PLANNING 101
A first-year’s guide to the School of Planning
WELCOME to the
SCHOOL OF PLANNING

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL OF PLANNING
Meet Your Professors

Martine August

Degrees:
- Ph.D. Planning, University of Toronto, 2014
- B.A. Urban Studies, University of Winnipeg, 2004
- B.Sc., Physics, University of Winnipeg, 2002

Research Interests:
- Social Justice and political economy of housing
- Gentrification, displacement, and neighbourhood change
- Inequality, poverty, urban marginality
- Financialization of housing and neighbourhoods

My research is about how non-Indigenous people can take steps towards repairing relationships with Indigenous peoples and about the professional responsibilities planners have to engage in this work. I chose to work at UW because I like the opportunity to work with a wide range of students who are just as passionate about planning as I am.

Hobbies: Hiking, canoeing, cross-country skiing, gardening.
My favourite city: Glasgow, Scotland

Janice Barry

Degrees:
- Ph.D. Electrical and Systems Engineering, University of Pennsylvania, 2003
- M.Sc. Transportation Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, 1996
- B.S.E. Civil Engineering Systems, University of Pennsylvania, 1992

Research Interests:
- Public transport system planning, design and operation
- Transportation and land use impacts
- Urban spatial analysis and GIS applications

Jeff Caseollo
Meet Your Professors

KEVIN CURTIS

I was always interested in places and how and why they changed over time so I decided to do an Bachelor’s degree in urban and economic geography. Planning seemed like a natural complement to my studies so I then completed a Master’s degree in Planning. I then became a professional planner with an on-going interest in teaching and it has been a great experience!

**Hobbies:** Biking, travelling, reading, and watching soccer.
**Last place I’ve travelled:** Provence and Camargue, France
**Teaches:** PLAN 104

Planning was a natural extension from my undergraduate study of geography and history, which sparked my interest in how people live/move over space and time. I research how and why people interact with their local environments and how to create communities that allow populations to live a healthy and full life. I like the pragmatic aspects of working in a professional school - there is a very direct way to effect change.

JENNIFER DEAN

**Hobbies:** Yoga, reading, cycling with my kids. I have also started playing the ukulele.
**Last place I’ve travelled:** New York

I came to planning from geography, but I have always been interested in cities. I like the fact that planning is highly relevant to major challenges and issues in contemporary society and that working in a planning school means that you are taking a central role in these conversations.

**Hobbies:** I used to be a competitive curler and represented The Netherlands at the European Curling Championships in 2008, 2010 and 2011. Now I enjoy photography, cooking and woodworking.

**My favourite city:** Edinburgh, Scotland

BRIAN DOUCET
Meet Your Professors

MICHAEL DRESCHER

I originally studied ecology with a focus on resource conservation. I then worked for the government in forest management and came to understand that I have to work with people to have the greatest impact for conserving our natural environment. The SoP is a very diverse place with a great variety of people of different backgrounds that bring their respective perspectives, skills and knowledge to the table to help solve the problems our society is facing.

**Hobbies:** Hiking, canoeing, backcountry camping, birding, movies.
**Last place I’ve travelled:** Tyrol, Austria

PIERRE FILON

My background in Geography and interest in using spatial analysis to understand change in human-built and natural landscapes led me to planning. If I were to explain my research to a first grader, I would say that I make maps that help people to make better places to live, work and play.

**Hobbies:** Hiking, canoeing, travelling, fixing broken things.
**My favourite city:** Montepulciano, Italy
**Teaches:** PLAN 105

ROBERT D. FEICK

I am a genetic planner. Even before going to primary school I would draw maps of imaginary cities. It took me a long time, however, to realize that there was a profession dedicated to urban planning. If I were to explain my research to a first grader I would say I work on making cities where people are happy.

**Hobbies:** I love off-beat films (especially French, Quebec, Italian, Swedish and indie US films), classical music and modern art (abstract expressionism). At the moment my hobby is reading (and trying to understand) the complete works of Michel Foucault.

