

Urban Studies (UBST) 461
University of Calgary
The Transit City
 Fall 2014
 T 18:00-20:45 SA 124A

Instructors:

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Office Hours: before or after class / by appt.

Additional Information:

1. **Prerequisite:** One of Geography 341, 351, or 451
2. **Antirequisite(s):** Credit for Urban Studies 461 and 505.03 will not be allowed
3. **Supplementary Fees:** *Students must possess a Calgary Transit pass or fare for field Trips.*

Course Description:

Developing a Transit City is increasingly important to cities in North America, and forms more and more of the conversation by politicians, professionals and the general public. This course explores land use, urban form and transit projects in Calgary, North America and overseas to understand how policies and practices are interconnected. This course will require students examine topics through a sustainability lens to understand social, environmental and economic impacts associated with policy and design. The course will involve lectures, site tours and class discussions. Projects will require students to develop real-world case studies and critical assessments of local land use, urban form and transit examples. Class presentations and technical writing are also key elements of this course.

Objectives of the Course:

- Gain a clear understanding of the transportation-land use relationship, its benefits and the factors influencing it.
- Understand the basic features of public transportation and their application to shape urban form and function, including transit-supportive land use and transit-oriented development.
- Use knowledge gained throughout the course to explore a 'real world' case example of transit and land use integration.

Textbooks and Readings / Course Resources:

Readings will be assigned in lectures.

Online Resources

- City of Calgary (2004). Transit Oriented Development Best Practices Handbook. <http://www.calgary.ca/PDA/LUPP/Documents/Publications/tod-handbook.pdf>, Calgary, January 2004.
- City of Calgary (2005). Transit Oriented Development Policy Guidelines. <http://www.calgary.ca/PDA/LUPP/Documents/Publications/tod-policy-guidelines.pdf> Calgary, December 2005.
- City of Calgary (2006). Transit Friendly Design Guide http://www.calgarytransit.com/pdf/transit_friendly.pdf Calgary, April, 2006.
- City of Calgary (2010). Municipal Development Plan. <http://www.calgary.ca/mdp>, Calgary, Aug. 2010.
- City of Calgary (2010). The City of Calgary: Transit Oriented Development (TOD). <http://www.calgary.ca/todplanning>, Calgary, April 29, 2010.
- Calgary Regional Partnership (2009). Calgary Regional Transit Plan. <http://calgaryregion.ca/dms/Website/reports/General/Regional-transportation/Regional-transit-plan---november-20--2009/Regional%20transit%20plan%20-%20November%2020%2C%202009.pdf>, Calgary, August 28, 2011.
- Ontario Ministry of Transportation (2012). Transit Supportive Guidelines <http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/transit/supportive-guideline/index.shtml> Government of Ontario.
- Railvolution Conference Presentations (various). <http://www.railvolution.org/past-conferences/all-conferences>
- Reconnecting America (various). <http://reconnectingamerica.org/>
- Project for Public Spaces (various). <http://www.pps.org/>
- Transit Cooperative Research Program (various). <http://www.tcrponline.org/>
- TransLink: Managing the Transit Network (various). <http://www.translink.ca/networkmanagement>
- Victoria Transport Policy Institute (various). www.vtpi.org

Selected Journals & Industry Publications (available online or through the Library)

Some key academic and industry publications normally including material on transit and land use planning... A good place to start for the literature review assignment.

Access -- offers free subscriptions (available online at <http://www.uctc.net/access/>)

Canadian Journal of Urban Research

Canadian Transit Forum (Canadian Urban Transit Association)

Environment and Behaviour

Environment and Planning A: Environment and Planning

Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design

Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy

Environment and Planning D: Society and Space

ITE Journal

Journal of the American Planning Association

Journal of Public Transportation -- free online access

Journal of Transport Geography
 Journal of Transport Economics and Policy
 Transport Policy
 Transport Reviews
 Transportation (published by Springer Netherlands)
 Transportation Journal (published by American Society of Transportation & Logistics)
 Transportation Quarterly -- *free online access*
 Transportation Research Part A: Policy and Practice
 Transportation Research Part B: Methodological
 Transportation Research Part C: Emerging Technologies
 Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment
 Transportation Research Part E: Logistics and Transportation Review
 Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour
 Transportation Research Record (Transportation Research Board)
 Urban Studies

Assignments and Evaluation/Grading Components:

Mini Assignments (20% of Final Grade – each assignment is weighted equally)	Due Date
Land Use Log	Week 2: Sept 16
Good, bad and ugly	Week 3: Sept 23
Route Impressions	Week 7: Oct 21
North Central LRT Criteria Evaluation	Week 11: Nov 18
Photo: disconnected spaces	Week 12: Nov 25

Large Assignments (40% of Final Grade – each assignment is worth 20% each)	Due Date
Case study (pairs)	Week 5: Oct 7
Site analysis (large group)	Week 9: Nov 4

Final Group Project (40% of Final Grade)	Due Date
Final Term Project (TOD Plan)	Group Presentation: Week 13 - Dec 2 Final Report: Dec 10

Assignment and project handouts will be provided in class and on blackboard.

