

Course Syllabus

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Faculty Contact Information

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Course Communications

You can contact your instructor via the Canvas "Inbox" in the upper-right of your screen. When composing a new message, you can use the address book to choose "Teachers" for your course. Phone calls or live chat can also be arranged by appointment, but please make your initial contact via the Inbox.

Required Text

Course materials will be provided by the instructor through the UF library and/or through the Canvas site. Students will be required to gather certain other texts and materials as part of the work of the studio. No textbooks need be purchased.

Prerequisite Knowledge and Skills

Effective collaboration, research design, data gathering and analysis, interaction with clients, and developing recommendations are all skills meant to be gained in other courses and applied in the studio. However while there are no prerequisites for this course, students should consider that it is designed to bring together the various experiences and skills acquired over the course of the URP curriculum.

It is preferred that students bring these skills to the studio rather than attempting to learn them during the course of the studio.

Presentations will likely be done on VoiceThread.com, so you should know how to use this site before the start of the course. Also, we will use Big Blue Button ("Conferences" on Canvas) for live sessions, so please familiarize with these. We may meet via conference calls from time to time.

Course Description

This studio prepares students to work within the framework of a planning/consulting relationship with a client. Within the overall framework of a 'gap analysis' for planning, various research methods will be used for data gathering and processing, and recommendations will be developed.

This planning project is one of the URP capstone courses, and as such gives the student a supervised opportunity to work on a planning scenario, within particular geographies and time frames, and with stakeholders in mind. Each project has its own focus and theme based on the nature of the problem and the planning strategies that will likely be used (e.g., "Transit Oriented Development in the City of Longwood" or "Historic Preservation in Downtown Abilene" etc.). Projects have a 'client,' and the client's needs must be taken into consideration, along with the community's.

Themes

URP 6341 will present students with a variety of planning scenarios within a set of loosely related themes, for example, "redevelopment" and "developing site program" will be themes in the course this semester. Our objectives are much broader in this course than gaining expertise in those planning practices, however. Our foremost aim here is to make certain that you collaborate as a planner on these sorts of projects, in an online environment.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to:

- Work in case study format.
- Understand how a range of data types and analytical methods contribute to the development of planning recommendations.
- Communicate recommendations verbally and in writing.
- Bring critical thinking and analytical skills from other courses into the development of practical recommendations.
- Recognize how policy and regulation are developed and applied.
- Work collaboratively.
- Understand how sustainability can be evaluated and applied in the development of planning recommendations.
- Participate effectively in the planning and implementation of a consulting project.
- Identify client needs, project constraints, goals, and objectives.

URP Student Learning Outcomes

As a required course in the graduate program, Urban Planning Project, allows students to apply knowledge and skills in the field, typically with existing projects and relates to all the departmental student learning outcomes. These are:

- Demonstrate a practical understanding of human settlement, and the policies and processes that shape places and quality of life.
- Demonstrate the local, specific, and related to one of planning's sub-fields.
- Demonstrate the analytical, critical, and rhetorical skills necessary to make a professional-level contribution within an area of planning specialization (transportation, redevelopment, public safety, health & the built environment, economic development, etc.).
- Demonstrate ability to apply the professional code of ethics and equity frameworks to real-world planning problems, and to contribute to productive and effective collaborations with classmates.

During URP 6341, the student will have the opportunity to:

- synthesize coursework and any field experience to date.
- apply coursework to local issues.
- become familiar with a practical planning process, including spatial thinking and analysis.
- conduct primary and/or secondary research, including fieldwork.
- frame and describe the planning process specific to the project.
- practice the communication, collaboration, and client contact skills necessary for effective studio practice.
- demonstrate ethical and procedural standards for professional planning

Teaching Philosophy

The project produces recommendations and plans that are informed as much by uncertainty as by knowledge. Because planning decisions are almost always complex and contingent upon a variety of factors, planners have to be willing to operate with a high level of craft and skill and professionalism in situations that are uncertain and where outcomes are difficult to predict. This is an opportunity to work productively in that environment of complexity and uncertainty.

Students construct knowledge together, in collaboration with the instructor, while identifying their own and the values of stakeholders. Planning is by definition 'pragmatic': The value that stakeholders attach to places and projects is essential to planning. Planners identify and mobilize the community's values.

