

COLLOQUIUM (AKA WHAT DO PLANNERS DO?)

URP 6920 FALL 2024

Section 6920; Class Number 23807

1 credit

INSTRUCTOR: Laura Dedenbach, Ph.D., AICP
Instructional Assistant Professor & Undergraduate/Graduate Coordinator
Department of Urban and Regional Planning
Office: Antevy Hall 466
Email: laurajd@ufl.edu

STUDENT HOURS: Tuesdays 10:00a to 12:00p, or by appointment

CLASS MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION: Wednesdays Period 8 (3:00p – 3:50p)
Fine Arts C 208

COURSE DESCRIPTION: Introduction to the field; historical and philosophical concepts, processes, and issues related to the profession of planning.

PURPOSE OF COURSE: Planning is a rich and diverse profession. The American Planning Association has 24 divisions representing a range of areas of practice and interest from “city, regional, rural, federal, and international planning to environmental, hazard mitigation, housing, and transportation planning” (APA, 2022). Additionally, there are seven interest groups related to healthy communities, equity, public schools, and water. Most planners will change practice specializations over the course of their careers. The purpose of this course is to introduce planning students to the planning profession from the perspectives of a diverse array of practitioners.

REQUIRED TEXTS: All required readings for the course are posted to the class Canvas site or available through the UF Libraries Course Reserves.

COURSE GOALS AND/OR OBJECTIVES: The following table describes the MURP student learning outcomes (SLOs) and the specific course goals of URP 6920. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

MURP SLOs	URP 6920 Course Goals	Assessment Methods
Knowledge: Apply knowledge of human settlement, historical and contemporary practice, and policy and processes relevant to urban and regional planning concepts and theories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Describe the role of planning in the urbanization and suburbanization of the United States • Situate the planning profession in relation to other design professions, real estate professions, and legal professions • Defend the role of planning and public participation in citizenship and good governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflections • Class participation
Skills: Apply oral, written, and critical thinking skills required of master’s students within their area of specialization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate with peers and professionals using planning terminology • Ask relevant questions of our guest speakers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation • Reflections
Professional Behavior: Display ethical behaviors, cultural sensitivity, teamwork, professional conduct, and communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interact with guest speakers and peers in a professional manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class participation

TEACHING PHILOSOPHY: Through new knowledge and new experiences, we can develop new ways of seeing. Students and instructors are co-producers of knowledge and together we can create new understanding.

EXPECTATIONS: Students can expect from me: enthusiasm for the course and the field of planning, engaging guest speakers, organized and neat course materials, and availability to meet outside of class. I expect students to approach the course with enthusiasm and an open mind. I also expect students to come to class prepared to actively participate in our class discussions and activities.

A SAFE & WELCOMING CLASSROOM: It is important to me that you feel welcome and safe in this class; and that you are comfortable communicating with me and your classmates. If your

preferred name is not what shows on the official UF roll, please let me know. I would like to acknowledge the name and pronouns that reflect your identity. You may also change your "Display Name" in Canvas. The Display Name is what you want people to see in the UF Directory, such as "Sam" instead of "Samantha." To update your display name, go to one.ufl.edu, log in, and click on the profile icon at the top right. Select "View & Update Profile Information" and click "Edit" for the Name option. Uncheck "Use my legal name" and update how you wish your name to be displayed as Chosen Name. Click "Submit" at the bottom. This change may take up to 24 hours to appear in Canvas. This does not change your legal name for official UF records.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS: This course is based on guest lectures, discussion of assigned readings, viewing of multi-media materials, and student writing outside of class. Students should take notes for guest speakers, and materials, as use of these notes will be incorporated into class assignments.

If there are issues, ideas, or readings that you want to bring into the course, please share. You are encouraged to invest some of your time into finding relevant materials of interest and leading discussion on those new ideas.

COURSE COMMUNICATIONS:

Canvas: We will use Canvas, UF's e-learning system, as our online "homebase". It is your responsibility to check Canvas regularly for announcements related to the course. Readings and changes to the syllabus will be posted on Canvas. You are also encouraged to download the Canvas App and allow notifications, so that you receive announcements and assignment due dates.

To login to Canvas you will need to provide your GatorLink User Name and Password. If you are new to Canvas or have any problems using Canvas, please contact the Help Desk at 392-HELP.

Email: I will answer your email as quickly as possible but please allow up to 24 hours for a reply during the week, and 48 hours for a reply on weekends. Proper email etiquette is expected. Professional, courteous standards for all emails and discussions includes:

- Descriptive subject line
- Address the reader using proper title and name spelling (Dr. Dedenbach or Dr. D)
- Body of the email should be concise but have sufficient detail
- Give a respectful salutation (e.g., thank you, sincerely, respectfully)
- Minimize textspeak (e.g., OMG, WTH, IMO)

Netiquette: All members of the class are expected to follow rules of common courtesy in all email messages, threaded discussions and chats. Please read the [UF Netiquette Guide for Online Course](#).