**Last place I’ve travelled:** Ireland
**Teaches:** PLAN 100
Meet Your Professors

Luna Khirfan

I took a long-winding way to end up in Planning. I started in Architecture, then Archaeology, then Heritage Management, and finally ended up in Planning. Finally, as my studies progressed I realized that it is the "life within" (i.e., the people) who make cities beautiful. So, in my work, I am passionate about bringing everyone’s voice into the planning process.

**Hobbies:** Ice skating, hiking, dancing Argentine tango, reading, and binge watching my favourite shows.

**My favourite city:** Barcelona, Spain it's a wonderful example of civic life, good urban design, wonderful art and architecture, and beautiful natural setting.

If I were to explain my research to a first grader, in the simplest of terms, I analyze maps. I arrived at the School of Planning by being offered a professorship and thus far my favourite part about working here is researching.

**Hobbies:** Reading, and listening to music.

**My favourite city:** Cambridge, UK

Jane Law

I enjoy the close collaborations between the SoP and the wider profession. Much of my work is based on collaborating with municipal governments to develop strategic plans for age-friendly communities and community engagement. As a professional school, we are in a unique position to be able to work with civic leaders and residents to shape communities.

**Hobbies:** Fishing, back country camping and hiking, gardening, I'm also a history buff.

**My favourite city:** Vancouver, BC

**Teaches:** PLAN 110

John L. Lewis
Meet Your Professors

I have always been interested in how our environments shape our opportunities for physical and mental health and connection with people. Planning is a great place to study these connections because we work so closely with policy-makers who can use our findings to improve the way they create cities.

**Hobbies:** I love cooking, learning how to do new things (including tik tok dances from my kids), foraging for wild plants, and running.

**Last place I've visited:** Prague! It was probably the most beautiful city I’ve ever seen.

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I was interested in the interconnections between poverty, the environment, and cities after spending a semester abroad in India during my second year of university. Planning seemed like a good fit. My favourite part of working for the SoP is mentoring students and talking to my colleagues.

**Hobbies:** Mountain biking, reading, cooking/baking, interior design.

**My favourite city:** Hanoi, Vietnam

**Teaches:** PLAN 102

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I am really interested in how we can make our communities/economies more environmentally sustainable and inclusive. Planning is where we get to deal with the interconnection of these types of issues in specific places, which fascinates me. It’s a privilege to work in an educational setting: We get to see how students develop their skills over the years, and go on to do such wonderful things in the world.

**Hobbies:** Guitar, photography, skiing, hiking, movies, gardening, poetry, live music, reading legal thrillers, painting. Does eating awesome pastries count as a hobby?

**My favourite neighbourhood:** Kitsilano in Vancouver, BC

**Teaches:** PLAN 103
Meet Your Professors

DAWN CASSANDRA PARKER

I study how people come together to make decisions that affect the environment. My favorite part of working for the School of Planning are my great students and colleagues. I chose to study Planning because I like applied research.

Hobbies: Music, reading, and hiking.
My favourite neighbourhood: La Blanqueada, Uruguay
Last place I’ve visited: Uruguay

JEREMY PITTMAN

ZHU (JOE) QIAN

Degrees:

- Ph.D. Urban and Regional Sciences, Texas A & M University, 2008
- M.A. Community and Regional Planning, University of British Columbia, 2002
- B.Arch. Architecture, Tongji University, China, 1996

Research Interests:

- Comparative urban planning and policy
- Land use planning and urban form
- Land use reform and policy in China
- Heritage conservation and planning in China
Meet Your Professors

I create plans that explain where we need to provide places to play and enjoy nature, places to work and live, and how to connect everything through good walking and cycle trails, roads and public transit systems. Geography was my undergraduate major. Much to my surprise, I found a job in planning right after graduation and carried on from there! I had a first career for almost 20 years in planning practice in Toronto, Ottawa and Calgary, and in New Zealand. I have built upon that experience with this second career as a professor of Planning at Waterloo since 1998. I've had a great run!

