School of Planning  
Faculty of Environment  
University of Waterloo

PLAN 261 (Course ID: 011521)  
Urban and Metropolitan Planning and Development

Instructor: Dr. Zhu (Joe) Qian  
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Office Room: EV3-3253  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30PM – 4:30PM

Class time: Monday and Wednesday, 10:00AM – 11:20AM  
Class Location: STC 0040

COURSE OUTLINE

Calendar Description

This course explores the relationship between planning instruments and the urban land use market. It relates urban outcomes to interactions between market processes and planning interventions. It is in this light that it interprets changing urban land use and transportation patterns since the late 1940s, as well as contemporary urban issues. These issues are chosen so as to underscore differences in the circumstances confronting different zones of urbanization (core, inner city, inner suburb and outer suburb). This is a one-term lecture course with credit weight 0.5 units.

Prereq: PLAN 100

Avoidance of Academic Offences

Students are expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for their actions. Students who are unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who need help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about rules for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, TA, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy #71, Student Academic Discipline, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.htm)  
Students who believe that they have been wrongly or unjustly penalized have the right to grieve; refer to Policy #70, Student Grievance, [http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm](http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy70.htm)
Introduction

This course examines different urban and metropolitan issues as well as actual and possible planning responses in the contexts of both industrialized (Canada and the US) and developing countries (China). The course aims to situate urban planning instruments among the wide range of factors that influence urban development and transformation in metropolitan areas. It interprets the relationship between planning and the urban property market, and relates urban outcomes to interactions between market processes and planning interventions. Through comparative analysis of major metropolitan areas, the course explores the capacities and limitations of planning in dealing with major contemporary urban metropolitan issues: globalization and its local responses, metropolitan economic policies, transportation and land use planning, housing and community development, sustainable environment, urban poverty, peri-urbanization, etc. Representative issues introduced in the course are chosen so as to underscore differences across various economies confronting different zones in urbanization and metropolitan transformation.

Course Objectives

- To understand the common metropolitan planning and development issues and their policy responses in major Canadian metropolitan areas in the context of globalization,
- To become familiar with urban and metropolitan planning and development in the United States and China, two very different economies but both influential economic powers in the global context,
- To analyze how and why metropolitan area evolves in three different countries with different political regimes and socioeconomic settings,
- To be aware of the differences and commonalities in the three countries’ evolving metropolitan area development,
- To appreciate a set of approaches to examining and interpreting the major changing urban and metropolitan planning and development problems in three case countries.

Besides, the course also aims to improve students’ general learning skills in critical thinking, international knowledge of urban and metropolitan planning and development, collaborative learning, and research essay writing skills.

Learning Modes:

Given the learning components of the course, the course does not designate any single required textbook. Instead, the course materials are from a variety of sources, including book chapters, journal articles, research reports, and newspaper items. The readings intend to provide students with essential topics in urban and metropolitan planning and development. Students best learn the course materials
by reading at least some of the recommended articles and reports ahead of attending class. They are encouraged to use these readings as a starting place for their research essays.

The course consists of: 1) lectures from the instructor, which always expand upon reading discussions; 2) relevant video shows including both full-length documentaries and short video clips; and 3) student participation in discussions. Everyone should also try their best to contribute to class discussions. You will have many opportunities to state your views. Often there is no single correct answer because the course involves a mix of science and politics, arts and sociology, facts and values.

The course assesses students individually through a) eleven (11) lecture summaries each synthesizes weekly lecture contents, and b) a metropolitan city profile. The instructor will be available for consultation for the development of the metropolitan city profile over the term. It is expected that students could learn at a deeper level, retain subject knowledge longer, and acquire greater communication skills.

SCHEDULES

Class Meetings

The lectures take place each week in STC 0040 from 10:00AM to 11:20AM on Monday and Wednesday.

Scheduled Office Hours or Consulting

Tuesday and Thursday, 2:30PM – 4:30PM. Appointments are possible. Students are encouraged to use office hours for consulting instead of email. Office hours are set up to accommodate discussion, questions and concerns. In general, email inquiries for lengthy answers will not be answered.

SEQUENCE OF COURSE TOPICS

Jan.7/Jan.9: Week 1. Land Use Controls in the U.S.

