



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE,
PLANNING AND LANDSCAPE

Winter 2025

Land Acknowledgement: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-teachings/territorial-land-acknowledgement>

Course Number: DSGN 323

Course Name: The Future of the Global City

Classroom: [REDACTED]

Instructor: Dr. Joseli Macedo (she/her/hers), SAPL, Urban Planning

- *E-mail:* joseli.macedo@ucalgary.ca
- *Phone:* 403.220.8533
- *Office Hours and Location:* by appointment only (e-mail instructor or TAs to set a time).
- *Instructor Email Policy:* communications will occur through your @ucalgary e-mail, and instructor or TAs will respond as soon as possible. If it has been more than two working days, please don't hesitate to send a reminder in case the e-mail got lost along the way.

Teaching Team:

- Professor Teri Balser (she/her/hers); tcbalser@ucalgary.ca
- Paniz Mousavi Samimi (she/her/hers); paniz.mousavisamimi@ucalgary.ca

Class Dates: Mandatory in-class sessions; Tuesdays, Jan 14 - Apr 8, 9:30 am - 12:15 pm

Course Description:

This course explores the creation of sustainable, equitable, and prosperous cities that will be prepared for the challenges we face in an urban future. Innovation is essential in devising the future of cities, where most of the population on the planet already lives. This course investigates the challenges facing global cities over the next half century. Students learn to project the needs of urban populations within the spatial structure of cities. Given the transformations to cities that will result from climate change, and the structural changes affecting energy, mobility, and waste management, this course introduces students to theories

and practices of adaptation. Students will visualize and project scenarios through digital modeling and extrapolations from different visions of the future. Particular attention will be paid to possible futures for cities and the role of design in different scenarios, by reference to history and theory, sustainability, data science, technology, entrepreneurship, simulation and visualization.

The course relies on a range of methods for learning, from individual on-line work; to interactive classroom lectures, videos and discussion; to working in groups on future scenarios and design projects; to individual learning reflections.

Course instructors, teaching team, and guest speakers will support your learning throughout the semester, offering a range of perspectives. Class sessions will include lectures, videos, discussions, and regular work with your project teams. We will use real-world examples, and you will have the opportunity to apply your own experiences and interests. You are encouraged to engage with all aspects of the course—materials, speakers, instructors, teams—and explore how the ideas presented, and the future you design, can influence your time at the University of Calgary, and your professional career long after you graduate.

Academic Calendar description: <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/courses/1656131>

Course Hours: 3 units; (3-0)

Requisites: See [Section 3.3.5](#) of the Academic Calendar for more information regarding School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape courses.

- Prerequisite(s): DSGN223 and admission to the BDCI program.
- Co-requisite(s): none

Course Delivery:

- In-person delivery

Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Learn emergent factors influencing the future of global cities.
2. Analyze and critique determinants of development in future global cities.
3. Understand urban theories and practices of adaptation.
4. Project needs of future global cities as societies and economies change.
5. Formulate and simulate development scenarios for global cities in the future.
6. Offer respectful and thoughtful contribution to in-class and on-line dialogue.
7. Contribute effective membership as part of teams and in project work.
8. Practice meta-cognition and reflective capacity.

Learning Resources:

- Required readings, textbooks, and learning materials: the required textbook for this course is *The Future Embraced* by Kobus Mentz (2024), ISBN: 9798320917863, available through Amazon or your favourite local bookstore. This book is not available through University of Calgary bookstore.
 - Additional materials and resources will be outlined in the class schedule on D2L, and provided throughout the term.
- Technology requirements: to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students are required to have reliable access to the course website, using the following technology:
 - A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
 - A current and updated web browser;
 - Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled;
 - Broadband Internet connection.
 - [Student IT Resources](#)

Special Budgetary Requirements:

None

Additional Classroom Conduct and Related Information:

Code of Conduct: The SAPL Studio spaces and other SAPL/University-provided facilities and equipment are governed by the [University's Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy](#). Professional and courteous behavior is expected at all times. For more information, please refer to [Appendix 1: Prohibited Conduct](#), including the following categories: 1. Protection of Individuals; 2. Protection of Property; 3. Protection of University Functions, Activities and Services; 4. False Information and Identification; 5. Possession or Use of Dangerous Objects, Drugs or Alcohol; 6. Aiding in the Commission of an Offence; 7. Contravention of Other Laws and University Policies; and 8. Failure to Comply with a Sanction.

