SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

This course gives an overview of the planning and urban design professions, and the social choices and public policies that shape the physical environment. Historical movements and current practices are presented, from park planning and tenement reform to urban reinvestment and growth management. Group projects explore real sites and recommend design solutions.

The course has three objectives:
- To offer an understanding of the physical environment, both natural and built, through the principles and practice of planning and design.
- To provide planning concepts and tools with which students can actively participate in the shaping and management of the environment.
- To present projects and case studies that illustrate how the environment is both a determinant and a product of public policy.

Readings

Required readings are contained in a reader available at Gnomon Copy on Boston Avenue.

Requirements

In addition to the lectures, students are asked to take a half-day bus tour of Boston on a Saturday. Course requirements consist of two individual papers, one group project, a mid-term and final presentation. The group project is the main effort of the course and requires time spent outside the classroom. “Exercise” components of the course are an hour to 1 ½ hour within class time and are meant to complement the lectures with opportunities to learn/practice applied planning skills.

Office hours

4:30-5:45 pm Tuesdays at 72 Professor’s Row

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## UEP 205 Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Sept 4</td>
<td>Introduction: the planning profession and a historical framework</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Sept 11</td>
<td>Multiple interpretations of the environment</td>
<td>Paper #1 assigned</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Exercise #1 – Issues Map</td>
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<td>3 Sept 18</td>
<td>Professions of intervention: town planning, urban design and architecture</td>
<td>Group project options given</td>
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<td>Exercise #2 – Student presentations of Issues Maps</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Sept 25</td>
<td>Production systems: program, design and the development process</td>
<td>Paper #1 due</td>
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<td>Exercise #3 – Site Planning &amp; Design</td>
<td>Groups assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Oct 2</td>
<td>Managing nature in the city: water resources, plant and animal life</td>
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<td>Exercise #4 – Student presentations of site designs</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 9</td>
<td>No class – Monday classes on Tuesday</td>
<td>Comments on Paper #1</td>
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<td>Paper #2 assigned</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Sat, Oct 13</td>
<td>Field trip to housing site</td>
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<tr>
<td>7 Oct 16</td>
<td>Boston history: from trading port to industrial city</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Exercise #6 – Sketch-Up tutorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Sat, Oct 20</td>
<td>Boston neighborhoods bus tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>9 Oct 23</td>
<td>Park Planning and housing reform</td>
<td>Paper #2 due</td>
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<td>Exercise #7 – Sketch-Up tutorial</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Oct 30</td>
<td><strong>Mid-term group projects presentations</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>11 Nov 6</td>
<td>Urban renewal and transportation planning</td>
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<td>Exercise #8 – Group project work</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 Nov 13</td>
<td>New Urbanism: old rules, new applications</td>
<td>Comments on Paper #2</td>
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<td>Exercise #9 – Group project work</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 Nov 20</td>
<td>Smart Growth: policies and objectives</td>
<td>Guest Presentation by Mass Smart Growth Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Nov 27</td>
<td>Student presentations</td>
<td>Draft reports due</td>
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<tr>
<td>15 Dec 4</td>
<td>Student Presentations</td>
<td>Comments on Draft Reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 Dec 11</td>
<td>Guest speaker presentation:</td>
<td>Final Reports Due</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Boston’s Urban Greenway</td>
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READING LIST FOR CLASSES

1 Sept 4  **Introduction: the planning profession and a historical framework.**
APA survey and historical chart distributed in class.

2 Sept 11  **Multiple interpretations of the environment.**

Part IV The Public Image and the Leadership Role of the Profession, pp. 207-241


Experiencing Cities: Simultaneous Perception, pp. 2-26

Lab section
Paper #1 assigned, due Sept 25
Issues Map exercise assigned, due Sept 18

3 Sept 18  **Principles of intervention: town planning, urban design and architecture.**


Ch 16 City Models and City Design, pp. 277-286

I The Silver Prince, pp. 9-35
II Utopia Limited, pp. 37-43
III The White Gods, pp. 45-65