**Hobbies:** Photography, cycling, kayaking, snorkelling.

**Last place I've visited:** Oxford, UK

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**Hobbies:** I ended up in Planning through my interest and research in Transportation and transportation planning. I have always been fascinated by location decisions - why things are located where they are and the role of transportation and "planning" (as in traditional perspectives on land use planning) are central. If you’ve ever ordered something online, my research essentially studies where that package comes from, the stops it’s made and how it traveled to get to your house.

**Hobbies:** I play hockey (haven't missed a year since 1970) and I'm a pretty big fan of the game itself. I really enjoy cooking and baking. I also play squash.

**Last place I've visited:** Nashville Tennessee! Not for the music (I'm a Metal fan) but to watch the Leafs play.
The Planning Student’s Association (PSA) was created to represent the interests of undergraduate Planning students. Each semester, new representatives are voted in by the student population. The PSA holds many planning specific events throughout the year for both professional development and community building. The PSA is a great way to get involved in the School of Planning.

Visit the PSA's social media accounts to stay up-to-date on future announcements and events.

PLANNING STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION

@UWATERLOOPSA
RESOURCES
PLANNING SPECIFIC

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Your academic advisor is here to provide you with course advice, help you plan for future terms and specializations, and provide you with resources to help you prepare for life after graduation. They are a great resource to help you reach academic success.

TIFFANY CHEN is the current Academic Advisor for undergraduate planning students.

If you would like to have a meeting with your academic advisor, click here to book a 30-minute appointment.

SCHOOL OF PLANNING RESEARCH GUIDE

The School of Planning's research guide is supported by the University of Waterloo's library services. This website is a starting point for assignments requiring planning-related research. Topics ranging from environmental science to governments and societies can be found on this site. If you need assistance, you can contact the School's librarian, Agnes Zientarska-Kayko.

UW LIBRARY

UW library provides many services for our undergraduate students including hard copy and electronic articles, newspapers, books and videos. You have access to millions of resources through the UW library catalogue.

UNDERGRAD CALENDAR

The undergraduate calendar provides a list of courses you must take to earn your degree. Course descriptions and courses required to complete specializations are also outlined.

Faculty of ENV -> School of Planning -> Bachelor of ES
RESOURCES
SCHOOL-WIDE

SYSTEMS YOU SHOULD KNOW

LEARN
LEARN is a web-based learning management system. Use this to access all course material, and interact with fellow students and professors.

QUEST
UW's online student information system. Use this for enrolling in courses and viewing tuition financial statements and unofficial transcripts.

WW
Waterloo Works helps students through the co-op process. Use this to see job postings, book interviews, edit applications and accept job offers.

PORTAL
Portal makes real-time information easily accessible. Use this to create to-do lists and reminders, make study plans and check availability of study spaces.

ACADEMIC WELL-BEING

STUDENT SUCCESS OFFICE
The SSO was created to help all students succeed. They hold many workshops on topics including how to improve study, writing and research skills.

ACCESSABILITY SERVICES
AccessAbility Services helps students who need academic accommodations for disabilities or disabling conditions. They help develop individualized accommodation plans confidentially.

WRITING AND COMMUNICATION CENTRE
The WCC helps you improve your academic writing and build strong communication skills. You can bring any communication piece to the WCC and they will help you review and edit it during a scheduled appointment or drop-in session.
RESOURCES
SCHOOL-WIDE

SOCIAL SUPPORT & WELL-BEING

UW MATES
MATES provides one-to-one peer support for individuals experiencing social difficulties and challenges associated with adapting to university life or different cultures. Mates are accessible through both appointments and drop-in sessions.

MATES@WUSA.CA

GLOW CENTRE
The Glow Center is a student-led service that supports the queer and trans community. They create a positive environment that welcomes everyone, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. The Glow Centre offers peer support, educational awareness campaigns, resources, and special events.

