Introduction

This course focuses on issues and methods of urban land use planning as practiced in the United States. According to surveys of professional planners by the American Planning Association, the majority of all planners are involved in some way with issues related to urban land use planning. The course initially reviews the legacy of land use planning practice, lessons learned from past planning mistakes, and the ingredients of good plans. It then explains how to prepare land use designs based on planning information systems, population and economic projections, and land suitability analyses based on infrastructure, natural resource, and other environmental factors. To prepare good land use designs, the course covers the siting and sizing requirements of residential, commercial, institutional and industrial land uses and community facilities. It then reviews traditional techniques of land use guidance, and adaptive techniques used to modify land use plans and manage development.

Besides the above learning objectives, the course has two others:

1. To evaluate a community land use plan to determine whether it satisfies the principles of ‘smart growth’;

2. To prepare a comprehensive land use plan for a small hypothetical town whose population and economy are expected to double in size in the next 20 to 25 years.

Prerequisites

This course is designed for MURP degree and planning certificate students interested in urban land use planning as practiced in the United States. The course synthesizes topics from courses in planning methods and models, environmental planning, land use regulation and plan implementation, and urban transportation planning. Students will need a working knowledge of
computer spreadsheets and geographic information systems to complete a major course assignment. Students who lack knowledge of planning theory should read the following article in the Course Reader at their earliest convenience.


**Requirements and Grading Policy**

The course uses a lecture and class discussion format. Lectures are based on assigned readings listed in the attached class schedule. Course grades will be based on the following requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Written assignments (3)</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral presentation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class participation</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final exam</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>30</td>
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<td>500</td>
<td>100</td>
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Here are the minimum points needed to earn the term grade:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Minimum Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>438</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>367</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The purpose of the three homework assignments is to further develop your knowledge and skills of urban land use planning. The first assignment will be an evaluation of a proposed land use plan. The second and third assignments, which are based on the *Hypothetical City Workbook III* by Ann-Margaret Esnard et al. (2006), involve working in small teams of three or four students. These teams will be determined after the first assignment has been submitted, graded and returned. The deadline for each assignment is shown on the attached class schedule.

The specific requirements of each assignment will be distributed and explained by the instructor later in the course. Besides satisfying the specific requirements of a given assignment, written work should be accurate, creative, logical, and persuasive. The appearance, format, and style of your work will also be evaluated, because they are important to professional planning.
practice. In general, assignments should be typed and double-spaced with a readable font (e.g., 12 point) on 8.5 x 11 inch, plain white paper with one-inch margins. Footnotes and references should be completely documented and should follow a consistent, conventional format. Each student will also give a 15- to 20-minute oral presentation of either the second or third assignment. Presentations will be graded on the quality of your communication and graphic skills. Please read the following articles in the Course Reader before submitting your paper and giving your oral presentation:


Please confer with the instructor if a written assignment must be submitted late due to illness or comparable reasons. Without permission, late assignments will be penalized 20 percent of the maximum value of the assignment for each working day that the assignment is late. This policy is intended to be fair to students who submitted their assignments on time.

Because the class size is small, students are expected to participate in class discussions and to stay current in the readings. Besides attending class and listening to the discussion, students will be expected to voice their opinions and answer questions. Students who participate regularly in class discussions are more likely to receive a better grade for the course. If you need to miss a class, please ask a classmate to pick up handouts distributed in class. If that is not possible, you can also get them later from the instructor.

The final examination is comprehensive; it covers the entire course. The examination will consist of multiple-choice and short-essay questions. There will be no mid-term examination.

Incomplete grades will be given only to students who have compelling reasons, such as extended illness or comparable excuses. Insufficient time to complete work is not an adequate reason, since time management is an important academic and job skill. Please notify the instructor whenever you must be absent from classes for an extended period due to illness or travel.

Office Hours

My office is located in Saunders 107A. My regular office hours are from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. (after class) on Wednesdays. If these hours are inconvenient, please make an appointment. You can reach me by telephone (808-956-8684), facsimile (808-956-6870), or e-mail (flachsba@hawaii.edu). Please do not submit a written assignment as an attachment to an e-mail message.

Readings

Readings include two textbooks and various reserve readings as listed below.
Textbooks

Most of the readings come from two required textbooks, which can be ordered from Amazon.com. These books are:


Course Reader

Listed below are articles in the Course Reader (CR). It provides literature on land use planning that is not in the textbooks. Articles in the Course Reader appear in alphabetical order according to the lead author’s last name. If you would like to have digital copies of these articles, please give the instructor a thumb drive with your name on it.


References

Listed below in alphabetical order are additional readings and references on urban land use planning. Those readings not on the reserve shelf may be in the open stacks of Hamilton Library.