COURSE POLICIES

PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY: Students are expected to exhibit behaviors that reflect highly upon themselves and our University:

- Read and refer to the syllabus
- Be in your seat and prepared at the start of the class meeting time
- Be respectful and courteous to your instructor, guest speakers, and classmates during class discussions and activities
- Reserve cell phones for class-related uses only
- Chat with peers before and after class rather than during presentations

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance is mandatory and is part of your class grade. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of every class. After class, attendance will be entered into Canvas.

Absences: There are two types of absences – excused and unexcused. Absences for reasons of illnesses, religious holidays, serious family emergencies, special curricular requirements, military obligations, court-imposed legal obligations, or participation in official university activities, as described in the [Graduate Catalog](#) are excused. Please inform me of your absence as early as possible and be prepared to provide appropriate documentation. You are responsible for contacting a classmate to obtain notes on the materials covered. If you encounter an emergency or illness that may cause a prolonged absence, you should contact the Dean of Students Office (202 Peabody Hall, 392-1261) for assistance.

Tardiness: Since this class involves guest speakers, it is very important that everyone arrive on time. Consistent tardiness (or leaving early) will affect your attendance and class participation evaluation dramatically. When you arrive more than 10 minutes late without explanation or leave early without prior approval, I consider that a missed class.

ASSIGNMENT POLICY: Assignments will be posted on Canvas well in advance of their due dates. **ALL ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE BY THE POSTED DUE DATES IN CANVAS.** Assignments must be submitted by posting on Canvas. **Late work will not be accepted. It is your responsibility to ensure that your assignments have been successfully uploaded to Canvas.** See the Note on Computer or Canvas Problems below.

Notice: Certain activities require attendance at events that occur outside of our normal class meeting time. **Review the schedule carefully.** If you have valid reasons for being unable to attend these activities (e.g., work or another class), then it is your responsibility to inform me of the conflict at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you know of the conflict. Accommodations for alternate assignments may only be made in advance of an assignment.

MAKE-UP/ASSIGNMENT EXTENSION POLICY: Missed deadlines for unexcused reasons will result in a zero. Examples of unexcused reasons include, but are not limited to, forgetting to do an assignment, being too busy with other coursework, or going on a family vacation during regularly scheduled class days on the UF calendar. If you are sick or have an emergency that prevents you from submitting an assignment at the scheduled time, it is your responsibility to contact me as soon as possible. Documentation of the illness or emergency may be required. If you need to schedule an extension, please email me with a detailed explanation and attach documentation. Extensions will be given at my discretion. Scheduling extensions is the responsibility of the student.

All assignment deadlines are posted on the syllabus and in Canvas at the beginning of the semester. If you know that you will have excused absences (for example, religious holidays, field trips, professional conferences, participation in official university activities), it is your responsibility to communicate any deadline conflicts well in advance, per UF Attendance Policies.

If you have a serious emergency or life event, please contact the Dean of Students Office (www.dso.ufl.edu), and they will contact all of your instructors so that you do not have to provide documentation of the emergency/death in order to make-up coursework. We will work together to create a schedule for make-up coursework upon your return.

USABILITY, DISABILITY, AND DESIGN: I am committed to creating a course that is inclusive in its design. If you encounter barriers, please let me know immediately so that we can determine if there is a design adjustment that can be made or if an accommodation might be needed to overcome the limitations of the design. I am always happy to consider creative solutions as long as they do not compromise the intent of the assessment or learning activity. You are also welcome to contact the Disability Resource Center's Getting Started page at <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started/> to begin this conversation or to establish accommodations for this or other courses. I welcome feedback that will assist me in improving the usability and experience for all students.

COMPUTER OR CANVAS PROBLEMS POLICY: If you have computer or Canvas problems that prevent you from submitting an assignment, you may receive an extension if you follow these steps:

- Immediately contact the Help Desk (392-HELP (4357) or helpdesk@ufl.edu) to report the problem and receive a ticket to document the problem. I can only extend the submittal deadline if you have contacted the Help Desk ahead of the assignment deadline and received a ticket. The Help Desk is available by phone and email 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

- After contacting the HelpDesk and receiving a ticket, contact me, prior to the assignment due time, and let me know there is a problem.
- If you are having a computer problem (hardware, software), describe the problem to me and we'll work out a plan. Examples of an extension-worthy issue: "I dropped my computer in the parking lot and now it won't turn on." Examples of situations that are not extension-worthy: "I went home this weekend and left my computer behind." "I went to [insert your location here] and there was no internet connection." "My roommate disconnected our wi-fi router." Plan ahead; practice time-management; be resilient by backing up your work frequently to a back-up drive, jump drive, or the cloud.
- If Canvas or the UF Network is experiencing an outage that prevents you from submitting an assignment on time, I will receive a notice from UF IT about the outage. The assignment deadline will be revised accordingly, if needed. Students will not be penalized for system or network outages.