Lab section
Student presentations of Issues Maps
Group project options given

4 Sept 25  **Production systems of the environment: program, design and the development process.**

[Paper #1 due]

Ch 2 The Art of Site Planning, pp. 1-12

Introduction: Pioneers, Frontiers and the Twenty-first Century, pp. xix-xxiii
Ch 1  The Search for the Future Inside Ourselves, pp. 1-15
Ch 12  The Words. Glossary of a New Frontier, pp. 441-459
Ch 13  The Laws. How We Live, pp. 461-471

Introduction: The Sex of Cities, pp. ix –xxiii
Ch 4  Trading Places. The City and the Suburb, pp.85-109

Lab section
Papers #1 due
Site Planning exercise assigned, due Oct 2nd
Group projects assigned, due Nov 27

5 Oct 2  Managing nature in the city: water, plant and animal life.

Ch 6  Floods, Droughts and Poisoned Water, pp. 129-142
Ch 7  Controlling and Restoring the Waters, pp. 142-170
Ch 8  Urban Plants: Struggle for Survival, pp. 171-183
Ch 9  Nurturing the Urban Biome, pp. 184-207
Ch 10  Pets and Pests, pp. 207-214
Ch 11  Designing Wildlife Habitats, pp. 215-228

Lab section
Student presentations of Site Designs

Oct 9  No class – Monday classes on Tuesday
In mailboxes: Comments on Paper #1
Emailed or posted: Paper #2 assigned

6 Sat, Oct 13  Field trip to housing site

7 Oct 16  Boston history: from trading port to industrial city.

Spirn. The Granite Garden.

Ch 1  A City Upon A Hill, pp. 11-22
Ch 2  The Great Selectman, pp. 23-42

Lynch. A Theory of Good City Form.
The 19th century transformation of Boston, pp. 25-35

Kennedy. Planning the City Upon a Hill.
Ch 3  The Growth of a Metropolis, pp. 43-72
Ch 4  Building Downtown and Around Town, pp. 73-108
Lab section
Sketch-Up tutorial

8    Sat, Oct 20  **Boston neighborhoods bus tour**

9    Oct 23  **The park planning movement and housing reform.**

**Zaitzevsky**, Cynthia. *Frederick Law Olmsted and the Boston Park System.*
Ch 3 The Boston Park Movement, pp. 33-47


Ch 5: The Boston Housing Authority Since 1980: The Puritans Return, pp. 347-392

Lab section
Papers #2 due
Sketch-Up tutorial

10   Oct 30  **Mid-term group project presentations**

11   Nov 6  **Urban Renewal and transportation planning.**

**City Planning Board.** *General Plan for Boston 1950.* Boston, 1950. (excerpts)

**Kennedy.** *Planning the City Upon a Hill.*
Ch 7 Collins, Logue and the “New Boston”, pp. 157-192

Ch 13 Redevelopment of the West End, pp. 281-304

t.b.r.  **Garreau,** Joel. *Edge City.*
Ch 4 Detroit. The Automobile, Individualism and Time, pp. 99-138

Lab section
Group project work

12   Nov 13  **New urbanism: old rules, new applications.**


Ch 1 What is Sprawl, and Why? pp. 3-20
“Beyond the New Towns: Does New Urbanism Have Meaning in the Inner City?”

Ch 1  A tale of Two Cities. Kissimmee versus Celebration and the New Urbanism, pp. 1-39

Lab section
Comments on Paper #2
Group project work

13 Nov 20  **Smart Growth: policies and achievements.**

Ch 2  Growth Management Approaches and Techniques, pp. 15-53

Ch 1  The Principles of Smart Development, pp. 7-10

Ch 4  Regional Design: Local Codes as Cause and Cure of Sprawl pp. 63-75

Getting There. Building Healthy Cities, pp. 209-214

Guiding Principles, pp. 62-100

Lab section
Guest lecture: Mass Smart Growth Alliance

14 Nov 27  **Student presentations**
Draft reports due

15 Dec 4  **Student Presentations**
Comments on draft reports

16 Dec 11  Guest speaker presentation: Boston’s Urban Greenway
Final Reports due