

CA5136: FOUNDATION STUDIO FOR VALUES AND FUNDAMENTALS IN DESIGN AND PLANNING

Effective Term

Semester A 2026/27

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Foundation Studio for Values and Fundamentals in Design and Planning

Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

Course Number

5136

Academic Unit

Architecture and Civil Engineering (CA)

College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

6

Level

P5, P6 - Postgraduate Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

Nil

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course aims to introduce students to essential elements, comprehensive knowledge, and fundamental methods of urban planning and design, and to develop students' capability in application by experiencing a variety of urban design projects. The studio projects focus on examining various theoretical paradigms and proposing a way to improve problematic situations. The course contents include theoretical foundations, standards and fundamentals of urban planning and design, urban design representation methods, and analysis of land use patterns and urban forms. The course also provides foundational knowledge of project management, contract and dispute management, financial management in urban development and construction, and planning practice, law, and ethics in Hong Kong.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	comprehend essential elements and fundamental principles of urban planning and design and urban issues associated in Hong Kong and other countries	x		
2	identify urban contexts and characteristics in a given region that affect surrounding daily places and people's daily lives	x		
3	formulate design concepts and schematic design alternatives by preserving surrounding conditions and improving daily lives in a given region	x	x	
4	design an urban design project focusing on improving the quality of the built environment in which the design project region is located		x	x
5	prepare professional presentation and documentation of an urban design proposal for improving the project region			x

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)	
1	Lectures	Introduction to urban issues and planning theories & in-class discussions in practical contexts	1, 2	1 hr

2	Tutorials	Introduction to basic ideas, design elements, skillsets, and approaches to specific projects	3, 4	1 hr
3	Urban Design Studio	Team projects on specific sites. Applications of design elements and skillsets to solve urban issues based on theories as introduced	5	1 hr

Additional Information for LTAs

Semester Hours: 3 hours per week

Lecture/Tutorial/Laboratory Mix: Lecture (0); Tutorial (0); Laboratory (3)

3 hours Laboratory of Studio

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Assignment	1, 2	30		Yes
2	Mid-term Quiz	1, 2	20		No
3	Team Design Project/ Presentation	3, 4, 5	50		No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

40

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Assignment (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

CAPACITY to IDENTIFY a wide range of urban issues from different viewpoints and EXPLAIN the issues identified on the basis of historical facts and planning theories.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Mid-term Quiz (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

ABILITY to UNDERSTAND and DESCRIBE a certain stream of planning and design professionals with specific examples.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Team Design Project/Presentation (for students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

ABILITY to APPLY fundamental design skillsets to an actual issue and PROPOSE creative solutions with design elements

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B, B-) Significant

Fair

(C+, C, C-) Moderate

Marginal

(D) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Assignment (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

CAPACITY to IDENTIFY a wide range of urban issues from different viewpoints and EXPLAIN the issues identified on the basis of historical facts and planning theories.

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B) Significant

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

Mid-term Quiz (for students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Urban planning, Urban design, Design studio, Planning and urban design principles, Planning legislation and control, Town Planning Ordinance, Buildings Ordinance

Reading List**Compulsory Readings**

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Home and Communities Agency (2007) Urban Design Compendium 1, UK, Llewellyn Davies Yeung.
2	Lai L.W.C. and Ho D.C.W. (2000), Planning Buildings for a High-rise Environment: A Review of Building Appeal Decisions – Hong Kong. Hong Kong University Press
3	Planning Department, HKSAR (2000), Hong Kong Planning Standards and Guidelines
4	Hong Kong Institute of Planners (1996), Planning in Hong Kong 1997 and Beyond
5	Buildings Ordinance, Cap. 123 of Laws of Hong Kong
6	Town Planning Ordinance, Cap. 131 of Laws of Hong Kong
7	http://www.pland.gov.hk/pland_en/tech_doc/hkpsg/index.html