GLOW CENTRE FOR SEXUAL & GENDER DIVERSITY @UWGLOW

RAISE
RAISE is a student-run service centred on creating an environment that promotes equality and unity. Focused on three pillars: education and advocacy, peer-to-peer support, and community building RAISE works to address racism and xenophobia across campus.

UW RAISE @UWRAISE

WOMEN'S CENTRE
The Women's Centre provides a female-positive environment for all women at UW. They hold events to educate on the various issues within feminism. The centre provides students with resources on issues ranging from intersectional feminism to sexual health.

UW WOMEN'S CENTRE @UWWOMENSSENTR

WATERLOO INDIGENOUS STUDENT CENTRE
WISC works to share the knowledge of Indigenous peoples and provide culturally relevant information and support. Services provided by WISC are based on respect, understanding and trust, they recognize the different cultural values and rights of Indigenous peoples and cultures.

@UWINDIG
PREPPING FOR SCHOOL
SCHEDULING

TIPS FROM AN UPPER YEAR

- Colour code your classes, different colours help you keep track of the different types of work you have to do.
- Don’t make your days identical, having different days will keep you motivated.
- Remember to schedule in lunch and break times, don’t overwork yourself!
- Treat school like a job and try not to work after certain hours.
- Put your professor's and TA's office hours in your calendar.
- Take a note each assignment's weight and schedule reminders based on those percentages. For example, if you have a 5% assignment, set a reminder two days prior to the due date, if you have a 30% assignment set a reminder three weeks before the due date as well as two weeks before to remind you to work on it.

EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

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<thead>
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<th>MON</th>
<th>TUES</th>
<th>WED</th>
<th>THURS</th>
<th>FRI</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLAN 100</td>
<td>PLAN 102</td>
<td>PLAN 104</td>
<td>PLAN 102</td>
<td>ENVS 195</td>
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<td>PLAN 105</td>
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<tr>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td>PLAN 100</td>
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<td>LUNCH</td>
<td>PLAN 102</td>
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PREPPING FOR SCHOOL
TEXTBOOKS

You will be able to find every textbook you need on the W Store website. **UW BookLook** can be used to see the textbooks each course requires, often options such as hardcover, looseleaf and e-book will be available.

**HOW TO GET YOUR BOOKS**

**Ship to your door**

- Free shipping on online orders over $150 before tax (Canada only)
  - Canada: $10 flat rate shipping on orders below $150
  - US: $17.50 flat rate shipping
  - International: $39.99 flat rate shipping

**Curbside Store Pickup**

- You can schedule your pickup time through Portal, availability of appointment times range from two business days to one week.

**Campus Housing Delivery**

- If you live on campus you are able to ship your books to your residence building’s front desk.
- Orders are shipped to the (UWP, CLV and MKV) front desks in 1-3 days.
  - CLV - Hours: 8:00 AM to 12:00 AM Daily
  - MKV - Hours: 24 hours/day, 7 days/week
  - UWP - Hours: 24 hours/day, 7 days/week

If you live on campus or choose to put money on your WatCard, textbooks are one of the many items you can use your flex dollars on.

Please contact PSA for information about used textbooks and textbook exchanges.
WORK FROM HOME
TIPS AND TRICKS

- Create a dedicated workspace or home office.
- Ensure your space is as comfortable as possible, make sure it is free of clutter and gives you the motivation to do your schoolwork.
- Decide on work hours for yourself.
- Create a starting/ending work routine to separate work from personal time.
- Use the Pomodoro method to help you stay on track when studying.
- Make a checklist at the beginning of the day with achievable tasks to keep yourself on track.
- Get yourself a calendar/planner and note all your important assignments and tasks, make sure it is visible.

EXPLAINER VIDEOS

CORNELL NOTE-TAKING METHOD
HOW TO CITE USING APA FORMATTING