

## **PLA4008: Planning History and Theory**

Mondays 10 am-1 pm, Room 114 Avery Hall  
(lecture 10-11:45, section 12-1)

Instructor: Professor Hiba Bou Akar

Office Location: 208 Buell Hall

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Teaching Assistants:

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This course provides a survey of key historical moments and contemporary theoretical debates that have shaped the field of urban planning. It emphasizes how the profession has been shaped simultaneously by local socio-economic, political, and spatial processes as well as transnational and global circulations of capital, commodities, services, and people. The course has **four objectives**. First, it introduces students to key paradigms in planning thoughts and provides insights on the struggles and complexities that have shaped the field. It focuses on how planning practices have been implemented, negotiated, transformed across cities of the Global North and Global South. Second, the course enables students an in-depth understanding of how spaces are developed, governed, lived, and contested, by foregrounding debates on spatial justice that have been central to planning practice. Third, it invites students to reflect on the role of the planner-practitioner and the ethical implications of planning interventions. Fourth, it enables students to develop their research skills and abilities to communicate ideas in writing.

### **CLASS REQUIREMENTS**

Course evaluation depends on the following assignments:

#### **1. Class Attendance and Participation, 10% of final grade**

The class meets once week for three hours including a lecture and section (12-1). Class time will be combination of lectures and discussion. Students are expected to come on time, having read assigned readings and are expected to actively participate in class discussions. All required readings are posted on Canvas. No required textbooks for purchase.

#### **2. Opening Commentary Paper, 10% of final grade.**

Based on a thorough reading of the assigned readings for weeks 1 and 2, you are required to write a 500-600 words essay in which you critically reflect on your positionality as a planner-in-training vis-à-vis these different readings. A class handout will detail more the assignment's requirements, due on September 24.

**3. “Good Plans” examples and discussion, 5% of final grade**

Choose a planning topic of interest. Look up examples of good planning process or outcome in that field. Bring it to section and discuss its merits and critiques on October 8.

**4. LiPS response papers, 10% of final grade.**

The Urban Planning Program offers a Tuesday afternoon (1:15- 3:00) lecture series known as Lectures in Planning Series (LiPS). These lectures are an opportunity to broaden your understanding of planning beyond course work. As a requirement of the course, the student is must attend and summarize six (6) lectures. Summaries are to be 300-400 words in length. Compile all summaries and submit to your TA by December 3.

**5. Pop Quizzes, 25% of final grade**

There will be several unannounced quizzes in class. The aim of the quizzes is to ensure students’ preparedness for class and engage students to critically reflect on the readings.

**6. Research Project, 40% of final grade**

This project asks students to pick a planning case study, explore the different dimensions of the issues at stake, and perform an in-depth analysis using texts, visuals, multi media, and interviews if possible. A handout detailing the project requirements will be distributed in class.

- Stage 1: Proposal. Due: October 1 (5%)
- Stage 2: Outline and Annotated bibliography. Due: November 12 (15%)
- Stage 3: Final Research Project. Due on December 10 (20%)

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Due Dates</b>
Opening Commentary	September 24
Research proposal	October 1
“Good Plans” sample	October 8
Outline, Visuals, and Annotated Bibliography	November 12
LiPS summaries	December 3
Final project submission	December 10

## **CLASS POLICIES**

Please abide by the following class policies.

**Submission Policies:** Text assignments are due in hard copy at the beginning of class on the specified date, in addition to uploading a digital copy to Canvas. Papers should be well-written and typed in 12-point font, double-spaced. Please include citations and list of references. Please submit all assignments on time. We will not be able to accept late submissions.

**E-communication:** All students are responsible for checking their emails and course site on Canvas on a daily basis, as these our avenues of communication. During class time, please keep your phones and tablets silent and invisible.

**Ethics of Scholarship:** Plagiarism is a serious offense and includes falsely claiming the work of others as one's own, using material without properly quoting and documenting its sources, academic dishonesty, papers written by someone else, not acknowledging multiple authors or collaboration on submitted work, and not declaring multiple submissions of the same work.

