Course Description:

This course provides students with an introductory understanding of key forces shaping urban growth and development in the United States. The course is divided into two parts. The first part introduces theories and empirical research on the historical, demographic, economic, and spatial aspects of urban growth. The second part discusses policies, planning tools and techniques relating to land use, urban planning and environmental protection influenced past urban growth. The subjects to be covered include the comprehensive plan, land use regulations, growth management, transportation, housing, community and economic development, environmental planning and regulations, and smart growth. This course is an upper division core course in the B.S. in Urban Studies and Planning.

Textbooks:


Recommended Readings:

Recommended course readings are reserved in the Oviatt library. Reading materials are usually placed on both Paper Reserve and Electronic Reserve.

Course Requirements:

You are expected to read the assigned material prior to lecture and please bring the textbook with you to class. It is very important for students to regularly attend the class and to actively participate in the class activity.
Assignments and Grading:

Article Review 10%
Mid-Term Exam 20%
Final Exam 25%
Team Project (Meeting Minutes) 05%
Team Project (PowerPoint Presentation) 05%
Team Project (Written) 25%
Class Attendance and Participation 10%

Grading Scale:

A = 95-100
A- = 90-94
B+ = 85-89
B = 80-84
B- = 75-79
C+ = 70-74
C = 65-69
C- = 60-64
D+ = 55-59
D = 50-54
D- = 45-49

Article Reviews:

During the semester two article reviews are required. Two articles are selected from the City Reader. The questions to be answered in the article review might include: What is the author's main purpose? What are the author's main points? Does the author support his/her statements or leave statements unsupported? What are the most notable strengths and weaknesses of the article? What are your comments, criticisms, suggestions?

Each article review requires a three to five page report (excluding cover page and references). Be word processed (specifications: 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, margins L=1.5", R=1.0", top and bottom 1.0"). Title page with course number and name, your name and date submitted. Include references at end. Turn in the paper with a diskette with your name at the beginning of the class on the due date.

Exams:

There will be a mid-term exam on October 12 and a final exam on November 16. The final exam will only include material covered after the mid-term exam.

Team Project:
The team project is intended to propose smart growth programs (e.g., transit oriented
development, infill development, sustainable development, etc.) using Los Angeles Land
opportunities Tracking System (LA LOTS), the interactive mapping system. (see
http://164.67.52.84/LOTS/Master.cfm)
(Also see http://transistorienteddevelopment.dot.ca.gov/ for a list of projects)

As local planners, you were assigned to develop growth alternatives for the selected
metro line station area by proposing alternative land use regulations (zoning, plan,
parking requirements, etc). The purpose of this analysis is to promote the smart growth
programs for the areas surrounding the metro line stations.

Major issues to be discussed in the paper include (not limited to) the following:

First, select one of four metro line stations (Blue Line, Gold Line, Red Line, and Green
Line) as a case station.(see
http://164.67.52.84/LOTS/Master.cfm?Content=Transit&SubContent=TransitStation_Lis
t.cfm ). Briefly discuss why you chose the specific station as a case station.

Second, discuss the background of the project, the purpose of the project, the proposed
planning and implementation process.

Third, analyze demographic, housing, economic, lending, transportation, current land use,
general plan, and land use regulation (redevelopment area) characteristics of the selected
area as well as the County where the selected area is located. If possible, try to show the
trend of these characteristics using 1990 and 2000 Census data. Graphs and maps are
produced. The project area includes all census tracts located within 1/3 mile radius of the
station.
(see http://transistorienteddevelopment.dot.ca.gov/station/NewCompare2Stations.jsp
for sample analysis)

Fourth, discus how the regional growth visioning efforts relate to city (or small area)
growth forecasts. Evaluate the regional growth visioning efforts. (See
http://www.scag.ca.gov/livable/gvision.htm)

Fifth, review the available land use regulations (including economic incentives). Identify
two or more land use regulations to play with. Discuss why you chose the selected
regulations. Develop and discuss the scenarios of alternative development alternatives
using alternative land use regulations.

The final paper requires a ten to fifteen page (excluding cover page, charts, maps, and
references) original report, with meeting minutes (e.g., the first meeting minute includes
specifying the role of each student) and power point presentations attached. Word
processed (specifications: 12 point Times New Roman font, double spaced, margins
L=1.5", R=1.0", top and bottom 1.0"). Title page with course number and name, your
names and date submitted. Include research references and any attachments (meeting
minutes and power point presentations) at end. Turn in the paper with a diskette with
your names to the office of Urban Studies and Planning before 5:00 PM of the due date (December 6th).

The major criteria of evaluating the team project will be combination of creativity, reasonableness (conceptually), soundness (technically), comprehensiveness, and collaboration among students, etc.
Lecture Schedule (* Required Reading):

Week 1 (Aug 24): Course Overview

Part I. Urban Growth: Theories and Analysis

Week 2 (Aug 31): What is Urban? & Urbanization


*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapter 2

The City Reader:


*Louis Wirth "Urbanism as a Way of Life" (1938), p. 97-104.


V. Gordon Childe “The Urban Revolution” (1950), pp. 35-42.


Week 3 (Sept. 7): Urban Demography


*Dowell Myers and Lee Menifee “Population Analysis” from The Practice of Local Government Planning (ICMA, 2000), pp.61-86. (*On Reserve)

Week 4. (Sept. 14)  Urban Economy

*Stephen J. Goetz “Migration and Local Labor Markets” (Regional Research Institute, WVU, 1999), Section I (1,2,4,5), Section II (2–9).  http://www.rri.wvu.edu/WebBook/Goetz/contents.htm


The City Reader:


Week 5. (Sept. 21)  Article 1 Review Due

Urban Spatial Structure


The City Reader:


Week 6. (Sept. 28)  Planning Theory and History

*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapters 1, 3
The City Reader:


Week 7. (Oct. 5)  Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation

*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7


The City Reader:


Week 8. (Oct. 12)  Mid-Term Exam (Week 1 - Week 7)

Growth Management (Sprawl, Smart Growth)

*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapters 10, 11


Week 9. (Oct. 19)  Article 2 Review Due

Transportation and Land Use (TOD)

*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapters 12


Martin Wachs “Autos, Transit, and the Sprawl of Los Angeles: 1920s,” Journal of the American Planning Association 50, 3,

Week 10. (Oct. 26) Housing, Community and Economic Development

*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapters 13, 14

Week 11. (Nov. 2) Urban Design and Environment (New Urbanism, Sustainable Development, Transit-Oriented Development, Smart Growth)


*Cullingworth & Caves, Chapters 8 (pp. 138-139), 15 (pp. 253-269)

*Stephen M. Wheeler and Timothy Beatley “Editor’s Introduction to the Next American Metropolis” the Sustainable Urban Development Reader (Routledge, 2004), pp. 73-75. (On Reserve)


The City Reader:


Week 12. (Nov. 9) Growth Vision Planning in a Regional Context


The City Reader:


Week 13. (Nov. 16)  Final Exam (Week 8-Week 12)
                  Film: Smart Growth (1998)

                  No Reading Required


               The City Reader:


Week 15. (Nov. 30)  Conclusion / Team Project: Powerpoint Presentations

               *Cullingworth & Caves, Chapter 17

Week 16. (Dec. 6)  Team Project: Written Due