Instructional Methods

Students will work mostly in teams, on assignments in which the students can work in the manner of professional practice, in the online environment. Groups will need to meet 'synchronously' at various points, and asynchronously at others. Students will collaborate with each other and the instructor using technology such as Google Hangout; Big Blue Button; VoiceThread. There will be some lecture/discussions, and meetings with the instructor will be arranged. Students will be assigned to teams (with advice of the instructor), assigned tasks, and report on their work offline.

Course Participation and Discussion Boards

Participation will be evaluated, alongside assignment deliverables. In group assignments in which all team members get the same grade for the deliverable, students who do not participate fully will have points removed from their participation grade for that assignment.

While face-to-face attendance is not required, students need to make use of the various tools in Canvas to develop a learning community. Discussions provide an arena where students can communicate with the instructor and classmates regarding a variety of topics.

Make-up Work

No late work will be accepted. Computer problems that arise during submission will not be accepted as an excuse for late work. All work must be completed and submitted by the designated time or you will not receive credit for the assignment.

In the event that you have technical difficulties with e-Learning, please contact the UF Help Desk. If your technical difficulties will cause you to miss a due date, you MUST report the problem to Help Desk. Include the ticket number and an explanation of the issue based on a consult with Help Desk in an e-mail to the instructor to explain the late assignment/quiz/test.

The course faculty reserves the right to accept or decline tickets from the UF Help Desk based on individual circumstances.

Student Support Services

As a student in a distance learning course or program, you have access to the same student support services that on campus students have. For course content questions contact your instructor.

For any technical issues you encounter with your course please contact the UF computing Help Desk at 342-392-HELP (4357), select option 2. For Help Desk hours visit: [Information Technology–UF Computing Help Desk](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/) (<http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/) (<http://helpdesk.ufl.edu/>)

Other resources are available at [Student Services|Distance Learning](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services) (<http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services>)

[.\(Links to an external site.\)](http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services) (<http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-services>)

University Policies

University policies on such matters as add/drop, incomplete, academic probation, termination of enrollment, reinstatement, and other expectations or procedures can be found in the [graduate student handbook](http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/student-life-and-support/student-handbook) (<http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/student-life-and-support/student-handbook>)

[.\(Links to an external site.\)](http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/student-life-and-support/student-handbook) (<http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/student-life-and-support/student-handbook>)

and at the [Dean of Students website](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/) (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>)

[.\(Links to an external site.\)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/) (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/>)

University Policy on Academic Misconduct

Academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students should be sure that they understand the [UF Student Honor Code](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>)

[.\(Links to an external site.\)](https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/) (<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>)

Netiquette: Communication Courtesy

All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all messages, threaded discussions and chats. Course communication should be civilized and respectful to everyone. The means of communication provided to you through Canvas (e.g., Inbox, Discussions, and Assignments) are at your full disposal to use in a respectful manner.

Abuse of this system and its tools through disruptive conduct, harassment, or overall disruption of course activity will not be tolerated. Conduct that is deemed to be in violation with University rules and regulations or the Code of Student Conduct will result in a report to the Dean of Students.

Refer to the [Netiquette Guide for Online Courses](http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf) (<http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>)

[.\(Links to an external site.\)](http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf) (<http://teach.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/NetiquetteGuideforOnlineCourses.pdf>)

for more information.

Student Honor Code

In adopting this Honor Code, the students of the University of Florida recognize that academic honesty and integrity are fundamental values of the University community. Students who enroll at the University commit to holding themselves and their peers to the high standard of honor required by the Honor Code. Any individual who becomes aware of a violation of the Honor Code is bound by honor to take corrective action.

Student and faculty support are crucial to the success of the Honor Code. The quality of a University of Florida education is dependent upon the community acceptance and enforcement of the [Honor Code](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/)

The Honor Pledge

We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code.

On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: "On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment."

Special Accommodations

Students requesting disability-related academic accommodations must first register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/)

The Disability Resource Center will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting accommodation.

For greater detail, see the Grades section of the [Graduate Catalog for the University of Florida](http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/index.php)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/index.php)

It also contains the policies and procedures, course descriptions, colleges, departments, and program information for UF.

You can also review [ISIS](http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html)

[\(Links to an external site.\)](http://www.isis.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html)

regarding frequently asked questions about minus grades.