## Class Program

The course is divided into four parts. Part I introduces a number of key theoretical planning frameworks and critiques about the goal of planning and the role of planning practitioners. Part II provides a brief survey of key historical moments that had a profound impact on the planning field, mainly modernism, colonialism, and capitalism. Part III examines various debates on planning and social justice focusing on issues of race, class, gender and climate change. In Part IV we will go back to reflect on planning and the role of planners in a global context.

### Part I. Planning and Planners

#### Week 1 (September 10): What is Planning?

- John Friedmann. 1987. "Two Centuries of Planning Theory," in: *Planning in the Public Domain: From Knowledge to Action*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, pp. 51-85.
- Peter Hall. 1988. "The City of Theory," in: *Cities of Tomorrow*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, pp. 320-341
- Susan Fainstein. 2005. "Planning Theory and the City," *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, pp. 121-130.
- Vanessa Watson. 2009. "Seeing from the South: Refocusing Urban Planning on the Globe's Central Urban Issues" *Urban Studies* 46, 2259-2275.

#### Week 2 (September 17): Theorizing the Role of Planner

- Brooks, Michael P. 2002. "Chapter 6: Centralized Rationality: The Planner as Applied Scientist." In *Planning Theory for Practitioners*, p. 81-96. Chicago, Ill: APA Planners Press.
- Charles Lindblom. 1996. "The Science of 'Muddling Through,'" in: *Readings in Planning Theory*. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers, pp. 288-304, (First published in 1959).
- Paul Davidoff. 1965. "Advocacy and Pluralism in Planning", *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, Vol.31, pp.103-114.
- Patsey Healey. 1992. "Planning Through Debate: The Communicative Turn in Planning Theory," *Town Planning Review*, Vol. 63(2): 143-162.

### Part II. Key Moments in Planning History

#### Week 3 (September 24): Colonial Planning

- Paul Rabinow. 1989. "Governing Morocco: Modernity and Difference" *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 13:1, 32-46.
- Zeynep Celik. 1992. Le Corbusier, Orientalism, Colonialism. *Assemblage* 17, 58-77.
- Lisa Peattie. 1987. "A Planned City," "Models and Motivations," and "Representation" in *Planning: Rethinking Ciudad Guayana*, p.7-21, 23-40, 111-152.

#### Week 4 (October 1): Planning of Modernism

- Marshall Berman. 1982. "In the Forest of Symbols: Some Notes on Modernism in New York" in *All that is Solid Melts into Air*, p. 287-329.

- Jane Jacobs. 1996. Chapter 4, "The Death and Life of Great American Cities." Pp. 61-74 in Campbell and Feinstein.
- Michel de Certeau. 1984. "Walking in the City" in *The Practice of Everyday Life*, p. 91-110.

**Week 5 (October 8): No reading- Read for "Good Plans" and Watch in-class film**

**Week 6 (October 15): Planning for/against Capitalism**

- David Harvey. 2007. "Neoliberalism as Creative Destruction" *The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 610:1, 21-44.
- Peter Hall. 1988 (1996 edition). "The City of Enterprise" in *Cities of Tomorrow*, p. 343-361.
- Richard Florida. 2003. "Cities and the Creative Class." *City & Community* 2 (1): 3–19.
- Peck, Jamie. 2005. "Struggling with the Creative Class." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 29 (4): 740–70.

**Week 7 (October 22): The Dark Side of Planning**

- Roy, A. 2009. "Why India Cannot Plan its Cities?" *Planning Theory* 8(1): 76-87.
- Oren Yiftachel. 2000. "Social Control, Urban Planning and Ethno-Class Relations: Mizrahi Jews in Israel's 'Development Towns'," *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, Vol. 24(2): 418-438.
- Christopher, A. J. 1987. "Apartheid Planning in South Africa: The Case of Port Elizabeth." *The Geographical Journal* 153 (2): 195–204.
- Bent Flyvbjerg. 2002. "Bringing Power to Planning Research: One Researcher's Praxis Story," *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, Vol. 21, pp. 353-366.

