbook*, APA Planners Press, 2004.
- Engwicht, David *Reclaiming our Cities and Towns*, New Society, 1993.
- Ewing, Reid *Traffic Calming: State of the Practice*, Institute of Transportation Engineers, 1999.
- Flink, Charles A. and Robert M. Sears *Greenways: A Guide to Planning, Design and Development*, Island Press, 1993.
- Fulton, William. *The New Urbanism: Hope or Hype for American Communities?* Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 1996.

Gitelman, Morton and Robert W. Wright *Land Use in a Nutshell*, Thomason/West Group, 2000.

Hester, Randolph T., *Design for Ecological Democracy*, MIT Press, 2006.

Ingram, Gergory K. And Yu-Hung Hong *Land Policies and Their Outcomes*, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2007.

Kaiser, Eward J., David R. Godschalk, and F. Stuart Chapin, Jr. *Urban Land Use Planning*, University of Illinois Press, 1995.

McHarg, Ian *Design With Nature*, Natural History Press, 1969.

Merrier, Dwight H. *Complete Guide to Zoning*, McGraw Hill, 2005.

Miller, Donald and Gert de Roo, Eds. *Urban Environmental Planning*, Ashgate, 2005.

Nelson, Arthur C. and James B. Duncan, *Growth Management Principles and Practices*, APA Planners Press, 1995.

Phillips, Rhonda, *Community Indicators*, APA Planning Advisory Service Report 517, 2004.

Randolph, John *Environmental Land Use Planning and Management*, Island Press, 2003.

Steiner, Frederick R. and Kent Bulter, *Planning and Urban Design Standards, Student Edition*, Wiley, 2007.