



URBAN STUDIES COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2016
URBAN STUDIES 591
H(3-3)

Capstone in Urban Studies

Section	Days	Times	Location
LEC 01	TuTh	15:30 – 16:45	SS 012
LAB 01	Fr	13:00 – 15:50	SA 119

Instructor: Victoria Fast	Office: ES 452
Telephone: 220 8353	Email: Victoria.fast@ucalgary.ca

Please note: The appropriate emergency evacuation assembly point for classes taught in Science A is Social Sciences Food Court.

Official Course Description:

Capstone course applying the broad interdisciplinary training of the Urban Studies Program to selected problems in Urban Studies. Collaborative research and analysis is stressed.

Prerequisite: Completion of at least 90 Units (15.0 full-course equivalents) and admission to the Urban Studies Major or Minor.

Course Objective

This is the capstone course for Urban Studies majors and minors, dealing with sustainability and what it means in an urban context. The “key to sustainability”, according to Gwendolyn Hallsmith, is to understand the city “as a whole system...one that is composed of numerous subsystems”. The variety of subsystems that shape cities do not operate independently, rather are mutually interactive, modifying each other over time. These subsystems – economic, social, environmental, cultural and political – operate at a variety of scales, reverberating back upon the city. However, planning interventions cannot be conceived as discrete action, rather must to be considered in terms of system-wide implications.

In this course, students will study Calgary’s community as subsystems that have critical implications for planning sustainable cities. Rooted in planning and sustainability theories, students will complete an applied “exploring Communities” project, where students will work individually and in in groups to assess, explore and engage Calgary communities. Students will apply data gathering, analytical, community engagement and critical reflection skills while working directly with select Calgary communities. Partnering with the Federation of Calgary Communities (FCC) to support community-engaged learning, together we will build toward a meaningful vision for individual communities.

Required texts: Individual readings weekly. Please check course website regularly for updates.

Lecture, Lab and Assignment Schedule:

Wk	Lecture Date	Lecture Topics	Lab Schedule	Notes, due dates & other considerations
1	1/10/2017	Introduction to course & community planning	1/13/2017 <i>No lab first week</i>	
	1/12/2017	Introduction to "Exploring Communities"		
2	1/17/2017	Calgary's community structure; community associations by FCC	1/20/2017 Group formation, Assignment 1 introduced	FCC: Guest lecture on Calgary's community structure
	1/19/2017	Calgary's community structure		
3	1/24/2017	Community presentation	1/27/2017 Assignment 1 continued	FCC: guest lecture on communities selected for study
	1/26/2017	Evaluation Metrics – comparing Calgary Communities		
4	1/31/2017	Data Management	2/3/2017 Assignment 1 continued	*attend February board meeting (observation)
	2/2/2017	Data Management		
5	2/7/2017	Community Engagement	2/10/2017 Assignment 1 continued	FCC: Guest lecture on visioning
	2/9/2017	Ethics and engagement		
6	2/14/2017	Community Visioning	2/17/2017 Visioning exercise	<u>Assignment 1 due (20%)</u>
	2/16/2017	Community Engagement		
Mid-term break February 20-24				
7	2/28/2017	Class presentations; FCC welcome to attend	3/3/2017 Discuss presentations & assignments	Class presentations – 15%
	3/2/2017	Class presentations; FCC welcome to attend		
8	3/7/2017	Planning for sustainable communities: Calgary & beyond	3/10/2017	*attend March board meeting (visioning exercise)
	3/9/2017	*sustainable communities, continued		
9	3/14/2017	Using technology to effectively community	3/17/2017	How does this fit into sustainable planning?
	3/16/2017	*tech, continued		
10	3/21/2017	Exploring Urban Energy	3/24/2017	Comparative Analysis / collaboration
	3/23/2017	Smart Cities		
11	3/28/2017	Course concept review	3/30/2017	
	3/30/2017	Term test		
12	4/4/2017	Review "Exploring Community final projects"	4/6/2017	
	4/6/2017	Review, continued		
13	4/11/2017	Course wrap up & future directions in Urban Studies		Final assignments due; submit to community

Course Evaluation

Course Component	Weight	Due Date
Assignment 1	15%	Week 6: Community Asset Mapping
Group Project Presentation	15%	Week 7: In lecture February 28 th and March 2 nd
Assignment 2	20%	Week 11: Exploring Communities Report
FCC student evaluation	5%	Weeks 8-10: Evaluate performance at March Community Visioning meeting
Term Test	15%	Week 12
Weekly Writing Blitzes	10% (1% per Blitz, up to 11%)	Weekly: handed out in the first lecture of the week, due in the second lecture of the same week
Weekly Lab Participation	10%	Weekly: attendance, participation, and professionalism
Urban, Sustainability, and Community News	10%	One time: 10-minute presentation/discussion in lecture on relevant news story

Assignment 1: Create a community asset map.

Group project presentation: Present your community asset map to the class and the Federation.

Assignment 2: Observe and engage your respective community association through their Board of Directors. Create an “Exploring Community” report.

FCC student evaluation: Members of the Federation of Calgary Communities will evaluate the quality of your engagement with your chosen community.

Term test: A short answer and critical thinking test to evaluate synthesis of course concepts.

Weekly writing blitzes: A weekly writing assignment, handed out in the first lecture of the week and collected during the second lecture of the week.

Weekly lab participation: Lab attendance and participation, including engagement in group discussions and activities when relevant.

Urban, Sustainability, and Community News: Present a 10-minute news story on any aspect of urban studies, sustainability, or community development.

Grading System:

Grade	Grade Point Value	% Grade	Description
A+	4.00	>95	Outstanding
A	4.00	86-94	Excellent-superior performance, showing comprehensive understanding of subject matter, will beyond expectation
A-	3.70	80-85	
B+	3.30	77-79	
B	3.00	74-76	Good – <u>clearly above average</u> performance with knowledge of subject matter generally complete.
B-	2.70	70-73	
C+	2.30	67-69	
C	2.00	64-66	Satisfactory – basic understanding of the subject matter
C-	1.70	60-63	Receipt of a grade point average of 1.70 may not be sufficient for promotion or graduation. (See individual undergraduate faculty regulations).
D+	1.30	56-59	
D	1.00	50-55	Minimal pass – marginal performance: generally insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0	<50	Fail – unsatisfactory performance or failure to meet course requirements.

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 Support Services 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>

Academic Accommodations:

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the university policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf

Students needing an accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities. The procedure can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities_0.pdf

Students needing an accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, in writing, to the Instructor.

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 D2L or personally.
- Their own grades will be available to each student on D2L 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: suvpaca@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 Students Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS 102, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at ascarts@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.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210 7625 or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca