

Overview

This seminar is open to members of all GSAPP programs (Architecture, Historic Preservation, Real Estate, Urban Design and Urban Planning) interested in the design, development and implementation of urban waterfront transformation strategies. Aiming to examine how different urban areas approach a similar strategic planning and design challenge, its motivating urban research question can be summarized as follows: How do development pre-conditions, planning frameworks, design methods and preservation principles support (or inhibit) integrated and/or collaborative planning and design practice? The seminar tests a comparative, multi-disciplinary case-study method where each project is researched, analyzed and interpreted by a team comprised of students responsible for looking at cases from the perspective of various urban practice arenas (Planning, Design, Real Estate and Preservation). The mix invites participants to reflect on and compare how one case gets understood and assessed through various lenses. The course offers students a hands-on, cross-field collaboration experience while learning about urban waterfront projects.

Waterfront planning and design - one example of long-term, large scale urban transformation efforts

Waterfront transformation projects involve many players, demand many forms of expertise, and have urban impacts that play out over many scales. Local municipal planning agencies, regional port authorities, design professionals, private developers, as well as preservationists, community actors and engineers each bring value-laden assumptions to the table regarding project goals and desired outcomes. By applying a multi-disciplinary perspective to the study of cases from New York, metropolitan regions in Norway, Sweden, Denmark, France, Germany and the Netherlands, the seminar addresses the numerous, and often incommensurate, value systems at work in any large-scale, long-term urban transformation effort. Like most urban rejuvenation projects targeting large tracts of previously occupied territory, urban waterfront redevelopments usually take decades to complete. Typically they begin with municipalities (at times partnered with private developers) formulating a masterplanning document that identifies stakeholders, defines needs, visualizes end-game scenarios designed to meet those requirements, and sets an implementation schedule. In the years elapsed between creating and realizing such district masterplans – the “meantime” between conception and completion – economic, political and social pre-conditions shaping actual development processes inevitably change. Developers recalculate timelines, consultant teams change, political priorities shift, stakeholder needs evolve, just as the original authors who envision such projects “move on”. Nothing ever happens quite as planned.

Ambition – an experiment in transdisciplinary thinking about complex urban projects

The seminar seeks members open to collaborating with and learning from differently-minded individuals, who share their interest in, but not their professional view of, waterfront planning and design. Participants will be invited to reflect on and contextualize their professionally framed understandings in relation to others, by working in mixed case-study teams. Members should bring curiosity about an aspect of urban waterfront transformation (e.g. financing, resiliency, design typology, zoning, gentrification, district/building re-purposing, public space, sustainability, coastal rise, etc.). Groups made up of Planning, Architecture, Urban Design, Real Estate and Historic Preservation students will collectively define research goals, develop presentations and prepare case-study reports, effecting a "rehearsal" in collaboration and communication across professional fields. They will collect comparable data as a starting point, only. Over the course of the semester, they will also be expected to:

- Devise an analytic framework that integrates design, planning, preservation and real estate perspectives on complex urban waterfront planning and design projects.
- Illuminate the various value systems informing the conception and implementation of large-scale, long-term urban transformation projects.
- Test collaborative working models for professionals who share a commitment to creating better cities and contribute various points of view on what a 'city-making' process involves.

Format

The seminar will be organized around 5-8 pre-selected case studies, done in teams, supported by course readings, class discussions, and contributions by faculty from various GSAPP programs as well as inputs from international players directly involved with the projects under study. The seminar begins with a three week introduction

(addressing urban waterfront projects, collaborative work processes, and transdisciplinary research goals) followed by four, two-week long, thematic frames (one week for discussion on topics addressed by guest lecturers/and or assigned readings, and one week for class discussion of ongoing case study research). Each study team will deliver one interim and one final presentation, and produce a final case study report. Individuals are expected to do weekly readings, participate in class discussions, contribute constructive commentary on their peers' ongoing research, and reflect on the group case-study process (as part of the final report). Grades will be based on class participation, including preparedness to discuss readings, ability to bring out excellence in others through commentary on work in progress; contributions to interim and final presentations, and report.

Learning Objectives

(Analysis) *Explore how long term, large scale urban transformation projects develop and get implemented.*

Compare different urban waterfront development projects. Examine how large scale plans strategic planning goals get articulated, different areas of planning/profession expertise interface (transport, public space, housing, etc.); far-reaching strategic goals get translated / realized in delivered projects. Case studies will address pre-conditions, planning frameworks, design strategies, implementation processes.

(Reflection) *Examine the analysis methods/research questions used to study urban projects, to illuminate professional "habits of mind" and "ways of working".* Compare different "takes on" /readings of the same urban transformation initiative. What do they highlight/obscure? What kind of city and/or ideas of city get produced? Case study teams reflect the mix of planning, design, RE, HP expertise/ contributions found on urban transformation project teams. Multidisciplinary case study teams provoke methodological questions.

(Action) *Enrich collaborative and communicative team work skills.* Multi - disciplinary case study research teams rehearse an integrated (rather than "delegated") working process that mirrors "on the ground conditions" for large urban projects, where developers, planners, designers and historical preservationists must agree on clear agendas and communication protocols to facilitate productive professional working processes. Produce new knowledge by mining the intellectual space between distinct 'habits of mind', working methods, and professional perspectives.

Course Requirements

Requirements: Individual seminar members prepare for and contribute to weekly discussions of assigned readings; work in teams to research, develop, and deliver critique 2 group in-class presentations, using Collaborative toolkit.

Collaboration Effort: "... great work emerges in the spaces between people..." [David Carr, late New York Times Journalist and Boston University Professor}. As an experiment in collaborative case study research, this course adopts his approach to evaluations as based not only on your individual effort, but on your ability to bring excellence out of the people around you."

Readings: Vocally contribute to in-class discussions of all weekly required readings and required case references. The course has 4 types of readings (all provided digitally):

- i) Required Readings, for which all students prepare responses, using the "*Rhetorical Précis*" tool (or similar)
- ii) Required Case References, read by all students (responses optional)
- iii) Recommended Readings (optional, responses optional, recommended for students aspiring to a High Pass)
- iv) Case study Resources: Required for case study teams, optional for remaining course members.

Case Study Presentations: Work as a collaborative team to research, prepare and deliver 2 presentations, one interim, and one final, using the comparative case study framework provided in the Collaborative Toolkit.

Grading: Final grades are based on preparedness, attendance and lively participation in weekly class discussion of assigned readings, lectures and cases; timely completion of assignments; organization, substance, and delivery of presentations; collaborative effort; consistency and substance of Rhetorical Précis/Reading Responses; timely uploading of assignments.

SYLLABUS and Pre-final READING LIST

All final required readings/case references will be posted weekly on Canvas or through URL links, or held in Avery Library on a class shelf. Recommended readings will also be posted. Students can also find digital materials through <http://library.columbia.edu/index.html>. Click "FIND", and choose "COURSE RESERVES".

Note on course readings:

Required Readings & Case References must be read by all students to prepare for weekly discussions.

Case Resources are required for the specific case study group, and recommended for other students.

Recommended Readings are for students wishing to delve more deeply into the weekly topic/case.

Part I: GROUNDWORK

What, How, Why

Wk. 1/ Sept 9

The Urban Waterfront as exemplar: Why large-scale, long term urban transformation projects? Why these case studies in particular?

Required Reading

Diedrich, L. (2013) Harbour Transformation as a Global Question, *Translating Harbourscapes, Site-specific Design Approaches in Contemporary European Harbour Transformation* (Ph.D. Thesis, Uni. of Copenhagen)

CASES: Introduce cases and COLLABORATION TOOLKIT

Wk. 2/ Sept 16

Ecotone thinking: Collaboration in Research and Practice: Why a multi-disciplinary case-study team? *What is the toolbox?* Common research framework, collective aims, collaborative process

CASES: Collaboration toolkit review, Confirm Study Teams

Required Reading

Duhigg, C. What Google learned from its quest to build the perfect team, Feb 28, 2016, *New York Times*

<http://www.nytimes.com/2016/02/28/magazine/what-google-learned-from-its-quest-to-build-the-perfect-team.html?smprod=nytcore-iphone&smid=nytcore-iphone-share>

Druskat, V.U. & Wolff, S. (2001) Building the emotional intelligence of groups, *Harvard Business Review*

<http://web.b.ebscohost.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=4&sid=6c2e1812-2b10-47a6-8074-c31b0e26071c%40sessionmgr106&hid=107>

Recommended Reading

Müller, D., B., Tjallingii, S. P., & Canters, K. J. (2005) A transdisciplinary learning approach to foster convergence of design, science and deliberation in urban and regional planning, *Systems Research and Behavioral Science*, 22(3), 193-208.

<http://ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/login?url=http://search.proquest.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/docview/196871539?accountid=10226>

Nowotny H. Transgressive Competence: The Narrative of Expertise. *European journal of social theory*. 2000-

02-01; 3:5-21. <http://est.sagepub.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/content/3/1/5.full.pdf+html>

Wk. 3/ Sept 23

Framing research parameters: Setting Case Study Goals, Establishing Desired Outcomes, Reviewing Method

CASES: Confirm research teams, review individual & group preliminary research questions

Required Reading

Schubert D (2013) "The last frontier of urban waterfront regeneration: Northern Europe", PORTUS: the online magazine of RETE, n. 25 (scan)

Booth, W. C. et al. (2008) From topics to questions (Ch. 3) and From questions to problems (Ch. 4), *The Craft of Research*, 3 ed <http://site.ebrary.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/lib/columbia/detail.action?docID=10288700>

Recommended Reading

Hein C, (2015) "Temporalities of the Port, the Waterfront and the Port City", PORTUS: the online magazine of RETE, n.29

Magnusson, W (1996) *Writing Backwards* (Scan)

Part II: FRAMEWORKS

I. Governance, Politics, Planning and Design

[Guest Seminar Lead: Claudia Herasme, NYC DCP]

CASES: *View from Land, View from Water: Greenpoint-Williamsburg, NYC and/or Copenhagen "Blue Room"*

Required case references

NYC Comprehensive Waterfront Plan (Ch 1/3) www.nyc.gov/waterfront

City of Copenhagen Waterfront Design Catalogue (scan)

Wk. 4/ Sept 30

Politics planning and design: from principles to practice, The New York Case

Presentations/Conversation between Claudia Herasme and Mary Kimball, NYC DCP

Required Reading

Gene Desfor & John Jørgensen (2004) Flexible urban governance: The case of Copenhagen's recent waterfront development, *European Planning Studies*, 12:4, 479-496

<http://www.tandfonline.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/doi/abs/10.1080/0965431042000212740>

Wk. 5/ Oct 7

CASES: New York City and Copenhagen, Interim Research Presentations /Discussion

"A view on the Copenhagen Waterfront, Invited Speaker: Bjarne Schläger, Architect, Copenhagen

Local Resource Guide: Bjarne Schläger

Week 4 & 5 Case Resources

City of Copenhagen (2013) *A harbour of opportunities*

City of New York (2011), *Vision 2020: NEW YORK CITY COMPREHENSIVE WATERFRONT PLAN*, Ch. 1 & 3

NY Waterfront Alliance (2016), *WEDG* guidelines

NYC Economic Development Council (2011), *WAVES: Waterfront Action Agenda*

<http://www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/plans/vision-2020-cwp/vision-2020-cwp.page>

Jørgensen M J.(2013) "The Case of Copenhagen", PORTUS: the online magazine of RETE, n.25

Justesen R, (2013) "Copenhagen Waterfront: a status on the ongoing regeneration of the Harbour",

PORTUS: the online magazine of RETE, n.25

II. Can cities be green? Sustainability and urban transformation projects

CASES: *Scandinavian models: Fjord city, Oslo, Norway and/or Vestrahamnen, Malmö, Sweden*

Required Case References

The western harbour, experiences and lessons learned, Malmö Sweden (selections) Ed. Bengt Persson (on reserve) p 24 – 44, 110-145

Kolstø S. (2013) Oslo Fjord City Course is Set, Making Good Speed! PORTUS online n. 25 (scan)

Fjord City Plan, Oslo waterfront planning office www.oslohavn.no/en/fjord_city/about_the_fjord_city/

Wk. 6/ Oct 14

The "green" vision: remaking cities/remaking economies, metrics and measures

Invited Speakers: Nico Kenzl/Ben Shepherd, Atelier 10, Environmental Design Consultants and Engineers

