

Subject to change

School of Policy, Planning, and Development
University of Southern California

PPD 227: Urban Planning & Development
4 Units, Fall 2014

Instructor: Professor Alan Kreditor

Time and Classroom: 10 a.m. to 11:50 a.m., classroom TBA

Office Hours: Class days from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., or by appointment, in RGL 331D

Contact Info: 213-740-2939, kreditor@usc.edu
or Anne Johnson 213-740-4618, annemjoh@usc.edu

OVERVIEW

The purpose of this course is to provide the student with an introduction to urban planning and development. This is a *gateway course*, required for the BS in Policy, Planning and Development. Today's metropolitan areas are the result of countless decisions by individuals, companies, interest groups, governments and other organizations that affect the physical environment in which we live. The streets, parks, office complexes, shopping centers, slums, housing tracts, water and sewer systems that make up the urban environment reflect these countless decisions. The city building process is too complex to cover in a one semester course. This course provides a basic introduction. Course objectives include:

- Introduce the concepts, tools and techniques of professional planning, considered from both planning and development perspectives
- Introduce the main subfields of urban planning
- Develop students' ability to analyze and understand the city building process and the roles of planners and developers in that process

REQUIRED TEXTS AND READINGS

Fulton, W. and P. Shigley (2012) *Guide to California Planning, 4th Edition*. Point Arena, CA: Solano Press Books. ISBN 978-1938166020

Levy, John M. (2013) *Contemporary Urban Planning, 10th Edition*. Boston, MA: Pearson. ISBN 978-0205851737

The texts will be supplemented with additional readings provided on the Blackboard course site.

Subject to change

COURSE FORMAT

This course is a mix of lectures, discussions and various assignments, with an emphasis on student participation. Our class time will include lectures and discussions. Students will be asked to summarize, discuss, and critique class readings, and to develop arguments for or against specific planning and development proposals. Los Angeles will serve as our laboratory.

CLASS ASSIGNMENTS

Weekly Papers

Each Monday on which class is held, each student, working independently, will submit a one page summary, in hard copy, of the previous week's instructional material including readings, lectures, and PowerPoint presentations. Your summary should include your own interpretation of the material and its importance. The summary is not to exceed one page, double-spaced, in 12 font.

GRADING

In addition to the mid-term and final exams, as well as class participation, student performance will include weekly papers. These weekly papers will account for 20% of your total course grade.

The course grade will be calculated as follows:

- Weekly papers 20%
- Mid-term exam 25%
- Final exam 45%
- Class participation 10%

The mid-term and final exams will be based on all class materials: Readings (whether or not discussed in class), lectures, any guest presentations, and class discussions. No make-up exams will be given, except in the case of documented illness, which requires a signed doctor's letter. The format may be any combination of short answers, definitions and identifications, multiple choice or essay. The mid-term will cover material through Week 7. The final will cover the entire semester, but will emphasize the second half of the semester.

The class participation grade will be based on class attendance, individual class contributions, and participation in class discussions. As with the assignments and exams, you earn points for effective class participation.

Subject to change

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Your future success as a professional will be determined in part by the knowledge and skills you obtain through your classes. Fundamental requirements for professional success are basic courtesy and ethical behavior. Courtesy and ethical behavior is expected at all times in the classroom, in the field, during office hours, and in all communications. Student responsibilities include:

- Arrive in class on time and prepared for discussion
- Attend every class
- Remain for the entire class session. This class has no break, so come prepared. If you must leave class early, *you need to inform me before the beginning of that class*
- Turn off and stow all mobile devices, e.g. smart phone, cell phone. There will be no e-mailing, texting, phone calls, tweeting, chatting, gaming or web surfing during class. Multi-tasking is both inefficient and distracting. *Any mobile device being used during class is subject to confiscation.*
- It is expected that you have access to a computer, and some in-class activities will require one. Use your computer only for note taking and directed in-class activities. Other uses noted in the previous bullet will result in loss of computer use during class.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Students should maintain strict adherence to standards of academic integrity, as described in SCampus (<http://www.usc.edu/dept/publications/SCAMPUS/>). In particular, the University recommends strict sanctions for plagiarism defined below:

11.11 Plagiarism

- A. The submission of material authored by another person but represented as the student's own work, whether that material is paraphrased or copied in verbatim or near-verbatim form.
- B. The submission of material subjected to editorial revision by another person results in substantive changes in content or major alteration of writing style.
- C. Improper acknowledgment of sources in essays or papers.

Note: Culpability is not diminished when plagiarism occurs in drafts that are not the final version. If any material is prepared or submitted by another person on the student's behalf, the student is expected to proofread the results and is responsible for all particulars.

Subject to change

AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS

No recording of lectures or discussions are allowed. Neither audio nor video will be permitted without written permission of the instructor.

Distribution or use of notes or recordings based on university classes or lectures without the express permission of the instructor for purposes other than individual or group study. This includes, but is not limited to, providing materials for distribution by services publishing class notes. This restriction on unauthorized use applies to all information distributed or in any way displayed for use in relationship to the class, whether obtained in class, via email, on the Internet or via any other media.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

Any student requesting academic accommodations based on a disability is required to register with Disability Services and Programs (DSP) each semester. A letter of verification for approved accommodations can be obtained from DSP. Please be sure the letter is delivered to the instructor or to a TA as early in the semester as possible. DSP is located in STU 301 and is open early 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. The phone number for DSP is (213) 740-0776.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Students might have religious or other conflicts during the semester and the instructor will do what he can to accommodate those concerns.