

TIMETABLE ARRANGEMENT: Annual; 1st Semester

CREDITS: 6

COURSE TEACHER(S): Professor Phyllis C M LI

ASSESSMENT:

EXAMINATION 60 %	COURSEWORK 40 %
• 2 hours	• 1 individual essay

OBJECTIVES:

This course aims at providing students with an introductory overview of the complexities of urban planning problems as well as key challenges confronted by professional planners.

COURSE SYNOPSIS:

This course introduces students to the subject of urban planning. It first discusses the significance and objectives of urban planning, relating the rise of this profession to the changing configurations of our increasingly urbanizing world. Then, drawing upon the experiences of the United States and, at the same time, making references to similar issues in Hong Kong, key concepts and major policy debates relating to contemporary urban planning practice will be deliberated. These include competing planning theories on the planning process, the legal basis of planning, as well as the political dimension of, and social issues arising from, an array of other controversial municipal planning actions. The practical problems of land use planning, urban design and urban renewal are highlighted and critiqued. Examples from the United States and Hong Kong are contrasted to illustrate the complexities of urban planning problems in diverse spatial, political and social settings.

LECTURE TOPICS:

- Why urban planning?
- Urbanisation and urban planning
- Sustainable development and urban planning
- Early thoughts on urban planning
- Planning theory and planning process
- Legal basis of urban planning
- Land use planning
- Urban design
- Urban renewal
- Heritage and nature conservation
- Social issues in urban planning and engaging the public
- The future of urban planning in an era of changes

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:

- Levy, J. M. (2017) Contemporary Urban Planning, eleventh edition, Upper Saddle River, Prentice Hall.
- Hall, P. & Tewdwr-Jones, M. (2011) Urban and Regional Planning, fifth edition, London, Routledge.
- Hall, P. (2014) Cities of Tomorrow: An Intellectual History of Urban Planning and Design Since 1880, fourth edition, Wiley Blackwell.
- Couch, C. (2016) Urban Planning: An Introduction, New York, Palgrave Macmillan.

Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs) After completing this course, students would be able to:		Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*						Course Assessment Methods
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
1	identify and scrutinize key concepts and major policy issues in urban planning	✓	✓					Essay & exam
2	demonstrate an awareness of the broader context for understanding major debates in contemporary planning practices		✓		✓			Essay & exam
3	deliberate on, and critique, the social and political dimensions of physical planning decisions					✓	✓	Essay & exam
4	acquire critical reading and writing skills						✓	Essay & exam
5	define the nature and the scope of a planning problem for analysis			✓	✓			Essay
6	develop their skills in collecting, interpreting and analysing a diverse set of pertinent reference materials to produce a set of coherent findings			✓			✓	Essay

***Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)**

In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University's educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

PLO1 critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

PLO2 demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

PLO3 identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

PLO4 integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

PLO5 participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

PLO6 effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.