

**HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF DESIGN**

**GSD 5101B History and Theory of Urban Planning**

**CLASS MEETINGS SPRING 2008**

Tuesdays 2:00-5:00

Gropius

**INSTRUCTOR**

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This course uses historical and analytical readings and case studies to address several major theoretical questions concerning the aims and outcomes of urban interventions. The overall theme is the relationship between conscious public policy and the economic, social, and political framework in which it operates and which it affects. To what extent are planning, design, and policy simply the resultant of social forces and to what degree do they shape those forces? Where do planners and policy makers derive their goals; what is the relationship between the goal-setting process, the quality of policy, and the character of cities and regions; what are the values that should govern practice; how can the planner enhance his or her control over social outputs, and, in turn, by what mechanisms should the public control him or her? Who benefits from urban and regional planning? What is the relationship between race and gender and urban outcomes?

Topics include the history of urban planning and its relationship with the history of urban development; a comparison of American, European, and developing country examples of urban interventions; modernism and post-modernism; Fordism and post-Fordism; development theory; cities and social inequality.

The course will be a mix of lecture and discussion. Written work consists of two papers and a final exam.

The course relies on a combination of paperback books and readings posted on the intranet classroom page for this course.

Required texts:

Scott Campbell and Susan S. Fainstein, *Readings in Planning Theory* ISBN# 0-631-22347-9 \$54.83

Peter Hall, *Cities of Tomorrow* ISBN# 0-631-23252-4 \$40.43

Books are available at the Coop. Remaining readings are on line through the GSD. Kennedy School students must register as guests to gain access. All books and the reader are also on reserve in Loeb Library.

## REQUIREMENTS

Written work consists of two papers, due at 5:00 PM on the date indicated, and a final exam. The final paper will be presented orally as well as in written form.

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Length (pgs.)</u>	<u>Due</u>	<u>Grading</u>
1. Assigned topic based on course readings	4-6	3/10	20%
2. Student-selected topic	10-12		35%
3. Class participation			10%
4. Final exam			35%

*The purpose of the papers is to develop analytical reasoning skills and to apply them to social processes. The focus of the first paper should be a critical analysis of arguments presented in the assigned readings. The second paper should use empirical investigation to address a theoretical question. The papers should have descriptive titles (e.g., “Is There a Public Interest?”—**not** “Paper # 1”). The introduction should lay out the issue in general; the middle should develop a detailed argument; the conclusion should sum up the analysis. The parts of the paper should be separated by headings that guide the reader. Citation form should follow the method used in most social science journals—see the *Journal of the American Planning Association* or the *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* for models.*

**WEEKLY PREPARATION IS ESSENTIAL.** Class participation is an important component of the final grade.

## CLASS SCHEDULE

The questions listed under each topic are intended to provide a guide for reading the texts and are useful as potential paper topics.

**I. February 3: Introduction—What are the issues?**

**II. February 10: Paradigm formation and acceptance**

**How do we validate a theory? Within what, if any, paradigms having planning and urban policy operated?**

Thomas Kuhn, *The Structure of Scientific Revolutions*, pp. 10-13 (top), 92-94, 109 (bottom)-110, 144-147 (top).

James C. Scott, Authoritarian high modernism, *Readings in Planning Theory (RiPT)*, pp. 125-41.

Frank Fischer, Risk assessment and environmental crisis: Toward an integration of science and participation, *RiPT*, pp. 418-434.

Patsy Healey, Collaborative planning in perspective, *Planning Theory*, 2 (2), July 2003, 101-24.

Susan S. Fainstein, New directions in planning theory, *RIPT*, pp. 173-95.

### III. February 17: Urban Development and the Roots of Planning

**What is the relationship between the character of the commercial/industrial city and the rise of planning?**

Lewis Mumford, *The City in History* (San Diego: Harcourt, 1989) pp. 299-314, 410-81.

David Harvey, *Paris: Capital of Modernity*, pp. 107-52.

### IV. February 24: Historical Ideals of Planning

**What were the aims of planning during the twentieth century? Does the concept of the public interest provide a useful normative criterion by which to evaluate urban programs? What are the issues raised for planning by the private ownership of property? February 24**

Robert Fishman, Urban utopias: Ebenezer Howard, Frank Lloyd Wright, and LeCorbusier, in Campbell and Fainstein, *RiPT*, pp. 21-60.

Peter Hall, *Cities of Tomorrow*, pp. 188-261.

Richard Foglesong, Planning the capitalist city in *RiPT*, pp. 102-7.

### V. March 3: Rationality

**What conceptions of rationality underlie policy and planning practice? Can planning achieve rational outcomes? What is the relationship between efficiency and justice? What should be the basis for evaluating the intent and outcomes of policy?**

C.E. Lindblom, The science of muddling through, *RIPT*, pp. 196-210.

