

Form 2B

City University of Hong Kong

Information on a Course

offered by Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering
with effect from Semester A in 2014/2015

Part I

Course Title:	Institutional Theories and Strategic Planning Process
Course Code:	CA6149
Course Duration:	1 Semester (Some courses offered in Summer Term may start a few weeks earlier than the normal University schedule. Please check the teaching schedules with CLs before registering for the courses.)
Credit Units:	3
Level:	P6
Medium of Instruction:	English
Prerequisites:	Nil
Precursor:	Nil
Equivalent Courses:	Nil
Exclusive Courses:	Nil

Part II

Course Aims:

In recent years, there has been increased consciousness about the importance of urban politics in design and planning practices. While traditional experts see their works as an end product of engineering and scientific optimization, contemporary practitioners in design and planning have to cope with their tasks as a means of social and political relations. Give such social requirements and political expertise, this course attempts to understand the institutional structures and strategic actions being observed in recent design and planning professions. The lectures consist of multiple academic theories (e.g., postmodern sociology, consensus building methodology, institutional economy and transaction theory, information science, etc) and professional experiences (a series of external guest talks). Students are expected to have a better sense of "path-dependency" and "context-sensitivity" and use more pragmatic decision making techniques to establish "win-win" situations in urban design and regional planning processes.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs):

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Recognize limitation of scientific positivism and advent of postmodern rationality in design and planning contexts;	---
2.	Explain institutional structures from both economic and sociological viewpoints;	---
3.	Know real constraints on and political challenges to implementing design and planning works from practitioners;&	---
4.	Study more strategic actions and decision-making techniques that would establish win-win situations in practice	---

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs):

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

Semester Hours: 3 hours per week

Lecture/Tutorial/Laboratory Mix: Lecture (2); Tutorial (1); Laboratory (0)

CILO No.	TLAs	Total Hours (if applicable)
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures and tutorials Literature reviews to appreciate the philosophical shift from scientific positivism to postmodern urbanism 	9
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures and tutorials Sociological and economic studies on institutional structures (e.g., new institutional economy and transaction theory) 	9
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures and tutorials Case studies (external guest talk) on urban design and regional planning practices in urban politics 	12
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lectures and tutorials Learning strategic decision-making techniques in design and planning processes 	9

Assessment Tasks/Activities:

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

Coursework: 50%

Examination: 50% (Examination duration = 3 hours)

To pass a course, a student must obtain minimum marks of 30% in both coursework and examination components, and an overall mark of at least 40%.

CILO No.	Type of assessment tasks/activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
CILO 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project/Assignment (30%), Mid-term Quiz (20%), and Final Examination (50%) 	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
CILO 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project/Assignment (30%), Mid-term Quiz (20%), and Final Examination (50%) 	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
CILO 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project/Assignment (30%), Mid-term Quiz (20%), and Final Examination (50%) 	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil
CILO 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project/Assignment (30%), Mid-term Quiz (20%), and Final Examination (50%) 	---	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nil

Grading of Student Achievement:

Grading Pattern:

Standard

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations and to the [Explanatory Notes](#).

Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

Urban Governance and Politics; New Institutional Economics and Transaction Theory; Decision Making; Consensus Building; Strategic Design and Planning; Game Theory; Civic Participation

Recommended Reading:

- **Texts:**
 1. Friedmann, John. Planning in the Public Domain: From Knowledge to Action. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press, 1987.
 2. Brenner, Neil, Peter Marcuse, and Margit Mayer. Cities for people, not for profit: critical urban theory and the right to the city. London; New York: Routledge, 2012.
 3. Innes, Judith Eleanor. Planning with Complexity: An Introduction to Collaborative Rationality for Public Policy. Milton Park, Abingdon, Oxon ; New York, NY: Routledge, 2010.
 4. Chandler, Alfred Dupont. The Visible hand: the managerial revolution in american business. Cambridge: Belknap Press, 1977.
 5. Coase, R. H. The firm, the market, and the law. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1988.
 6. Williamson, Oliver E. The economic institutions of capitalism: firms, markets, relational contracting. New York, NY [u.a.: Free Press [u.a.], 2010.
 7. The Consensus Building Handbook: a Comprehensive Guide to Reaching Agreement. Thousand Oaks, Calif: Sage Publications, 1999.
- **Online Resources:**
 1. Nil