UF POLICIES

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACCOMMODATING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.disability.ufl.edu) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter, which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Students submitting an accommodation letter must also schedule a meeting with me to discuss and develop a plan to ensure that access needs are met.

UNIVERSITY POLICY ON ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT: As a student at the University of Florida, you have committed yourself to uphold the Honor Code, which includes the following 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 Student Honor Code."* You are expected to exhibit behavior consistent with this commitment to the UF academic community. On all work submitted for credit 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."*

You will complete all work independently unless given explicit permission to collaborate on course assignments. We will be using TurnItIn, a plagiarism detection program. **Plagiarism is a serious offense and will result in an honor code violation and potential failure of the course.**

Furthermore, as part of your obligation to uphold the Honor Code, you should report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. It is your individual responsibility to know and comply with all university policies and procedures regarding academic integrity and the Student Honor Code. Violations of the Honor Code at the University of Florida will not be tolerated. Violations will be reported to the Dean of Students Office for consideration of disciplinary action. For more information, please read the [Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code](#).

Important: For individual assignments, collaboration with other persons, through any medium, is expressly prohibited.

Important: Any requests for extra credit (beyond that given in class) or special exceptions to course grading policies will be interpreted as an honor code violation (i.e., asking for preferential treatment) and will be handled accordingly.

RECORDING POLICY: Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session. Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

COURSE EVALUATIONS: Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.”

MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES FEE: None

HEALTH & WELLNESS RESOURCES

Resources available on-campus for students include the following:

- *U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact umatter@ufl.edu, 352-392-1575, or visit umatter.ufl.edu/ to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit counseling.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- *Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit shcc.ufl.edu/.
- *University Police Department:* Visit police.ufl.edu/ or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- *UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center.

A PERSONAL NOTE: If you are overwhelmed, don't be afraid to reach out. Please contact me or someone at UF's Counseling and Wellness Center. I genuinely care for your wellbeing, and there are many resources available on campus to assist you.

GRADING

Grades will be based on evidence that students have completed assigned reading, attended, and participated actively in all class discussions and activities, completed all assignments, and completed both in class and outside of class activities throughout the semester. All completed tasks will be evaluated based on content, critical thinking, and communication. Details of each assignment, including rubrics, are posted on the Canvas site. **Please note that "A" grades require performance beyond the minimum or average – e.g., quality, depth, synthesis of ideas, originality, or creativity.**

Information on current UF grading policies may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/#gradingpoliciestext>

The following table outlines the point-accruing components of the course. The total points earned will be summed and divided by the total points in the course: 300

August 15, 2024

Assignments	Points
Reflections (10 @ 20 points each)	200
Attendance	100
Total	300

URP 6920 GRADING SCALE: An S/U grade will be assigned based on compliance with the requirements of the course.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

Date	Guest Speaker, Readings, & Assignments
August 28	Course Introduction Readings: The Syllabus Assignment: Read the syllabus and complete the Introductory Discussion Board post.
September 6	APA FL Conference No classes
September 11	Guest Speaker: Rachel Mandell, AICP, UF Planning, Design, and Construction Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #1
September 18	Guest Speaker: Gerry Dedenbach, AICP, LEED AP, Vice President, CHW, an NV5 company Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #2
September 25	Guest Speaker: Dr. Vivian Wong, Assistant Professor, UF URP and Rinker School Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #3
October 2	Guest Speaker: TBD Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #4
October 9 (No Class)	Substitution: Attend Bartley Lecture on October 7 th Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #5
October 16	Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #6
October 23	Workshop: Resume Workshop
October 30	Guest Speaker: TBD Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #7
November 6	Guest Speaker: Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #8
November 13	Guest Speaker: TBD Readings: TBD Assignment: Reflection #9

Date	Guest Speaker, Readings, & Assignments
November 20	Guest Speaker: TBD Readings: Assignment: Reflection #10
November 27	Thanksgiving Week No Classes
December 4	Class Wrap-up

* Readings will be provided in Canvas.

Disclaimer: This syllabus represents my current plans and objectives. As we go through the semester, those plans may need to change to enhance the class learning opportunity. Such changes, communicated clearly, are not unusual and should be expected.

Notice: Class assignments require attendance at events that occur outside of our normal class meeting time. Review the schedule carefully. If you have valid reasons for being unable to attend these activities (e.g., work, another class), then it is your responsibility to inform me of the conflict at the beginning of the semester or as soon as you know of the conflict. Accommodations for alternate assignments may only be made in advance of an assignment.