John Friedmann, Toward a non-Euclidian mode of planning, *RIPT*, pp. 75-80.

John M. Levy, What local economic developers actually do: location quotients versus press releases, *RIPT*, pp. 262-74.

Bent Flyvbjerg, Rationality and power, *RIPT*, pp. 318-29.

## **VI. March 10: The Issue of Diversity**

**Should diversity be an aim of planning? What is the relationship between physical, economic, and cultural diversity? Does diversity breed tolerance or disrespect?**

Jane Jacobs, The Death and Life of Great American Cities in *RiPT*, pp. 61-74.

Iris Marion Young. City life and difference, *RIPT*, pp. 336-55.

Susan S. Fainstein, Cities and Diversity: Should we want it? Can we plan for it?  
*Urban Affairs Review*, 41 (1), 2005, 3-19.

Warwick Fox, ed., *Ethics and the Built Environment* New York: Routledge, 2000):

John Whitelegg, Building ethics into the built environment, pp. 31-43

Bob Fowles, Transformative architecture: a synthesis of ecological and participatory design, pp. 102-14

Paul Oliver, Ethics and vernacular architecture, pp. 115-26.

## **VII. March 17: Post-Modernity; Post-Fordism**

**Are we in a new epoch? What is the nature of the break that occurred in the mid-1970s? What are its implications for policy, planning, and politics?**

Robert A. Beauregard, Between modernity and postmodernity: the ambiguous position of U.S. planning, *RIPT*, pp. 108-24.

David Harvey, Social justice, postmodernism, and the city, in Fainstein and Campbell, *Readings in Urban Theory (RIUT)*, pp. 386-402.

Manuel Castells, End of Millennium. Oxford: Blackwell, 2000, pp. 366-91

Saskia Sassen, Cities in a world economy, 3<sup>rd</sup> edit. Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press, pp. 1-13, 32 (from heading)-36.

**March 24: Spring break.**

## **VIII. March 31: Planning in a Globalized World**

Evans, Peter. Political Strategies for more livable cities. In Peter Evans, ed. *Livable Cities?: Urban Struggles for Livelihood and Sustainability*. University of California Press, 2001, pp. 223-46.

Yiftachel, Oren. Re-engaging Planning Theory? Towards South-Eastern, Perspectives. *Planning Theory* (2006), 5, 3: 211-222.

Watson, Vanessa. The Usefulness of Normative Planning Theories in the Context of Sub-Saharan Africa. *Planning Theory*. (2002), 1(1): 27-52.

Shatkin, Gavin. Global cities of the South: Emerging perspectives on growth and inequality. *Cities* (2007), 24 (1):1-15.

## X. April 7: Race, Class, Gender

**How do urban form and governance reinforce or dissipate unequal social relations? What is the social character of a desirable city?**

Roger Lawson and William Julius Wilson. Poverty, social rights, and the quality of citizenship, *RIUT*, pp. 150-69.

Norman Fainstein, Race, class, and segregation: discourses about African Americans, *RIUT*, pp. 170-93.

Dolores Hayden, Nurturing home, mom, and apple pie, *RIPT*, pp. 376-400.

Susan S. Fainstein, Can we make the cities we want? In Robert A. Beauregard and Sophie Body-Gendrot, eds. *The Urban Moment*. Thousand Oaks: Sage, 1999, pp. 249-71. (R)

Leonie Sandercock, Towards cosmopolis: utopias as construction site, *RIPT*, pp. 401-7.

## XI. April 14: Advocacy, Equity, and Political Power

**In what ways can policy and planning be used for the benefit of deprived people? What political resources do poor and working-class people and minorities have which can permit them to influence governmental outcomes? How might these resources be enhanced? What is the role of planning in relationship to racial exclusion and integration? How do we balance equity, growth, and environmental protection?**

Introduction to Part V, *RIPT*, pp. 333-5.

Paul Davidoff, Advocacy and pluralism in planning, *RIPT*, pp. 210-23.

Norman Krumholz, Equitable approaches to local economic development, *RIPT*, pp. 224-236.

Scott Campbell, Green cities, growing cities, just cities? Urban planning and the contradictions of sustainable development. *RIPT*, pp. 435-58.

## XII April 21

**What is the relationship between democracy and justice? What are the key social divisions and how should they be addressed?**

Iris Marion Young, *Inclusion and Democracy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2000), pp. 1-57, 77-120, 154-275.

## XIII April 28—Final lecture

Susan S. Fainstein, Planning and the Just City. Forthcoming in *Searching for the Just City*. Peter Marcuse, James Connolly, Ingrid Olivo Magana, Johannes Novy, Cuz Potter, and Justin Steil (eds.). New York: Routledge, 2009.