Course Syllabus

Practicum: Residential Planning in Global Cities

Columbia GSAPP - Spring 2017 PLANA6121

Tuesdays, 5-7pm, 200 Buell Hall

PROFESSOR: Kate Dunham kdd2115@columbia.edu

COURSE OVERVIEW

As the world’s urban population grows towards six and a half billion by 2050, cities all over the world are resorting to the mass-production of residential super-blocks to address new urban housing demands. But is this model appropriate for all cities, regardless of their environmental, social, political and economic differences? This seminar will provide students with a hands-on opportunity to understand how planning code regulations - specifically residential codes - can shape the design and functioning of future neighborhoods in our rapidly urbanizing age. In this course students will explore case studies from around the world, learn about different planning models and have a chance to develop their own ideas of how to use zoning as a tool to better address challenges facing cities today. This seminar offers a multi-disciplinary approach to thinking about zoning and gives students from different related fields, such as architecture, urban design, planning and real estate, an opportunity to work collaboratively and holistically as they think about the complex planning challenges ahead in our urbanizing world.

COURSE ORGANIZATION & ASSIGNMENTS

In this seminar students will be regularly reading, researching, and presenting their own ideas to the class both in teams and individually. With the readings, students will be asked to submit short reading reflections (three or more comments or questions) in advance of class to inspire class discussion. There will be two project submissions. The first is a team case study project to document an existing zoning system. For the second project students will have an opportunity to reflect on what they have learned in the class and to propose their own zoning system for a hypothetical site. Students will be expected to participate actively in class to present their work and ideas both in teams and as individuals.

COURSE GRADING

30% Team case study report

30% Final project report

40% Class attendance, participation and reading reflections

SYLLABUS & ASSIGNMENTS (subject to change, check for updates)

NOTE REGARDING ALL ASSIGNMENTS:

• Make sure to review the detailed instructions for every assignment in the CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT> folders.
• All assignment submissions are due at 9PM the night before class.
ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 1 - due Mon, Jan 16 @ 9PM

1) HOMETOWN INTRODUCTION - see CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_01>

• Submit one ppt slide of your hometown neighborhood to be shared in class as part of your personal introduction. Please use the powerpoint “HOMETOWN TEMPLATE.ppt” provided in the CourseWorks folder called “assignment_01”.

CLASS 1 - Tue Jan 17

Lecture: Course Overview & Hometown Discussion

ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 2 – due Mon Jan 23 @ 9PM

1) READINGS - see CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_02>

• Talen, Emily: City Rules. Chapters 2-5.
• Review the What is Zoning guidebook by C.U.P.
• Review the NYC Department of City Planning (DCP) Zoning Handbook and familiarize yourself with the NYCDCP zoning website: http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/subcats/zoning.shtml (Links to an external site.)

CLASS 2 - Tue Jan 24

Lecture: Overview Of NYC Zoning (Guest Lecturer: Chris Hayner, NYCDCP)

ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 3 – due Mon Jan 30 @ 10PM

1) READINGS - see CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_03>

• den Hartog: Shanghai New Towns, 305-320 Fujita on “danweis”.
• Lu, Rowe, Jie: Modern Urban Housing in China, Conclusion pp. 283-296.
• World Bank: Urban China. pp. 43-48 Optimizing Urban Land Use
• Xue: Building Practice in China, Chapter 4 Planning Procedure.
• Xue: Building Practice in China, Chapter 8 Regulations.

2) START CASE STUDY RESEARCH – see CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_04 CASE STUDY PROJECT>
CLASS 3 – Tue Jan 31
Lecture topic: Overview Of Residential Zoning In China

ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 4 – due Mon Feb 6 @ 10PM
See CourseWorks folder <ASSIGNMENT_04 CASE STUDY PROJECT>
1) COMPLETE and SUBMIT FINAL CASE STUDY REPORT (team)
2) PREPARE BRIEF PRESENTATION (team)

CLASS 4 – Tues Feb 7
Presentations & discussion: City Case Studies [in teams]

ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 5: due Mon Feb 13 @ 10PM
1) READINGS - See CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_05>
   • Alexander, Christopher. Notes on the Synthesis of Form. MIT Press, (Chapters 2 and 3)
   • Kwartler, “Daylighting as a Zoning Device for Midtown,” Energy and Buildings
   • Kwartler, “Housing Quality Program Puts Human Scale in Residential Zoning,” The Planners Notebook
   • Kwartler, “Regulating the Good You Can’t Think Of,” Urban Design International
   • Lynch, Kevin. Image of the City. MIT Press, Chapter 1
2) START FINAL PROJECT - See CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_07 FINAL PROJECT>

CLASS 5 - Tue Feb 14
Lecture: Alternative Zoning Approaches (Guest Lecturer: Michael Kwartler, Environmental Simulation Center)

ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 6 - due Mon Feb 20 @ 10PM
1) READINGS - See CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_06>
2) WORK ON FINAL PROJECT - See CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_07 FINAL PROJECT>

CLASS 6 – Tue Feb 21
Lecture topic: Evolving Planning Approaches

ASSIGNMENT FOR CLASS 7: due Mon Feb 27 @ 10PM

See CourseWorks <ASSIGNMENT_07 FINAL PROJECT> for instructions and associated materials.

1)  COMPLETE & SUBMIT FINAL PROJECT REPORT
2)  PREPARE BRIEF PRESENTATION OF YOUR FINAL PROJECT

CLASS 7 - Tue Feb 28

Presentations & discussion: Final Project

Assignments Summary:

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