Course Outline

Module	Topics Covered	Items Due
Module 1 (Parts One and Two): Intro to the Course, Project Topic, and Case Study	Collaborate as a group on developing a case study of redevelopment, and choosing development projects for study.	Team Assignment One
		Individual Assignment I
		Individual Assignment II
		Individual Assignment III
		Individual Assignment IV
Module 2: Propose a site for redevelopment	Collaborate as a group on an existing redevelopment project.	Team Assignment Three & Four
		Individual Assignment V
		Individual Assignment VI

Module 3:

Prepare and give a final presentation

Grading Policies

Assignment	Points Possible
Individual Assessment I, II, III and IV (50X4)	200
Team Assignment 1, 2 (2X 200)	400
Individual Assessment V, VI, VII and VIII (50X4)	200
Team Assignment 3,4 (2X200)	400
Final Presentation	300
Total	1500

Grading Scheme

Letter Grade	Percentage	Grade Points
A	100% to 95%	4.00
A-	< 95% to 90%	3.67
B+	< 90% to 87%	3.33
B	< 87% to 83%	3.00
B-	< 83% to 80%	2.67
C+	< 80% to 77%	2.33
C	< 77% to 73%	2.00
C-	< 73% to 70%	1.67
D+	< 70% to 67%	1.33
D	< 67% to 63%	1.00
D-	< 63% to 60%	0.67
F	Below 60%	0.00

For greater detail, see the Grades section of the [Graduate Catalog for the University of Florida](http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/index.php) (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/index.php>). It also contains the policies and procedures, course descriptions, colleges, departments, and program information for UF.

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Course Outline

Module	Topics Covered	Items Due
Module 1: Intro to the Course, Project Topic, and Case Study	Collaborate as a group on choosing one existing redevelopment projects for study.	Individual Assesment I, II,III and IV Team Assignment 1, and 2
Module 2:Proposed site for redevelopment -- Cabot- Kopper	Continue to collaborate (with the same team) to understand the superfund site	Individual Assesment V, VI,VII and VIII Team Assignment 3 and 4
Module 3: Presentation and Recomendations.	Make recommendations about how the proposed redevelopment plan should proceed.	Final Presentation

Assignments Summary:

Date	Details	
Sun Apr 26, 2015	 Group Assignment Five (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2954918)	due by 11:59pm
	 Participation, Engagement, and Leadership (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2954922)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 17, 2016	 Individual Assessment I: Sign up for team meetings with Instructor (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933171)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Jan 25, 2016	 Group Assignment One (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2952715)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Jan 31, 2016	 Team Assignment One (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933175)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 7, 2016	 Individual Assessment II: Assess Your Personal Contribution to Assignment One (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933167)	due by 11:59pm
	 Individual Assessment III: Assess Your Team's Collaboration in Assignment One (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933174)	due by 11:59pm
Sat Feb 13, 2016	 Individual Assessment IV: Assess Another Team's First Presentation (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933170)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Feb 15, 2016	 Group Assignment Two (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2954921)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Feb 28, 2016	 Team Assignment Two (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933177)	due by 11:59pm
Tue Mar 1, 2016	 Individual Assessment V. Assess Your Personal Contribution to Assignment Two (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933169)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Mar 20, 2016	 Team Assignment Three (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2986610)	due by 11:59pm

Date	Details	
Sun Apr 3, 2016	 Team Assignment Four (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2990327) (Analysis of local property values)	due by 11:59pm
	 Team Assignment Four (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2990327) (Policy Analysis)	due by 11:59pm
	 Team Assignment Four (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2990327) (Analysis of Public Health Data)	due by 11:59pm
	 Team Assignment Four (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2990327) (Community Perception)	due by 11:59pm
	 Team Assignment Four (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2990327) (Media Content Analysis)	due by 11:59pm
Mon Apr 11, 2016	 Team Assignment Four (https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2990327) (GIS Group)	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 17, 2016	 Individual Assessment VI. Meeting with Instructor https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933173	due by 11:59pm
Sun Apr 17, 2016	 Individual Assessment VII: Assess Another Team's Second Presentation https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933172	due by 11:59pm
Wed Apr 20, 2016	 Final Presentation: Three Teams. Three Recommendations https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933176	due by 11:59pm
Sat Apr 23, 2016	 Individual Assessment VIII: Assess Your Team's Collaboration in Assignment 5 https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/324913/assignments/2933168	due by 11:59pm