PLANA 4208: Planning Methods

Fall 2018 Syllabus

Course: Planning Methods Call # 88146 (3 points)

Time: Wednesdays 11 am – 1 pm

Room:200 South Fayerweather

Office:305 Buell Hall

Professor Hutson's Office Hours: Wednesdays, 3:30-5 p.m.

Online office hours sign-up link:

https://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/ihcyj (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Phone:212-854-6280

E-mail:mah2328@columbia.edu

Teaching Assistants (TAs):

Younghyun Kim (yk2767@columbia.edu)

Minh Nguyen (mqn2103@columbia.edu)

Michael Snidal (mjs2267@columbia.edu)

Course Description:

This is an introductory course designed to help prepare students for common analysis methods used in planning practice. Common methods of analysis are covered using publicly available data sets and data collected through assignments. Through weekly readings, lectures and lab sessions students will gain a basic understanding of the tools and skills required in planning practice. ***In addition to the lecture, students must register for one of the three weekly lab sections below taught by TAs.***

Lab Section 001   **Call # 91346**

Mondays 2-4pm, UP Computer Lab

Lab Section 002   **Call # 92346**

Mondays 4-6pm, UP Computer Lab

Lab Section 003   **Call # 92846**

Thursdays 4-6pm, UP Computer Lab

Course Objectives:

- Identify planning problems and questions
- Design and implement a research project in response to a planning problem or question
- Understand how to use secondary data to address planning problems and questions, and become familiar with the primary data sources and metrics used in planning practice
- Become a critical consumer of statistics, methods, and evidence/arguments in the press and in policy, planning and advocacy publications
- Think critically about research problems and research design, learn what kinds of problems planners address in day-to-day life, and recognize the role of theory in shaping both questions and research design
- Prepare clear, accurate and compelling text, graphics and maps for use in documents
- Learn how to write for different audiences, and effectively include data/evidence in writing

Course Requirements:

Students are required to attend **all** lectures and lab sections for the entire semester.   In addition, students will complete weekly computer lab assignments and take a midterm that is scheduled for **Wednesday, October 17, 2018**. Finally, students will be assigned a group and will complete an analysis of a New York City community district/neighborhood. The final analysis will be in report format and presented in class on the last day of instruction **Wednesday, December 5, 2018** and the final report will be due **Friday, December 14, 2018**.   Information regarding the class project will be handed out in class once the semester begins.

Grading:

Grades will be based on the following:

Attendance and In-Class Exercises	15%
Computer Labs	25%
Midterm	25%
Final Project	35%

Class Attendance:

Students are expected to make every effort to attend lectures and discussion sections. Please be **on time to class and computer labs**.   Attendance in lecture and computer labs will be taken.

Policy on Religious Holidays:

If you will be observing any religious holidays this semester that will prevent you from attending a regularly scheduled class or interfere with fulfilling any course requirement, notify Professor Hutson or TAs within the first two weeks of the semester. Otherwise, any absence due to a religious holiday will be treated as a missed class. ⌊SEP⌋

Important Dates

Midterm Exam: Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Final Presentation: December 5, 2018

Final Project Report Due: Friday, December 14, 2018

Statement of Academic Integrity:

Any test, paper or report submitted by you and that bears your name is presumed to be your own original work that has not previously been submitted for credit in another course unless you obtain prior written approval to do so from Professor Hutson.

In all of your assignments, including your homework or drafts of papers, you may use words or ideas written by other individuals in publications, web sites, or other sources, but only with proper attribution. "Proper attribution" means that you have fully identified the original source and extent of your use of the words or ideas of others that you reproduce in your work for this course, usually in the form of a footnote or parenthesis.

As a general rule, if you are citing from a published source or from a web site and the quotation is short (up to a sentence or two) place it in quotation marks; if you employ a longer passage from a publication or web site, please indent it and use single spacing. In both cases, be sure to cite the original source in a footnote or in parentheses.

If you are not clear about the expectations for completing an assignment or taking an examination, be sure to seek clarification from Professor Hutson or your assigned TAs beforehand.

Finally, you should keep in mind that as a member of the campus community, you are expected to demonstrate integrity in all of your academic endeavors and will be

evaluated on your own merits. So be proud of your academic accomplishments and help to protect and promote academic integrity at Columbia University. The consequences of cheating and academic dishonesty - including a formal discipline file, possible loss of future internship, scholarship, or employment opportunities, and denial of admission to another graduate program - are simply not worth it.

