

# *Environmental* DESIGN

architecture + landscape architecture + planning

## **Advanced Professional Planning Project**

MTWF 14:00 - 18:10, PF2140

**EVDP 644 F(0-8)**

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### **Introduction**

This course is an advanced studio exploring contemporary themes in planning and professional planning practice. It is centred on an existing community need; involves analysis, synthesis, and formulation of a planning and urban design solution; and culminates in a professional report and presentation.

Studio is the core-teaching model employed in this course. Students will work with faculty members to create innovative and strategic solutions. In this studio, the client and project are real, exposing students to the complexities of creating a project from expressed needs, developing a methodology to appropriately plan and scope the project and carrying out the work to arrive at a product that is agreed upon between the instructors, students and client. The product that results will reflect a detailed analysis and design exploration, and will have encouraged students to consider "best practices" in planning as well as innovative thinking.

The class will partner with the Community Association, the departments of Planning and Neighbourhood Services from the City of Calgary and the Federation of Calgary Communities. A series of public participation events will be included as well as stakeholder meetings and reviews.

### **Objectives**

- To develop an approach and methodology for understanding the challenges of evolving established neighbourhoods that are facing pressure for redevelopment
- To design and integrate a public participation process with the members of the community and stakeholders involved in the neighbourhood
- To propose and detail strategies and designs that provide a framework for land use, density and urban design in the neighbourhood
- To develop a comprehensive report that addresses with detailed concepts, guidelines and recommendation all the issues identified by the research and the public participation process

### **Teaching Approach**

The project will be completed in groups and individually. The course will consist of some lectures, tutorial and studio work. At the outset of the course, there will be a series of lectures to initiate the project process and establish the parameters. Students will develop a work plan that will direct individual research focused on addressing the issues and challenges presented by the project. The process of developing a methodology and work plan will be assisted by the teaching team.

Specific research methods will be introduced based on the needs identified by the project teams. Most of the skills required to complete this project have been developed in previous courses, any additional skills needed will be presented in a series of lectures and tutorials.

Reviews and presentations of the different work plan phases will be attended by the stakeholders involved, including the Community Associations and City of Calgary planning staff. Students are expected to attend all presentations and reviews.

## **Project: GRW Neighbourhood Design**

### **Project Site**

Glendale-Rosscarrock-Westgate, Calgary

### *Project Description*

This project deals with three neighbourhoods in Calgary's west that are in transition from their current condition and character. Glendale-Rosscarrock-Westgate (GRW) are three neighbourhoods established back in the 1950s when they were conceived as suburban auto-oriented communities. Currently they have been experiencing changes in demographics, infrastructure changes, redevelopment pressure and the communities have also identified the need for a retrofit strategy to improve the pedestrian environment.

In the next years, this area could undergo a significant transformation with additional development, the challenge will be to provide a comprehensive land use, urban design and development plan that takes into consideration the needs of the community, the new direction in the City's planning approach, and a supportive environment for developers. The final deliverable for this course will be a land use/urban design concept plan that addresses all the issues identified during the analysis process. The plan should be considered as a potential framework for a future Area Redevelopment Plan and should include strategies and guidelines for implementation.

The following challenges will be analyzed and addressed:

- GRW's character/identity that recognizes its heritage as well as its unique location
- Enhancing mobility and safe linkages for pedestrians within the community
- Guidelines for the appropriate redevelopment
- Assess options for enhancing the community open space system
- Assess impact and implementation guidelines for residential redevelopment
- Guidelines for redevelopment of the areas near Rapid Transit stations

### *Project Background*

The neighbourhoods of Glendale-Rosscarrock-Westgate are established communities in Calgary. They are bound by Bow Trail SW to the north, Sarcee Trail SW to the east, 37th Street SW to the west and 26th Avenue SW to the south. It is well located close to Edworthy Park and the Bow River to the north. These neighbourhoods are connected to the city centre by the LRT's Blue Line through the 45th Street station making it a desirable residential neighbourhood with a potential for an increase in density and mix of uses. The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) adopted by the City of Calgary's Council in 2009 advocates for a balance of future growth between developed and developing communities. Any new Area Redevelopment Plan should align with the policies and direction of the MDP, this project will address such requirements.

### *Project Stakeholders*

As part of the project approach, stakeholders will be consulted in different ways using focus groups, interviews, a workshop and an open house. The main stakeholders involved in this project include:

GRW community members (public at large)

Glendale Community Association

Rosscarrock Community Association

Westgate Community Association

## Skills

Students will gain skills in context analysis of the built and natural environment, community profiling and sociodemographic analysis, design of urban spaces, public participation processes and development of implementation strategies and policies. The project will require the use of skills previously acquired in other program courses and new research methods will be developed tailored to each project site.