Required Readings

Hemmersam, P. (2016) Can Cities be Green? Urban Planning and Environment: Green Oslo: Visions, Planning and Discourse, eds. Røe, PG., Luccarelli, M., Miller, D. (Routledge)

<http://site.ebrary.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/lib/columbia/detail.action?docID=10632241>

Holgersen, S. and Malm, A. (2015): "Green fix" as crisis management. Or, in which world is Malmö the world's greenest city? *Geografiska Annaler: Series B, Human Geography* 97 (4): 275–290.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/doi/10.1111/geob.12081/abstract;jsessionid=8B55CF8430845CE0BD85E4315D394133.f02t03?>

Recommended reading

Hornborg A, (2016) Urban sustainability as myth and practice, *Sustainability in the Global City Myth and Practice*. Eds. Isenhour, C. McDonogh, G, Checker M (Cambridge University Press)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/CBO9781139923316.025>

Dyson K & Yocom K (2014) Ecological design for urban waterfronts, *Urban Ecosystems* (18)

<http://link.springer.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/article/10.1007%2Fs11252-014-0385-9>

Wk. 7/ Oct 21

CASES: Oslo & Malmö, Interim Research Presentation/Discussion

Local Resources: Stein Kolstø, Waterfront Planning Office, (Oslo) /Caroline Dahl, Movium (Malmö)

Week 6 & 7 Case Resources

The western harbour, experiences and lessons learned, Malmö Sweden. Ed. Bengt Persson (Arkus) (on reserve)

<http://malmo.se/Nice-to-know-about-Malmo/Sustainable-Malmo-/Sustainable-city-development-/Western-Harbour.html>

<http://malmo.se/Nice-to-know-about-Malmo/Sustainable-Malmo-.html>

<https://www.oslo.kommune.no/politikk-og-administrasjon/prosjekter/fjordbyen/>

http://www.oslohavn.no/en/fjord_city/bjorvika/

Gisle R P (2013) "About the Fjord City from the Port's point of view", PORTUS: the online magazine of RETE, n.25 (scan)

III. Beyond the Masterplan: Urban Transformation in an age of uncertainty

CASES: *River as Regional Spine: Estuary Metropolis - L'île de Nantes, Nantes and St. Nazaire, France*

Required Case References

Braae, E. (2013) Île de Nantes – Designerly Ways of Recognition in New Constellations *New Ecologies*, Berman, I; Mitchel E. (eds.) ACSA 101: San Francisco: 73-80

Chemetoff, A and Henry, P (2009), Selections from *Visits. Town and Territory — Architecture in Dialogue* (Basel: Birkhäuser). (on reserve/scan)

Chemetoff, A (1999) *L'île de Nantes: le plan, guide en projet* (Editions MeMo) (scan)

<http://www.iledenantes.com/en/>

Wk. 8/ Oct 28

Ile de Nantes, Beyond the Master Plan: The Plan Guide model and beyond

Guest Speaker: Laurent Devisme, Prof. ENSA Nantes

Required Readings

Diedrich, L., and Dahl, C. (2016), Ile de Nantes 2000–2010: A Method for the Meantime? *Journal of Landscape Architecture* 1/2016 (London: Routledge).

<http://www.tandfonline.com.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/doi/abs/10.1080/18626033.2016.1188576>

Calder, D. (2013) Making Space for a Creative Economy: The Work of La Machine, TDR: The Drama Review, Volume 57, Number 4, Winter <http://muse.jhu.edu.ezproxy.cul.columbia.edu/article/526061>

Recommended reading

Hein C, (2015) "Temporalities of the Port, the Waterfront and the Port City", PORTUS: the online magazine of RETE, n.29

Wk. 9/ Nov 4

CASES: Estuary Metropolis/Nantes – St. Nazaire, Interim Research Presentation/Discussion

Guest: Erica Avrami, GSAPP, Historic Preservation, Local Resource: Laurent Devisme, Prof. ENSA Nantes

Week 8 & 9 Case Resources

Braae E & Diedrich L (2012): Site specificity in contemporary large-scale harbour transformation projects,

