

CA5240: URBAN DESIGN AND REGIONAL PLANNING HISTORY, THEORY AND PRACTICE

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Urban Design and Regional Planning History, Theory and Practice

Subject Code

CA - Civil and Architectural Engineering

Course Number

5240

Academic Unit

Architecture and Civil Engineering (CA)

College/School

College of Engineering (EG)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

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 at exploring the historical and theoretical evolution of cities worldwide. The course focuses primarily on urban design and regional planning theories, which are employed as interpretative prisms of both historical and current dynamics of urban morphogenesis and growth. The following topics will be explored: cities in classical time; the pre-modern city; the modern city - Radiant City (Le Corbusier); American urbanism - Chicago, New York (Burnham, Moses, Jacobs); city form from image to pattern - urban design (Lynch, Alexander); post-modern city (Venturi, Rossi, Rowe); globalism - Generic City, the global city of late capitalism (Castells, Sassen, Koolhaas); the contemporary city - TOD, Smart, Sustainable; China/Asian modernism (modern contemporary) - Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, HK, Singapore, Tokyo. Moreover, the course offers insight into the practice of urban design & planning in Asia and China.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs	Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Discuss origins of cities and their evolution;	x	x	
2	Discuss the influence of urban design and planning theories in shaping urban forms;	x	x	
3	Discover the variety of spatial arrangement and urban physical forms;	x	x	x
4	Criticize urbanization and regional planning matters.		x	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	Lecture involves the introduction of urban planning theories, in relation to social, environmental and historical contexts. Local and international cases will also be considered.	1, 2, 3, 4	2 hrs/week
2	Tutorials	In-class discussions and activities on problems related to lecture themes.	1, 2, 3	1 hr/week

Additional Information for LTAs

Semester Hours: 3 hours per week

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

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Quiz	1, 2, 3, 4	20		No
2	Assignment	1, 2, 3, 4	40		No
3	Term Project	1, 2, 3, 4	40		No

Continuous Assessment (%)

100

Examination (%)

0

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

40

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

0

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Quiz (Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

ABILITY to UNDERSTAND and APPLY theories and knowledge to topics related to urban design and planning

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

Criterion

CAPACITY to EXPLORE, INVESTIGATE, and ORGANIZE knowledge and ideas in topics related urban design and planning

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

Term Project (Applicable to students admitted before Semester A 2022/23 and in Semester A 2024/25 & thereafter)

Criterion

CAPACITY to DISCUSS, ANALYZE, INNOVATE on given problems or scenarios in topics related to urban design and planning

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

Quiz (Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

ABILITY to UNDERSTAND and APPLY theories and knowledge to topics related to urban design and planning

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B) Significant

Marginal

(B-, C+, C) Basic

Failure

(F) Not even reaching marginal levels

Assessment Task

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

Criterion

CAPACITY to EXPLORE, INVESTIGATE, and ORGANIZE knowledge and ideas in topics related urban design and planning

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

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Assessment Task

Term Project (Applicable to students admitted from Semester A 2022/23 to Summer Term 2024)

Criterion

CAPACITY to DISCUSS, ANALYZE, INNOVATE on given problems or scenarios in topics related to urban design and planning

Excellent

(A+, A, A-) High

Good

(B+, B) Significant

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(B-, C+, C) Basic

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Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Origins and evolution of cities; the process of urbanization; history of urban physical forms and planning efforts; classical, pre-modern and modern urban design and planning theories and urban forms; transnational influences; elements of urban physical form; the global city; practice of urban design & planning in Asia and China.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Nil

Additional Readings

	Title
1	Grahame Shane D., Urban Design Since 1945: A Global Perspective, New York: Wiley, 2011.
2	Saunders, D., Arrival City: How the Largest Migration in History is Reshaping our World. London: Windmill, 2011
3	Wu W. and Gaubatz P., The Chinese City, London: Taylor&Francis, 2013
4	Urbanization and the global environment / Elen Turunen and Anton Koskinen, editors. New York : Nova Science Publishers, c2012.
5	The great urbanization of China [electronic resource] / editor Ding Lu. Singapore ; Hackensack, N.J. : World Scientific Pub. Co., c2012.
6	New forms of urbanization : beyond the urban-rural dichotomy / edited by Tony Champion and Graeme Hugo. Aldershot, Hants, England ; Burlington, VT : Ashgate, c2004.
7	Composing urban history and the constitution of civic identities / edited by John J. Czaplicka and Blair A. Ruble.
8	Nahoum Cohen. Urban conservation. Cambridge : MIT Press, c1999
9	Land-use/transport planning in Hong Kong : the end of an era : a review of principles and practices / edited by Harry T. Dimitriou, Alison H.S. Cook. Aldershot : Ashgate, c1998