Recommended Readings:


**Jan.14/Jan.16: Week 2. Land Use Controls and Zoning Basics**

Recommended Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Recommended Readings:


**Feb.4/Feb.6: Week 5. Metropolitan Region Form and Planning**

Recommended Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Mar. 4/Mar.6: Week 8. Changing Inner Suburbs in North America

Recommended Readings:


Recommended Readings:


Mar.18/Mar.20: Week 10. Land Reform and Urban Restructuring in Chinese Cities

Recommended Readings:


Mar.25/Mar.27: Week 11. Historic District Conservation in China

Recommended Readings:


Apr.7: Final essay due by 11:59PM.

Lecture Summaries and Final Essay

Lecture Summary (5% each for 11 lectures; total 55%; submit via LEARN)

Students should hand in a lecture summary paper at the end of each week right after each weekly lecture. The lecture summary paper will be a one-pager (10-11 font size, single-spaced), consisting of a comprehensive summary of the main points of the lecture plus the brief description of one topic that remained unclear and about which you would like to know more. If you do not hand in a lecture summary paper on time, you will not receive the points. If your contribution on the lecture summary paper is not satisfactory (e.g., incoherent, illegible or way off the mark), you will not receive the points. **Weekly lecture summary (Week 1 to Week 11) is due at 11:59 PM every Sunday since January 13.**

Final Research Essay – Metropolitan City Profile (45%; submit via LEARN)

Your metropolitan city profile should make clear at the start why the city is being featured and should offer a brief description of the city’s historical development, an
account of contemporary conditions, problems or issues and a critical review of recent or current policy, planning or management responses.

Several of the following components will normally be required: location and physical assets/constraints; summary history: demographics; economic, social and environmental conditions and issues; urban form or design characteristics; political, planning and management structures; recent or current initiatives, successes or failures; future developments. Profiles often include a section focusing in on a specific area, sector, or other aspect of the city or of its planning or management. Location and city maps are normally required and photographs are encouraged.

This individual essay (45% of the final grade) is a short research paper (about 8-10 pages 1.5 spaced including references and footnotes, 10 -11 font size) that should rely on resources beyond your recommended readings. You might want to use resources in any other resources you know [Note: Web searches may be helpful in identifying up-to-date factual material and empirical illustrations, but do not qualify towards an item count of reference materials]. The essay should at least consist of an introduction, a middle portion presenting major findings, and a summary or conclusion. It should include some analysis, and purely descriptive essays are not acceptable. You are suggested to start thinking about your final essay as early as possible. If you have problem selecting a topic for your essay, please come and talk to me.

The final research essay is evaluated according to the following criteria: Clarity of Problem Statement and Explanation of Research Methodology; Clarity of Structure; Quality and Number of Citations; Application of Body of Knowledge; Lessons Learned.

List all sources of information used in your essay alphabetically. For footnoting and bibliographic entries, please consult APA (American Psychological Association) Style Reference Formats. You are encouraged to selectively use forms of presentation other than text in your essays, such as tables, graphs, charts, maps, or photos. Those non-text contents will not be used to count towards the 8-10 page paper length requirement. However, please note non-text contents should not take much space of your paper.

Make sure: The work you hand in is your own and has been done only for this course.

Student Evaluation

- Lecture summaries – 55%
- Individual Final Essay – 45%
Your essays must be handed in at the time and date specified in the class schedule. Late submissions without prior agreement with the instructor will be discounted at the rate of 2 points (on a scale of 45) per calendar day. Students’ final essay more than 5 calendar days late will not be accepted and a grade of zero will be recorded for the final essay part.

**Referencing/Citation**

The School of Planning has adopted a single standard referencing system for all papers and assignments submitted in Planning courses. The format is the APA (American Psychological Association) style. The complete style outline can be found in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, located in the reference section in Dana Porter Library, call number BF76.7.P83 1994, or on sale in the Book Store for $32.95. A brief summary of the citation style can also be found in Section VII of *The Ready Reference Handbook*. On the web you can find some other quick references at the following URLs.

APA Essentials – [http://www.vanguard.edu/psychology/apa.html](http://www.vanguard.edu/psychology/apa.html)
APA Crib Sheet – [http://www.wooster.edu/psychology/apa-crib.html](http://www.wooster.edu/psychology/apa-crib.html)
Citing Electronic References – [http://www.apa.org/journals/webref.html#Email](http://www.apa.org/journals/webref.html#Email)

**UNIVERSITY RULES**

**Academic Integrity:**
In order to maintain a culture of academic integrity, members of the University of Waterloo community are expected to promote honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility.

