PREVIEW OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

URP 4000 (3098) ~ 3 CREDITS ~ SPRING 2020

*"By far the greatest and most admirable form of wisdom
is that needed to plan and beautify cities and human communities."*
— *Socrates*

INSTRUCTOR: Laura Dedenbach, Ph.D., AICP
Lecturer & Undergraduate/Graduate Coordinator
Department of Urban and Regional Planning
Office: Architecture 466
Email*:* laurajd@ufl.edu   Preferred: Canvas email

OFFICE HOURS: Mondays Periods 6 – 8 or by appointment

CLASS MEETING TIMES AND LOCATION: Tuesdays   Period 4&5   (10:40a – 12:35p)
Thursdays   Period 4   (10:40a – 11:30a)
Rinker Hall 106

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An overview of the comprehensive planning process designed for undergraduates who may be considering a career in urban and regional planning or who may be pursuing studies where some knowledge of the planning process is desirable.

PURPOSE OF COURSE: Planning is a collaborative act in which people come together to build safe, healthy, sustainable communities that enrich people's lives. Planning is a "big picture" discipline in which planners examine the interactions of the built environment, the natural environment, economic systems, health, and social, cultural, and behavioral systems in cities, counties, and regions. The planning process asks us to learn from the past, understand the present, and prepare for the future.

The purpose of this course is to introduce the major concepts and issues in urban and regional planning. We will study the social, economic, environmental, structural, demographic, legal, cultural, and political problems that cities face today. The course introduces students to the planning profession and academic discipline of urban and regional planning. We will also engage in planning activities, such as data collection, demographics, mapping, SWOT analysis, fieldwork, public engagement, and attending a public planning meeting.

REQUIRED TEXTS: The required text for the course is:

- Eric Damian Kelly. (2010). *Community Planning: An Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan, 2nd Edition*. Island Press. ISBN: 978-1-59726-553-9 (The text is available for rent or

sale through Amazon, the UF Bookstore, and other vendors. It is also on course reserve at the UF Libraries.)

In addition to readings from the course textbook, **supplemental readings** will be assigned. Supplemental readings are posted to the course's Canvas webpage. Students should complete all readings in preparation for each class meeting.

COURSE GOALS AND/OR OBJECTIVES: The following table describes the UF General Education student learning outcomes (SLOs) and the specific course goals of URP 4000. By the end of the course, students will be able to:

Gen Ed SLOs	URP 4000 Course Goals	Assessment Methods
Content: Demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies, and theories used within the discipline	• Describe the role of planning in the urbanization and suburbanization of the United States • Explain basic concepts of planning theory, history, and ethics • Discuss the role of Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Codes in shaping our cities, counties, and regions • 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	• Class assignments • Midterm and Final assignments • Class participation
Communication: Communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearing and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.	• Communicate with peers and professionals using planning terminology	• Oral communication assessment using planning information (class participation) • Presentations

Gen Ed SLOs	URP 4000 Course Goals	Assessment Methods
Critical Thinking: Analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.	• Utilize basic planning techniques	• Class assignments • Midterm and Final assignments • 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 lectures, application of knowledge through classroom activities and fieldwork, 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. The University standard is for students to expect to study at least 3 hours for each credit hour. For example, URP 4000 is a 3-credit course. Therefore, you should expect to study 9 hours per week outside of class.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODS: This course is based on lectures, discussion of assigned readings, viewing of multi-media materials, activities during and outside of class, and student research and writing outside of class. Class format will combine discussions, lectures, multi-media activities, practice-based activities, and electronic communications and assignments. We may also have guest lecturers. Students should take notes for lectures, guest speakers, and videos, as use of this material will be incorporated into class assignments. My lecture slides will be posted in the corresponding weekly modules on Canvas. Students are expected to take adequate class notes.

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: 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. I may also send you emails through Canvas. It is your responsibility to ensure that you either login to Canvas to

retrieve these emails or have them set to forward to the correct email account. 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.

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.

COURSE POLICIES:

ATTENDANCE POLICY: Attendance is mandatory and is part of your class grade. Attendance will be recorded at the beginning of every class. After class, attendance will be entered into Canvas. 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 [Undergraduate Catalog](#) are excused. Please inform me of your absence as early as possible and be prepared to provide appropriate documentation. Students are expected to follow UF's Attendance Policies and procedures published in the Academic Regulations of the Undergraduate Catalog. You are responsible for contacting a classmate to obtain notes on the materials covered.

Four (4) or more unexcused absences is considered excessive. After four (4) unexcused absences, I reserve the right to prohibit further class attendance and subsequently assign a failing grade.

Failure to attend class regularly and/or consistent tardiness (or leaving early) will affect your attendance and class participation evaluation dramatically. When you arrive more than 15 minutes late without explanation or leave early without prior approval, I consider that a missed class.

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.

PERSONAL CONDUCT POLICY: Above all else, the classroom is a place of respect for people and ideas. You are expected to treat your fellow classmates, the instructor, guests, and others with respect and politeness. Please be on time and prepared to share your informed questions, impressions, and interpretations of the current week's materials. If you need to leave class early, please let me know ahead of time and sit nearer to the door so as not to disrupt class. We will take a break in the middle of the two-hour block. Students engaging in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the class and will be marked absent for the day.