### **III. Planning Issues**

**Week 8 (October 29): Racialized Planning**

- Jonathan Kozol. 1991. *Life on the Mississippi: East St. Louis, Illinois*. In *Savage Inequalities: Children in America's Schools*, p. 7-39. Crown Publishing Group.
- Vale, Lawrence J. 2013. "Public Housing in the United States: Neighborhood Renewal and the Poor." *Policy, Planning and People, Promoting Justice in Urban Development*. Philadelphia.
- Richard Rothstein. October 15, 2014. "The Making of Ferguson: Public Policies at the Root of Its Troubles." *Economic Policy Institute*.

**Week 9 (November 5): Fall Break, no classes.**

**Week 10 (November 12): Class Inequality**

- Roy, Ananya. 2005. "Urban Informality: Toward an Epistemology of Planning." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 71 (2): 147–58.
- Teitz, Michael B., Karen Chapple. 2013. "Planning and Poverty: An uneasy Relationship." In N. Carmon, and S. Fainstein, ed., "Planning and Poverty: An Uneasy Relationship."

Relationship.” Policy, Planning, and People, Promoting Justice in Urban Development, 205–23.

- Mike Davis. 2004. Planet of Slums. In *New Left Review* 26.

#### **Week 11 (November 19): Gendering Planning**

- Wilson, E. (1991). Architecture and Consciousness in Central Europe, in *The Sphinx in the City: Urban Life, the Control of Disorder, and Women*, p. 84-99. Berkeley: UC Press.
- Leonie Sandercock and Ann Forsyth, “A gender agenda: new directions for planning theory,” in Susan Fainstein and Lisa Servon eds., *Gender and Planning: A Reader*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2005, 67-86.
- Dolores Hayden, “What would a non-sexist city be like? Speculations on housing, urban design and human work,” in Susan Fainstein and Lisa Servon eds., *Gender and Planning: A Reader*. New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 2005, 47-66.

#### **Week 12 (November 26): Planning for Climate Change**

- Scott Campbell. 2003. “Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development.” Pp. 435-58 in Campbell and Fainstein.
- Klinenberg, Eric. 2016. “Climate Change: Adaptation, Mitigation, and Critical Infrastructures.” *Public Culture* 28 (2 79): 187–92.
- May, Shannon. 2011. “Ecological Urbanization: Calculating Value in an Age of Global Climate Change.” In *Worlding Cities: Asian Experiments and the Art of Being Global*, edited by Ananya Roy and Aihwa Ong, 98–126. Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Power, Marcus. 2012. “Angola 2025: The Future of the ‘World’s Richest Poor Country’ as Seen through a Chinese Rear-View Mirror.” *Antipode* 44 (3): 993–1014.

#### **Week 13 (December 3): Wars and Disasters, Migration and Refugeeness**

- Fawaz, Mona. 2016. “Planning and the Refugee Crisis: Informality as a Framework of Analysis and Reflection.” *Planning Theory*.
- Abourahme, Nasser. 2015. “Assembling and Spilling-Over: Towards an ‘Ethnography of Cement’ in a Palestinian Refugee Camp.” *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 39 (2): 200–217.
- Zanghi, Alexis. 2016. “Germany’s Radical, Pro-Refugee Urban-Planning Experiment.” *The Atlantic*, August 20. <https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2016/08/germany-refugees-arrival-cities-syria/496697/>.

### **IV. Reflecting back on Planning and Planners**

#### **Week 14 (December 10): Right to the City, Community Participation, and Insurgency**

- Faranak Miraftab. 2009. “Insurgent Planning: Situating Radical Planning in the Global South” *Planning Theory* 8:1, 32-50.
- David Harvey. 2003. “The Right to the City,” *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, vol. 24(4): 939-941.
- White, Monica M. 2011. “Sisters of the Soil: Urban Gardening as Resistance in Detroit.” *Race/Ethnicity: Multidisciplinary Global Contexts* 5 (1): 13–28.