Students with Disabilities:

If you need accommodations for any physical, psychological, or learning disability or if you want me to have emergency medical information, please speak to me after class or during office hours.

Required Reading for Course:

There will be a course reader and where possible electronic resources will be available via the online course website. Once reader is complete, Professor Hutson will send out a class email with details about how to access it.

Course Content and Reading Schedule

I). Defining Planning, Identifying Problems and Conducting Field Research

Week #1: September 5: Introduction to the Course and What is Planning?

Required Readings:

- Forester, J. "Introduction: Renewing Planning Practice by Fostering Public Deliberations in an Adversarial World," in *The Deliberative Practitioner*.
- Escobar, Arturo. "Planning," in *The Development Dictionary: A Guide to Knowledge as Power*. Edited by Wolfgang Sachs. London: Zed Books, 2010, pp. 132-45. ISBN: 9781848133808.

Recommended Readings:

- Young, Iris Marion. "Chapter 8-City Life and Difference," in *Justice and the Politics Difference*. Princeton University Press, 1990.
- Susskind, Lawrence, and Jennifer Thomas-Larmer. "Conducting A Conflict Assessment." Chapter 2 in *The Consensus Building Handbook*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 1999, pp. 99-136. ISBN: 0761908447.
- Sandercock, Leonie. "Introduction", in *Making the Invisible Visible: A Multicultural Planning History*. Los Angeles: University of California Press, 1998, pp. 1-33.

- Allison Arieff. "What Tech Hasn't Learned from Urban Planning," *NY Times*. December 13, 2013.
- Robert Reich: "Policy Making in a Democracy," in *The Power of Public Ideas,* Reich, ed.. Cambridge: Ballinger, l988. 123-155.
- Noveck, B. 2008. "Wiki Government: How Technology Can Make Government Better, Democracy Stronger, and Citizens More Powerful." http://www.democracyjournal.org/pdf/7/031-043.noveck.final.pdf (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.http://www.democracyjournal.org/pdf/7/031-043.noveck.final.pdf (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

R Statistical Software Resources:

· **R Code School**

http://tryr.codeschool.com/levels/1/challenges/1 (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

· **R Studio**

https://www.rstudio.com/products/RStudio/ (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

· **UCLA Institute for Digital Research and Education**

https://stats.idre.ucla.edu/r/# (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

· **R-Bloggers**

https://www.r-bloggers.com/linear-regression-using-r/ (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

IMPORTANT Begin Familiarizing Yourself with R Statistical Software

Week #2: September 12: Research Design and Identifying Methods

Required Readings:

- Creswell, John W. (2014). "Chapter 1: The Selection of a Research Approach," in *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. 4th Edition.Los Angeles: Sage Publications, Inc. 3-22.

Recommended Readings:

- Babbie, Earl. *The Practice of Social Research*. 14th Edition. Boston: Cengage Learning.
- Berg, Bruce and Howard Lune. *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences*. 8th Edition. Boston: Pearson.

Week #3: September 19: Accessing Data and Understanding Planning Agencies

Required readings:

- MacDonald, Heather. "The American Community Survey." Journal of the American Planning Association 72, 4: 491-503.
- Pratt, Beverly M. et al. "Measuring Race and Ethnicity Across the Decades: 1790-2010." https://www.census.gov/newsroom/blogs/random-samplings/2015/11/measuring-race-and-ethnicity-across-the-decades-1790-2010.html (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
- Pew Research Center. 2015. "What Census Calls Us: A Historical Timeline." http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/interactives/multiracial-timeline/
- S. Census Bureau. 2017. "State Data Centers Are Key to Accessing and Understanding Census Bureau Data." https://www.census.gov/newsroom/blogs/random-samplings/2017/06/state_data_centersa.html (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.
- S. Census Bureau. 2009. A Compass for Understanding and Using American Community Survey Data: What Researchers Need to Know (U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC). https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2009/acs/ACSResearch.pdf (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Recommended Resource:

(Explore) Columbia University Digital Social Science Center http://library.columbia.edu/locations/dssc/data.html