**Research Ethics:**
Please also note that the ‘University of Waterloo requires all research conducted by its students, staff, and faculty which involves humans as participants to undergo prior ethics review and clearance through the Director, Office of Human Research and Animal Care (Office). The ethics review and clearance processes are intended to ensure that projects comply with the Office’s Guidelines for Research with Human Participants (Guidelines) as well as those of provincial and federal agencies, and that the safety, rights and welfare of participants are adequately protected. The Guidelines inform researchers about ethical issues and procedures which are of concern when conducting research with humans (e.g. confidentiality, risks and benefits, informed consent process, etc.). If the development of your research proposal consists of research that involves humans as participants, then please contact the course instructor for guidance and see [http://www.research.uwaterloo.ca/ethics/human/](http://www.research.uwaterloo.ca/ethics/human/)

**Note for students with disabilities:**
The Office for Persons with Disabilities (OPD), located in Needles Hall, Room 1132, collaborates with all academic departments to arrange appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities without compromising the academic integrity of the curriculum. If you require academic accommodations to lessen the impact of your disability, please register with the OPD at
the beginning of each academic term. Once registered with OPD, please meet with the professor, in confidence, during my office hours to discuss your needs.

Religious Observances:
Please inform the instructor at the beginning of term if special accommodation needs to be made for religious observances that are not otherwise accounted for in the scheduling of classes and assignments.

Grievance:
A student who believes that a decision affecting some aspect of his/her university life has been unfair or unreasonable may have grounds for initiating a grievance. Read Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances, Section 4, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/policies/policy70.html

Discipline (as noted above under 2a):
A student is expected to know what constitutes academic integrity, to avoid committing academic offenses, and to take responsibility for his/her actions. A student who is unsure whether an action constitutes an offense, or who needs help in learning how to avoid offenses (e.g., plagiarism, cheating) or about “rules” for group work/collaboration should seek guidance from the course professor, academic advisor, or the Undergraduate Associate Dean. When misconduct has been found to have occurred, disciplinary penalties will be imposed under Policy 71 – Student Discipline. For information on categories of offenses and types of penalties, students should refer to Policy 71 - Student Discipline, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy71.html

Appeals:
A student may appeal the finding and/or penalty in a decision made under Policy 70 - Student Petitions and Grievances (other than regarding a petition) or Policy 71 - Student Discipline if a ground for an appeal can be established. Read Policy 72 - Student Appeals, http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infosec/Policies/policy72.html

Intellectual Property:

Students should be aware that this course contains the intellectual property of their instructor, TA, and/or the University of Waterloo. Intellectual property includes items such as:

- Lecture content, spoken and written (and any audio/video recording thereof);
- Lecture handouts, presentations, and other materials prepared for the course (e.g., PowerPoint slides);
Questions or solution sets from various types of assessments (e.g., assignments, quizzes, tests, final exams); and
- Work protected by copyright (e.g., any work authored by the instructor or TA or used by the instructor or TA with permission of the copyright owner).

Course materials and the intellectual property contained therein, are used to enhance a student’s educational experience. However, sharing this intellectual property without the intellectual property owner’s permission is a violation of intellectual property rights. For this reason, it is necessary to ask the instructor, TA and/or the University of Waterloo for permission before uploading and sharing the intellectual property of others online (e.g., to an online repository).

Permission from an instructor, TA or the University is also necessary before sharing the intellectual property of others from completed courses with students taking the same/similar courses in subsequent terms/years. In many cases, instructors might be happy to allow distribution of certain materials. However, doing so without expressed permission is considered a violation of intellectual property rights.

Please alert the instructor if you become aware of intellectual property belonging to others (past or present) circulating, either through the student body or online. The intellectual property rights owner deserves to know (and may have already given their consent).

Mental Health:
The University of Waterloo, the Faculty of Environment and our Departments/Schools consider students’ well-being to be extremely important. We recognize that throughout the term students may face health challenges - physical and/or emotional. Please note that help is available. Mental health is a serious issue for everyone and can affect your ability to do your best work. Counselling Services http://www.uwaterloo.ca/counselling-services is an inclusive, non-judgmental, and confidential space for anyone to seek support. They offer confidential counselling for a variety of areas including anxiety, stress management, depression, grief, substance use, sexuality, relationship issues, and much more.

Unclaimed assignments:
Unclaimed assignments will be retained until one month after term grades become official in quest. After that time, they will be destroyed in compliance with UW’s confidential shredding procedures.

Communications with Instructor and Teaching Assistants:
All communication with students must be through either the student's University of Waterloo email account or via Learn. If a student emails the instructor or TA from a personal account they will be requested to resend the email using their personal University of Waterloo email account.