



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
FACULTY OF ARTS

Urban & Regional Planning
Environmental Planning / HGP 355 – B1
Winter 2021

Instructor: **Ryan Eidick**

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Office: **Virtually**

Office Hours: **by appointment**

Course Location, Days & Time: **Remote, Tuesdays/Thursdays, 9:30am-11:00am**

Teaching Assistant Information: **Jake Papineau, jpapinea@ualberta.ca**

Course Description:

Introduction to issues in policy making, planning and management related to human interaction with the physical environment. Prerequisite: EAS 192 or HGP 100 or any EAS 29X or HGP 2XX course. Not available to students with credit in EAS 391.

As the reality of climate change continues to infiltrate mainstream consciousness, policy is strengthening related to the management and conservation of the natural environment. With the world's population increasingly becoming urban, development pressures battle these policies as governments and private corporations attempt to balance growth with the need for preservation.

This course will outline the ways in which policy is shifting at municipal and regional levels within the Alberta context specifically to include stronger environmental protection regulations. The tools and measures used will be examined and interpreted through the lenses of both regulatory agencies that establish and enforce, as well as private development corporations that are changing the way they do business.

Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:

Objectives:

- To provide an overview of environmental planning legislation and policy at local, regional and provincial levels
- To explore the instruments used in environmental planning by professionals in both public and private sectors
- To develop an understanding of the role Urban Planners play in environmental policy making and implementation
- To examine contemporary design principles and techniques Urban Planners use in the design of sites and areas, and the regulatory demands

Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the fundamental goals of environmental planning
- Interpret environmental policy at municipal, regional and provincial levels
- Apply environmental principles and policies in the analysis and redevelopment of public and private property
- Recognize the roles of Urban Planners in the application of environmental policy
- Apply relevant environmental planning instruments (ESAs, Water Act applications, Biophysical Analyses, etc.)

For students enrolled in these programs, this course contributes to developing the knowledge, skills, and ethics identified by the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) as necessary components for practice as a professional planner. This course provides an introduction to all of the components as identified by the CIP, however, the following are emphasized:

1. Functional Competencies:
 - a. Human Settlements
 - b. History & Principles of Planning
 - c. Government and Law
 - d. Issues in Planning and Policy-making
 - e. Processes of Planning and Policy-making
 - f. Plan and Policy Implementation
 - g. Political and Institutional Frameworks of Planning
 - h. Environmental, social and economic sustainability
 - i. Regulatory tools
 - j. Processes and factors of change in Human Settlements
 - k. Planning Laws
 - l. Fiscal/financial tools
 - m. Land use, design and infrastructure
 - n. Monitoring and evaluation
2. Enabling Competencies:
 - a. Critical and Creative Thinking
 - b. Communication
 - c. Professionalism
 - d. Gathering and analyzing quantitative and qualitative data
 - e. Written communication
 - f. Thinking at various geographic scales
 - g. Graphic communication

Course Format:

There are two lectures per week, each one hour in duration. The format will be a combination of live lectures as well as pre-recorded lectures that will be made available through EClass prior to class that the students can watch and learn on their own time. Time will be dedicated in every live class to go over material and answer any questions that arise from the pre-recorded lectures.

Content covered in lectures will be applied through assignments to ensure key concepts are fully grasped. Students will be given class time to work on assignments when appropriate; it is highly recommended that students use that time efficiently as it provides full access to the course

instructor to work through any questions or concerns related to assignments.

The lectures will be enhanced through group and class discussions related to key concepts. Students will be provided readings, videos and other media, along with thought-provoking questions and will be asked to come to class prepared to discuss.

Wherever possible, industry professionals will participate in course lectures to provide real-world expertise on key concepts. Students will be given notice of the participation of these professionals and are strongly encouraged to bring questions to those classes for discussion purposes.

Textbooks:

There is no required textbook for the course. Readings will be provided through eClass as supplements to lectures and to facilitate class discussions, and will be primarily from the following sources:

- Berger, A. (2008). *Designing the Reclaimed Landscape*. New York: Taylor & Francis
- Darwish, L. (2013). *Earth Repair*. Gabriola Island, BC: New Society Publishers
- Droege, P. (2006). *Renewable City*. West Sussex: Wiley Academy
- Manasc, V. & Mahaffy, C. (2009). *Agora Borealis: Engaging in Sustainable Architecture*. Edmonton: Sustainable Buildings Consortium
- Milholland, B. (2015). *Living in the Shed: Alberta's North Saskatchewan River watershed*. Edmonton: North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance
- Mostafavi, M. & Doherty, G. (2013). *Ecological Urbanism*. Zurich: Lars Muller Publishers
- Roseland, M. (2012). *Toward Sustainable Communities (4th edition)*. Gabriola Island, BC: New Society Publishers
- Von Hausen, M. A. (2013). *Dynamic Urban Design*. Bloomington, IN: iUniverse
- Waldheim, C. (2006). *The Landscape Urbanism Reader*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press
- Watson, D. & Adams, M. (2011). *Design for flooding: architecture, landscape and urban design for resilience to flooding and climate change*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons

This list is not exhaustive, and there may be additional sources for class readings throughout the semester.