## Evaluation

Evaluation will be based on six project landmarks. The work will be completed in groups. Students will receive a common grade for work done in groups, unless it is clear to the instructors the balance of work has been unfairly distributed between team members. Class participation is a key component of the grade for each deliverable and will be evaluated based on active participation on studio and group work. Any anticipated absence should be communicated to the teaching team as soon as possible.

Work plan	10%
Research and Analysis	20%
Physical Model	10%
Draft Concept	20%
Final Presentation	20%
Final Documents	20%
Total	100%

Each component of the course must be completed, and a passing grade (i.e. minimum B-) achieved, in order to pass the course as a whole. Students are expected to complete all course assignments on time.; grades will be deducted for work submitted later than the deadline specified in the assignment brief or as discussed in class. One grade will be deducted per late day for example an A will be downgraded to A-. There will be no final examination. A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded may request to have the paper re-graded. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. More information can be found in the Graduate Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/grad/current/gs-o.html>

## Grading Scale

Final grades will be reported as letter grades, with the final grade calculated according to the 4-point range.

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-Point Range	Percentage	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	95 - 100	Outstanding - evaluated by instructor
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90 - 94.99	Excellent - superior performance showing comprehensive understanding of the subject matter
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85 - 89.99	Very good performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80 - 84.99	Good performance

B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75 - 79.99	Satisfactory performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70 - 74.99	Minimum pass for students in the Faculty of Graduate Studies
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65 - 69.99	All final grades below B- are indicative of failure at the graduate level and cannot be counted toward Faculty of Graduate Studies course requirements.
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60 - 64.99	
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55 - 59.99	
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50 - 54.99	
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45 - 49.99	
F	0.00	0-0.49	0 - 44.99	

A student who receives a "C+" or lower in any one course will be required to withdraw regardless of their grade point average (GPA) unless the program recommends otherwise. If the program permits the student to retake a failed course, the second grade will replace the initial grade in the calculation of the GPA, and both grades will appear on the transcript.

## Readings

American Planning Association. Planning and Urban Design Standards. Wiley Graphic Standards, 2006

Barton, Grant, Guise. Shaping Neighbourhoods, for local health and global sustainability. Routledge, 2010

Bullivant, Lucy. Masterplanning Futures. Routledge, 2012

Dunham-Jones, Williamson. Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs. Wiley, 2008

Hutchison, Edward. Drawing for Landscape Architecture. Sketch to Screen to Site. Thames & Hudson 2011

Leung, Hok-Lin. Land Use Planning Made Plain. University of Toronto Press, 2003

Lukez, Paul. Suburban Transformations. Princeton Architectural Press, 2007

UK Housing Corporation. Urban Design Compendium (vol. 1 and 2) 2007

Wheeler, Stephen M. Planning for Sustainability. Creating livable, equitable and ecological communities. Routledge, 2013

Additional resources will be provided throughout the course.

## Special Budgetary Requirement

The \$150 supplemental fees for all studio courses is charged to cover workshop costs of use and maintenance of hand tools, assorted power tools, CNC routers, laser cutters, 3D printers, and robotics.

## Notes:

1. Written work, term assignments and other course related work may only be submitted by e-mail if prior permission to do so has been obtained from the course instructor. Submissions must come from an official University of Calgary (ucalgary) email account.
2. Academic Accommodations. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability,

should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the designated contact person in EVDS, Jennifer Taillefer ([jtaillef@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jtaillef@ucalgary.ca)). Students who require an accommodation unrelated to their coursework or the requirements for a graduate degree, based on a protected ground other than disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the Vice-Provost (Student Experience). For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit [www.ucalgary.ca/access/](http://www.ucalgary.ca/access/)

3. Plagiarism - Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:(a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test),(b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author,(c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or,(d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course(although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved. While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. It is recognized that clause (d) does not prevent a graduate student incorporating work previously done by him or her in a thesis. Any suspicion of plagiarism will be reported to the Dean, and dealt with as per the regulations in the University of Calgary Graduate Calendar.
4. Appeals: If a student has a concern about the course, academic matter, or a grade that they have been assigned, they must first communicate this concern with the instructor. If the concern cannot be resolved with the instructor, the student can proceed with an academic appeal, which normally begins with the Faculty: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds/appeals>
5. Information regarding the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip>)
6. Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>)
7. Safewalk information (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>)
8. Contact Info for: Student Union (<https://www.su.ucalgary.ca/contact/>); Graduate Student representative(<https://gsa.ucalgary.ca/about-the-gsa/gsa-executive-board/>) Student Union Wellness Centre: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>; Library Resources: <http://library.ucalgary.ca/> and Student Ombudsman's Office (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/>).