Journal of Landscape Architecture, 7:1, 20-33 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/18626033.2012.693778>

Chemetoff, A (2010) *Le Plan-Guide (SUITES)* (Paris : Archibooks)

<http://www.citylab.com/work/2012/12/how-industrial-city-reinvented-itself-sustainability-hub/4186/>

<http://en.nantes.fr/home.html>

<http://www.iledenantes.com/en/>

Nantes Green Capital 2013, Nantes metropole (scan)

CASES: *From industrial port-lands to waterfront districts: Amsterdam North and South IJ Banks*

Required Case References:

Urban Catalyst Amsterdam Noord, Stealth Group (Book 1 & 2)

http://www.stealth.ultd.net/stealth/03_amsterdamnoord.tmp.html

Plan Amsterdam, Exploring the Ring Zone, Designing the 21st Century City, City of Amsterdam

<https://www.amsterdam.nl/bestuur-organisatie/organisatie/ruimte-economie/ruimte-duurzaamheid/ruimte-duurzaamheid/making-amsterdam/planamsterdam-eng/2-2015/>

Wk. 10/ Nov 11

Planning: Top-down and bottom up approaches, navigating dilemmas

Video Lecture: “Mining urban energy”, Maurits de Hoog, City of Amsterdam

Required Reading

Savini, F. and Majoor, S. (2015) Dilemmas of planning: Intervention, regulation, and investment, *Planning Theory* Vol. 14(3) 296–Planning Theory, , Vol. 14(3) 296–315

Lebesque, S (2011) *Around Amsterdam’s IJ Banks* (p 11-13, 15-17, 59-61, 130-133, 227-229 scans/on reserve)

Wk. 11/ Nov 18

CASES: Interim Research Presentations/Discussion with Guest Speaker, Robert Beauregard, GSAPP UP

Planning: Top-down and bottom up approaches, navigating dilemmas

Week 10 & 11 Case Resources

Urban Catalyst Amsterdam Noord, Stealth Group (Book 1 & 2)

<http://oma.eu/projects/ij-plein-masterplan-school-and-gymnasium>

<http://www.urbanisten.nl/wp/?portfolio=climateproof-zaanij-banks>

<http://www.dutchamsterdam.nl/3719-amsterdam-ij>

Lebesque, S *Around Amsterdam’s IJ Banks*(ON RESERVE IN AVERY)

Part III: LESSONS LEARNED – Case study presentations

Wk.. 12 Dec 2 Case Study –Public Presentation/Discussion with guests

Wk.. 13 Dec 9 Case Study – Public Presentation/Discussion with guests

Wk.. 14 Dec 16 Final Project Documentation Due (Last day of classes)

Suggested General Resources

Schubert, D. (2011), Seaport Cities. Phases of Spatial Restructuring and Types and Dimensions of Redevelopment.

In C. Hein (ed.), *Port Cities. Dynamic Landscape and Global Networks* (London: Routledge).

Meyer H. (2011). The Port-City in the Era of Globalisation: The Second Transformation. In J. Alemany and R.

Bruttomesso (eds.), *The Port City of the XXIst Century* (Venice: RETE), 160–172.

Braae, E. (2015), *Beauty redeemed. On the Transformation of Ruinous Industrial Landscapes* (Berlin: Birkhäuser).

Diedrich, L., Lindholm, G., Kahn, A. Beyond Best Practice. Revaluing Mindsets and Models in Harbour

Transformation. *Portusplus* 5 (Venice: RETE). <http://portusonline.org/it/portusplus/>

Diedrich, L. (2013), Translations—Radical Design for Transforming Harbour Sites. *Portusplus* 3 (Venice: RETE).

<http://portusonline.org/it/portusplus/>

Meyer, H. (1999), *City and Port : Urban Planning as a Cultural Venture in London, Barcelona, New York and*

Rotterdam (Utrecht: International Books).

Warsewa, G. (2012), 'Local Culture and the Re-Invention of the Port-City', *Portus* 23 (May): 40–47.

Warsewa G. The Role of Local Culture in the Transformation of the Port-City. [online article], *Portusplus* 2011, www.reteonline.org.

Portus, www.reteonline.org

Portusplus, www.reteonline.org