Important Dates:

First Day of Class: **January 12, 2021**

Last Day of Class: **April 16, 2021**

Lecture Schedule

The course will be broken into five sections, each building off previous classes and discussions. Within each section, there will be a series of suggested readings, as well as discussion topics to be debated in class.

The course will generally follow the below schedule:

- An introduction to Sustainability

- An introduction to historical and contemporary policies and practices related to Water
- The Municipal Government Act and its effect on environmental land use policy
- The evolution of The Water Act and what it means for conservation and development
- Environmental policy in rural and urban situations
- Environmental planning tools and their applications at municipal, regional and provincial levels
 - The Biophysical Analysis
 - The Natural Area Management Plan
 - The Environmental Site Assessment
 - The Parkland Impact Analysis
 - The Agricultural Impact Analysis
- The role of Land Use Planning in the implementation of Environmental Planning tools
- Provincial differences in Environmental Planning policy and implementation
- Environmental Design and how environmental policies affect the design of our physical environments
- Redevelopment and remediation within evolving urban settings
- The role of Urban Planners in Environmental Planning

Components of Course Grade:

Students will be given detailed breakdowns of assignments, including requirements and due dates, as the course progresses. Students will be given a minimum of two weeks to complete each assignment. Assignments may include some group work; however, will always include an individual submission to be graded.

Students will be required to participate in class discussions for a portion of the final grade. A grading scheme is provided below. Class discussions will occur regularly throughout the course, giving students adequate opportunities to participate in a variety of topics.

Component	Weighting	Date
Assignment #1	30%	February 11, 2021
Assignment #2	30%	March 18, 2021
Assignment #3	30%	April 16, 2021
Participation	10%	

*WARNING: Students must verify this date on BearTracks when the Final Exam Schedule is posted.

Student participation will be graded on the following scale:

Participation	Grade
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Enthusiastic participation, frequently contributing to discussions by sharing original thoughts or ideas on a variety of topics	8-10
Regular participation and contributions to class discussions	5-7
Occasional participation, generally when called upon during class discussions	2-4
Frequent absenteeism and/or non-participation in class discussions	0-1

Final Grades

All assignments and examinations in this course will be given a numerical score. A cumulative course mark will be calculated from those scores, weighted as tabulated above. A final letter grade will be assigned based upon your cumulative mark and my analysis of the class's cumulative mark distribution. Where possible, natural breaks in the cumulative mark distribution will be used in assigning grades, but no pre-determined distribution of grades will be imposed on the class. Your grade will reflect a combination of your absolute achievement and relative standing in the class. Any grade above 50% will be assigned a passing grade (a letter grade of D or better). Final grades will remain unofficial until approved by the Faculty Council or its designate (i.e. the departmental chair).

Late Assignments & Re-grading

Assignments are due at the start of class, unless otherwise noted.

Answer keys to assignments will be provided upon written request from students. Should students believe an error was made in the grading, a written request can be made to the instructor to request a regrading. The instructor will review the request and regrade the assignment if it is determined by the instructor that an error was made.

Attendance: Regular attendance is essential for optimal performance in any course.

Missed Assignments:

Deferral of term work is a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferral will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferral is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

Student Responsibilities:

Academic Integrity: The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the Code of Student Behaviour (online at www.governance.ualberta.ca) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult [the Academic Integrity website](#). If you have any questions, ask your instructor.

An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#).

Recording of Lectures: Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

Disclaimer: Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and posted on eClass. The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

Student Resources:

The best all-purpose website for student services is: <https://www.ualberta.ca/current-students>.

Accessibility Resources: (1 – 80 SUB)

The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. Accessibility Resources promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage.

The Academic Success Centre: (1-80 SUB)

[The Academic Success Centre](#) offers a variety of workshops on effective study and exam strategies. There are in-person and online sessions available for a modest fee.

The Centre for Writers: (1-42 Assiniboia Hall)

The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

Health and Wellness Support: There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

Office of the Student Ombuds:

The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

Learning and working environment:

The Faculty of Arts is committed to ensuring that all students, faculty and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination and harassment. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment.

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

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