

URBAN PLANNING
NEWSLETTER
APRIL 3, 2020

Dear UP Family,

As we are settling into our new reality of remote learning and social distancing, I would like to reinforce that the Urban Planning biweekly newsletter remains a community platform. The content you have read in the past were all curated from your accomplishments and student life in the program. I hope that this newsletter can serve as a support system during these difficult times and give you a sense of normalcy throughout all the uncertainty and ongoing changes.

On that note, this [Google Form](#) will remain open for your reflection and thoughts. Additionally, the UP office would love to hear your ideas on what we can do to enrich your academic and professional experience, as well as what we can do to celebrate the Class of 2020. Please utilize the google form to also express your ideas. To preserve the integrity of your thoughts, all responses published on this newsletter under a new feature entitled "Reflections and Thoughts" will remain *anonymous*.

Take care and stay strong. #UPFamily

Sincerely,
Lorraine Liao
*Editor of the UP Newsletter*Contributions or ideas for the newsletter can be submitted to [Lorraine Liao](#). For jobs, internships, and fellowships, please refer to the [career portal](#).SAVE THE DATE!
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15Career Panel Discussion
"Taking the Next Step in Uncertain Times"

1:15 - 2:45pm

REFLECTIONS AND THOUGHTS

"It is uncomfortable. But we have to do this for all of us. I am adapting."

"Instead of just canceling LIPS, maybe joint force with NYU, Pratt, and/or other private higher institutions to have virtual lecture series."

"I believe that although zoom and online classes are the only possible way right now, these online methods can result in a less participatory classes. I would encourage professors to be aware of that fact and try to be more observant and communicative during the classes."

"I am still struggling to accept the fact that no tuition reimbursement of any sort was offered. Without a doubt, online classes have diminished the quality of our education in every way possible. This program is already one of the most expensive around and now we are being given less opportunity than we would have been on campus. Can this topic please be addressed to the students? This is a common concern that we all share."

"I really appreciate the open classes and weekly broadcasts from Dean Andraos ("GSAPP Family"). They both signify that we are NOT operating in normal times and show care and attention to students."

UP VIRTUAL LOUNGE

To help facilitate conversations that normally take place in our lounge, there is a zoom link that offers students a "virtual lounge" to remain connected. This is accessible to students and faculty 24/7. Please find a list of virtual studios and lounge settings [here](#).

UPCOMING OPEN CLASSES

Look for Zoom links for open classes in emails from Dean Amale Andraos every Monday (with subject line GSAPP Family)

"Community Development Planning"
Thursday, April 9 at 11am

Moira O'Neil-Hutson

This course explores the history, theory, and practice of community development. It requires students to question the assumptions underlying past programs and policies, identify opportunities, and think critically about the programs and policies that will be needed going forward.

"Planning The Cultural Space"
Friday, April 10 at 9am

Douglas Woodward, Vin Cipolla, and Peter Flamm

The practicum provides a comprehensive assessment of the current trends and issues in planning for cultural spaces. As competing options and the increasing accessibility of personal digital platforms are changing the way the arts are produced and consumed, cultural organizations are facing existential questions about the shape of their future.

"UP/Arch joint studio"
Monday, April 13 at 2pm

Douglas Woodward and Richard Plunz

As part of a sequel to previous GSAPP studios on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, this studio focuses on the neighboring island of Culebra and on the Main Island of the Municipality of Ceiba. It will engage the study of infrastructure, building, and livelihood futures begun in Vieques, while expanding the scope of architectural design to include planning, policy, and implementation issues.

"Urban Informatics II"
Tuesday, April 14 at 5pm

Anthony Vanky

This course explores ways sensing technologies validate or challenge theories of public and social interaction, as well as how we can intersect them with aspects of environmental quality, sustainability, and overall general well-being. Students engage in a hands-on workshop that design and implement prototypes for the creating of data on human activity, and environmental conditions and quality.

"On Spatial Exclusion"
Wednesday, April 15 at 11am

Hiba Bou Akar

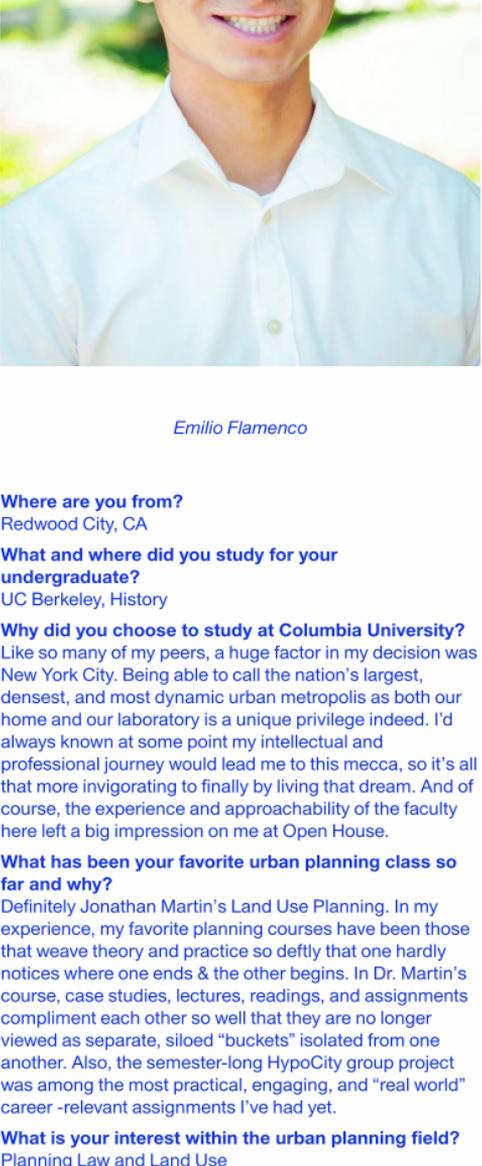
The topic for this session is entitled "*Resistance and Change: On Current Housing Take-Over Moment*." This course investigates the idea of geographies of exclusion through a multi-disciplinary inquiry which locates spatial production and planning practice at its center. The course cross-thinks issues of spatial exclusion and social justice across cities in the Global North and the Global South.