(Explore) NYU Furman Center CoreData.nyc http://coredata.nyc (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Week #4: September 26: Defining Planning Problems

Required readings:

- Hayden, D. 1997. Chapter 1: Contested Terrain, Chapter 2: Urban Landscape History: The Sense of Place and the Politics of Space. In Power of Place. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. pp. 2-43.
- Klass, Gary M. 2012. "Chapter 1: Measuring Political, Social and Economic Conditions," in Just Plain Data Analysis (Plymouth: Rowman and Littlefield).
- Sawicki, David. S. and Patrice Flynn. "Neighborhood Indicators: A Review of the Literature and an Assessment of Conceptual and Methodological Issues," Journal of the American Planning Association 62(2): 165- 183.

1. **II) Qualitative Methods**

Week #5: October 3: Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods

Required readings:

- Berg, Bruce and Howard Lune. "Chapter 2: Designing Qualitative Research," in *Qualitative Research Methods for the Social Sciences*. 8thEdition. Boston: Pearson. Pp. 19-60.
- Robert S. Weiss. 1994. "Introduction," "Respondents: Choosing them and recruiting them," and "Interviewing." In *Learning from strangers: The art and method of qualitative interview studies*. New York: The Free Press. 1-14, 15-38, 61-120.
- Corburn, Jason. 2005. Street science: Characterizing local knowledge. In *Street science: Community knowledge and environmental health justice*. Cambridge: MIT Press. 47-77.
- Minkler, M. 2000. Using participatory action research to build healthy communities. *Public Health Reports* 115 (2–3) 191–97.

Week #6: October 10: Qualitative Research Methods (Continued)

Required readings:

- Hutson, Malo. "Chapter 5-San Francisco: The Fight to Preserve the Mission District," in *The Urban Struggle for Economic, Environmental, and Social Justice: Deepening Their Roots*. London and New York: Routledge. Pp. 85-119
- Frick, Karen T. 2014. The actions of discontent: Tea Party and property rights activists pushing back against regional planning. *Journal of the American Planning Association* 79 (3) 190–200.
- Yin, Robert. 2014. "Chapter 1- "Getting Started: How to Whether and When to Use Case Study as a Research Method," in *Case Study Research: Design and Methods*. 5th Los Angeles: Sage Publications, Inc. pp. 3-26

Recommended Readings:

- James Spradley. 1979. "Interviewing an informant" and "Asking descriptive questions." In *The ethnographic interview*. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, pages 55-68, 78-91.

Week #7: October 17: Midterm

III) Quantitative Methods

Week #8: October 24: Introduction to R Statistical Software

Required Readings:

- Klass, Gary M. "Chapter 3: Statistical Fallacies, Paradoxes, and Threats to Validity, Chapter 5: Tabulating the Data and Writing about the Numbers, and Chapter 6: The Graphical Display of Data," in Just Plain Data Analysis (Plymouth: Rowman and Littlefield).

Recommended Readings:

- Agresti, Alan and Barbara Finlay. "Chapter 3: Descriptive Statistics," in *Statistical Models for the Social Sciences*, 4th edition, Pearson Prentice Hall. pp. 31-61
- Miller, Jane. Chapters 2 to 5 (p.11-101) in *How to Write about Numbers*. 2004. University of Chicago Press.

Week #9: October 31: Descriptive Statistics and Data Visualization

Required readings:

- Levine, David and David Stephan. "Chapter 2: Presenting Data in Tables and Charts," in *Even You Can Learn Statistics and Analytics*. 3rd Edition. Boston: Pearson. Pp. 15-29.

Week #10: November 7: Working with Data in R

Required readings:

- Creswell, John W. (2014). "Chapter 8: Quantitative Methods," in *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*. 4th Edition.Los Angeles: Sage Publications, Inc. 155-182.

Week #11: November 14:Quantitative Methods and Inferential Statistics

Required readings:

- Babbie, Earl. "Chapter 14: Quantitative Data Analysis," in *The Practice of Social Research*. 14ᵗʰEdition. Boston: Cengage Learning. Pp. 411-431.

Week #12: November 21: Academic Holiday—NO CLASS

Week #13: November 28: Inferential Statistics (Continued)

Required readings:

To Be Determined

Week #14: December 5: In-Class Final Presentations

Week #15: Friday, December 15: Final Report Due by 11:59 pm!!!