It is not essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole.
It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment.

Note: Hard copies of all assignments, presentations and reports must be handed in person or the submission will receive a grade of zero on the assigned due date. There will be no exceptions to this rule.

Registrar-scheduled Final Examination:
THERE IS NO MIDTERM TEST OR FINAL EXAM IN THIS COURSE

Policy for Late Assignments:

"Make-up" assignments will not be arranged for any student without prior notification for absence and appropriate documentation (e.g., doctor's note, etc.). If you suspect you might be unable to complete a project or assignment by the required timelines, please contact the instructors in advance to see whether alternate arrangements can be made.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act:

This course is conducted in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FOIP). As one consequence, **students should identify themselves on all written work by using their ID number. Also you will be required to provide a piece of picture identification in order to pick up an assignment or look at a final exam.**

For more information see also <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy>.

Grading System:

91-100	A+	73-76	B	60-62	C-
85-90	A	70-72	B-	57-59	D+
80-84	A-	67-69	C+	50-56	D
77-79	B+	63-66	C	0-49	F

Schedule of Lectures and Field Visits (tentative):

WEEK 1: Sept 9 – Course and Assignments Overview and Lecture/Discussion: Why are we here? Why does this matter?

>>> Assignment Handout: Mini Assignments (Various Due Dates)

>>> Identify project preference during class

WEEK 2: Sept 16 – Transit Supportive land uses

>>> Assignment Handout: Case Studies, site analysis, final project and presentation

>>> Assignment Submission: Land use log

WEEK 3: Sept 23 – Project management

>>> Assignment Handout: Mini assignment - NC LRT

>>> Assignment Submission: Mini assignment – Good, Bad and Ugly

WEEK 4: Sept 30 Site visit – CPTED and station area design. Meeting point to be announced.

WEEK 5: Oct 7 – Density and scale, economics and pro forma

>>> Assignment Submission: Case Studies

WEEK 6: Oct 14 – Site visit - Sunnyside – Citizen Led Planning (Meet at 6:30 sharp at south end of Sunnyside LRT station) Note: Field Trip will end in Sunnyside.

WEEK 7: Oct 21 – Lecture: Transit Planning 101.
>>> Assignment Submission: Route Impressions

WEEK 8: Oct 28 – Student led site visits.

WEEK 9: Nov 4 – Presentations – Site Analysis
>>> Group presentations – Site Analysis

WEEK 10: Nov 11 – No Class (Reading Days)

WEEK 11: Nov 18 – Complete streets and walkability
>>> Assignment Submission: North Central LRT

WEEK 12: Nov 25 – Site visit – East Village. Meeting point will be announced.
>>> Assignment Submission: Photo: disconnected spaces

WEEK 13: Dec 2 – Group Project Presentation
>>> Final Group Project Presentations

Final Project Submission: December 10, 2014

>>> WRITTEN PROJECT SUBMISSIONS due in person to instructor on December 10, 2014 between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m. in SA 124A.

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca>. For your student ombudsman, please see
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor Desire2Learn at
<https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>

USRI

At the University of Calgary, feedback provided by students through the Universal Student Ratings of Instruction (USRI) survey provides valuable information to help with evaluating instruction, enhancing learning and teaching, and selecting courses (www.ucalgary.ca/usri). Your responses make a difference - please participate in USRI Surveys.

Writing across the Curriculum

Writing skills are not exclusive to English courses and, in fact, should cross all disciplines. The University supports the belief that throughout their University careers, students should be taught how to write well so that when they graduate their writing abilities will be far above the minimal standards required at entrance. Consistent with this belief, students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their University courses and, where appropriate, members of faculty can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.

Principles of Conduct

The University of Calgary Calendar includes a statement on the Principles of conduct expected of all members of the University community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors and volunteers) whether on or off the University's property. This statement applies in all situations where the members of the University community are acting in their University capacities. All Members of the University Community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with this statement which is available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/j-2.html>

Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are 1) presenting another student's work as your own 2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without proper referencing and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar. <http://www.ucalgary.ca/honesty/plagiarism>

Student Accessibility Services Accommodations

If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with Student Accessibility Services, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with Student Accessibility Services are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

FOIP: The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments will be returned to students individually, during class or during the instructor's office hours; if students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

All assignments will be handled through Blackboard or personally.

Their own grades will be available to each student on Blackboard by password access. Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: suypaca@ucalgary.ca

SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: arts1@ucalgary.ca

The students ombudsman office information can be found at:

<http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/page/affordability-accessibility/su-structure/contact-info>

Campus Safewalk

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security officer will accompany you to your Campus destination.

Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at artsads@ucalgary.ca. You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.