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Cell Phones: Cell phones and other electronic devices must be set to vibrate mode during class. Cell phones must be put away during class time. Students who receive or make calls or text messages during class will be asked to leave and marked absent for the day.

Tablets & Laptops: You may use tablets or laptops to take notes and access course materials. If you are observed using your electronic device for any non-class uses, you will be asked to leave and marked absent for the day.

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., team practice schedule, 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.

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 will be required. If you need to schedule an extension, please email me with a detailed explanation and attach documentation. Extension 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

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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.

GROUP WORK POLICY: There are two types of assignments in this course – individual and group. Design professions have a long history of collaborative, group-based work (such as charrettes), and individual work completed in a group setting (such as studios). As planners, we often work in multidisciplinary groups. For group assignments, you are expected to: Be a good team member. Be on time, be respectful. Be responsive with group communication. In addition, everyone is expected to participate and contribute equally to complete the assignment. If there are problems with group dynamics or participation/effort levels, please come and talk to me. *To avoid the problem of free riders, all group projects will include Peer Review attesting to your anonymous estimation of each group member's contribution to the total.*

COMPUTER OR CANVAS PROBLEMS POLICY: If you have computer or Canvas problems that prevent you from submitting an assignment, you have the ability to 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. 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: Any use, access, or handling of technology (e.g., cell phone, smart watch) during an exam will result in an honor code violation and potential failure of the course.

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.

NETIQUETTE: COMMUNICATION COURTESY: 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 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 and feel like you just can't handle the pressure, don't be afraid to reach out or try to go it alone. 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 POLICIES:

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: 1,000

Assignments	Points	Approx. % of Total Grade
Planning Meeting Report	150	15%
Walking Tour Presentation	200	20%
Midterm Exam	200	20%
Comprehensive Plan Assignment	150	15%
Final Exam	200	20%
Attendance	100	10%
Total	1,000	100%

URP 4000 GRADING SCALE: All grades will be posted directly into the Canvas gradebook. Any discrepancies with points displayed in the gradebook should be pointed out to me. There is no curve for this course and grades will not be rounded up. *Any requests for extra credit (beyond that given in class) or special exceptions to these grading policies will be interpreted as an honor code violation (i.e., asking for preferential treatment) and will be handled accordingly.*

Points	Grade
940 – 1000	A
900 – 939	A-
870 – 899	B+
840 – 869	B
800 – 839	B-
770 – 799	C+
740 – 769	C
700 – 739	C-
670 – 699	D+
640 – 669	D
600 - 639	D-
Below 600	E

STUDY AND SUCCESS TIPS:

- Read the material before you come to class. Take notes. Interact with your notes and materials early and often.

- Engage your classmates and study as actively as possible.

- Do not fall behind or procrastinate your studies. You cannot cram the night before and expect to do well.

- Check Canvas announcements/emails daily. I will post important and helpful information as announcements or emails.

- Have a positive attitude! Planning is an exciting and dynamic profession! You are learning knowledge and skills that will help you be a more engaged member of your community.

COURSE SCHEDULE:

FINAL EXAM: Final Exam in class on **Thursday, April 16, 2020**.

NOTE: Our modules will begin on Thursdays.

Date	Module	Readings & Assignments	
1/7 (T)	Course Introduction	**Readings:**	The Syllabus
1/9 (R) & 1/14 (T)	Introduction to Planning	**Readings:**	Kelly: Introduction, Chapters 1 and 2
1/16 (R) & 1/21 (T)	The Planning Profession	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 22 and 23 AICP Code of Ethics
1/23 (R) & 1/28 (T)	Introduction to the Comprehensive Plan	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapter 3
1/30 (R) & 2/4 (T)	Data & Analysis	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 4 and 5
2/6 (R) & 2/11 (T)	Community Engagement	**Readings**:	Kelly: Chapter 6 Arnstein, Ladder of Citizen Participation
		Assignment:	Walking Tour Presentations Due on 2/10 Presentations given in class on 2/11
2/13 (R) & 2/18 (T)	The Comprehensive Plan	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 7 and 8 (p. 123-35)
2/20 (R) & 2/25 (T)	The Comprehensive Plan cont'd	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 8 (p. 136-142), 9, and 16
		Assignment:	Watch February 20th Plan Board Meeting*
2/27 (R)	Midterm Exam	**Midterm Exam:**	In-class exam on Thursday, 2/27
3/10 (T)	Zoning	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 10 & 11
3/12 (R) & 3/17 (T)	Site Analysis & Planning	**Readings:**	LaGro: Chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7
		Assignment:	Planning Meeting Report Due on 3/12

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Date	Module	Readings & Assignments		
3/19 (R) & 3/24 (T)	Land Development Regulation	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 12 and 13 Stroud (2012), *A History and New Turns in Florida's Growth Management Reform*	
		Assignment: Comprehensive Plan Assignment Due on 3/24		
3/26 (R) & 3/31 (T)	Revitalization & Economic Development	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapters 18 and 21	
4/2 (R) & 4/7 (T)	Planning for Resilience	**Readings:**	Kelly: Chapter 19	
4/9 (R) & 4/14 (T)	Smart Cities & Wrap-up	**Readings:**	*Smart Cities and Sustainability Initiative*, APA	
		April 14: In-class wrap up and exam review		
4/16 (R)	**Final Exam**	**Final Exam given in class on 4/16**		

* Plan Board meeting depends on agenda. It may be necessary to reschedule this meeting.

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.

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