MIDTERM STUDIO REVIEW

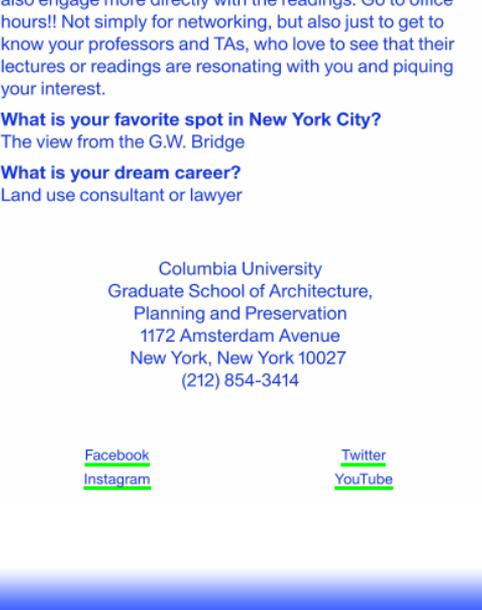
Congratulations to all the students who participated in the midterm studio review on March 4!



Reimagining Informality thru Public Space in Buenos Aires



Caribbean Reconnections: A Sustainable Future for the Puerto Rican Islands



NYC Grey to Green Energy Transition

Reimagining Porta Genova Station Area in Milan

NYC Waterfront Development in Long Island City

APA NY METRO CHAPTER
SCHOLARSHIP;
SAVANNAH WU

Congratulations to **Savannah Wu** (M.S. UP'20) for being selected among a competitive pool of applicants for the APA NY Metro Chapter Scholarship!

FIRST-YEAR
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Yuning Feng

Where are you from?

Kunming, China

Where did you study for your undergraduate degree?**What was your major?**

Wake Forest University, Health and Exercise Science and Studio Art

Do you have any professional experiences?

Elementary School Art Teacher

Why did you choose to study at Columbia University?

So I can go see Stephen Colbert after school

What is your interest within the urban planning field?

Using the tools and knowledge of Urban Planning provided to create solutions (suggestions) that targeting regions being impacted by environmental change, and working with populations that are particularly vulnerable to the exposure of such change.

What is your dream job?

Food Critic

If you could pick up a new skill in an instant what would it be?

thinking like python, talking like panda

Do you have any hidden talents?

having apocalyptic dreams

SECOND YEAR
STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Emilio Flamenco

Where are you from?

Redwood City, CA

What and where did you study for your undergraduate?

UC Berkeley, History

Why did you choose to study at Columbia University?

Like so many of my peers, a huge factor in my decision was New York City. Being able to call the nation's largest, densest, and most dynamic urban metropolis as both our home and our laboratory is a unique privilege indeed. I'd always known at some point my intellectual and professional journey would lead me to this mecca, so it's all that more invigorating to finally be living that dream. And of course, the experience and approachability of the faculty here left a big impression on me at Open House.

What has been your favorite urban planning class so far and why?

Definitely Jonathan Martin's Land Use Planning. In my experience, my favorite planning courses have been those that weave theory and practice so deftly that one hardly notices where one ends & the other begins. In Dr. Martin's course, case studies, lectures, readings, and assignments compliment each other so well that they are no longer viewed as separate, siloed "buckets" isolated from one another. Also, the semester-long HypoCity group project was among the most practical, engaging, and "real world" career-relevant assignments I've had yet.

What is your interest within the urban planning field?

Planning Law and Land Use

What is one advice that you have for the first-years?

There's a lot to take in the first year, so try not to over-extend yourself among all the opportunities you suddenly find yourself presented with, or you'll get overwhelmed. Don't be afraid to raise your hand often with questions, or to contribute to small discussions frequently- these are the most effective ways to come out of our comfort zone and also engage more directly with the readings. Go to office hours!! Not simply for networking, but also just to get to know your professors and TAs, who love to see that their lectures or readings are resonating with you and piquing your interest.

What is your favorite spot in New York City?

The view from the G.W. Bridge

What is your dream career?

Land use consultant or lawyer

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