Communication with Instructor(s) Outside of Class Time: To communicate with the Instructor(s) and TA(s) outside of class time, please use your UCalgary email account (unless otherwise noted). Email is a widely used professional communication tool and professional language is required. Please ensure you check spelling, grammar, salutations, and other professional etiquette requirements for email communications. Also, specify the course name and section number in the subject line of all emails (e.g., DSGN 201, B01) so that Instructors have the information needed to respond more promptly and accurately. Please provide at least 2 business days for the Instructor(s) to reply. While email is most commonly used by students

to communicate with their instructors, it can sometimes limit the effectiveness of communication and may not be the best way for to answer all student questions. When replying, if the Instructor determines that communicating via email is not optimal, they may request a phone call or a virtual/in-person meeting.

Assessment Components:

The University policy on grading and related matters is described in [F.1](#) and [F.2](#) of the Academic Calendar. In determining the overall grade in the course the following weights will be used:

Assessment Method	Description / Date Due	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcome
Participation	Discussion forum (D2L) In-class meetings Weekly	20%	1-2-3-6-8
Learning reflections	Feb 11 (6%), Mar 18 (6%), Apr 14 (8%)	20%	3-4-5-8
First project	Future Scenarios Feb 4	20%	1-2-3-4-5
Second project	Urban Sustainability Goals 2050 Mar 11	20%	4-7-8
Third project	Ideal Future Global City Apr 8	20%	2-3-4-5-6-7

- Assessment and Evaluation Information:
 - Assignment descriptions, due dates, and other resources or materials can be found on D2L.
 - If a student misses (or is late for) a required component of the course for a valid excuse or absence, they must contact the instructor in writing within 24 hours to discuss applicable options to submit and/or make-up for that component.
 - Alternate arrangements for missed in-person assessments with a valid excuse will be made on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Instructor and upon review of the student's class participation and attendance record.
- Attendance and Participation Expectations:
 - Students are expected to attend and come prepared to meaningfully engage in all class sessions. This includes producing or preparing content necessary for discussion and contributing to individual and class-wide discussions and/or conversations/assessments with the Course Instructor.
 - **Excused Absences:** In the event of an exceptional circumstance (e.g., illness, bereavement, etc.) or an exceptional opportunity (e.g., varsity athletic competition, national conference or awards ceremony, pow wow, etc.) up to two excused absences are allowable per semester before jeopardizing one's own course grade and ability to

pass the course. However, any such arrangements must be approved by the Instructor with advance notice by the student.

- **Unexcused Absences:** Attendance at all class sessions and participation in all assessments is mandatory. Unexcused absences in excess of and one per semester are grounds for failure in the course.
- **Total Number of Absences:** The combined total number of excused AND unexcused absences per semester cannot exceed two per semester (for courses that meet once per week). Any number in excess are grounds for failure in the course.
- Guidelines for Submitting Assignments:
 - All assignments must be turned in on time.
 - Assignment submission guidelines vary by assignment and can be found in the assignment descriptions on D2L.
 - Please submit all assignments electronically through Dropbox in D2L. Assignments may be submitted in PDF format (unless otherwise stated).
 - Assignments must be submitted by 11:59pm on their due date. It is the student's responsibility to keep a copy of each submitted assignment and to ensure that the proper version is submitted.
 - Late assignments will lose a letter grade every 48 hours after the submission date/time. Late assignments submitted more than four days late constitute automatic failure.
 - Please let your instructors know immediately if you cannot meet the deadlines specified. You may be required to provide documentation to support your request.
- Final Examinations:
 - There is no final exam in this course.
- Expectations for writing:
 - Written assignments should be of an academic standard appropriate to university-level. If you need support with your academic writing, please seek out writing support here: <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/2c2d1ce47b8c4d008aec9cc3da49876e>
 - **Use of GenAI.** There may be times when generative is an appropriate and/or helpful tool in this class. Its use is not prohibited, but all students in DSGN 241 are expected to use GenAI ethically and responsibly. See below for more detail.
- Criteria that must be met to pass: A passing grade on all assignments is required to pass the course. If students do not complete or fail a required component of the course, this will be handled on a case-by-case basis.

Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade):

As per [Section 3.5.1](#) of the Academic Calendar, the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape will not permit the Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) for any course offered by the School, with the exception of the following courses: Architecture 201; Landscape Architecture 201; Planning 201.

Grading Scale:

Based on [Section F.1.1](#) of the Academic Calendar

Grade	Grade Point Value	4-point Range	Percent	Description
A+	4.00	4.00	100	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	4.00	93-99	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	88-92	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	83-87	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	79-82	Good performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	75-78	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	71-74	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	66-70	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	60-65	Approaching satisfactory performance. Minimum grade requirement for prerequisite courses.
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	55-59	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-54	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	0.00	0-0.49	0-44.99	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Topic Areas and Detailed Class Schedule:

WEEK	DATE	TOPIC*	ACTIVITY (in class)	READING**	ASSIGNMENT (D2L)
1	Jan 14	Course Introduction What is a city? When is the future? Cities of the future.	- Review Course Outline - Introduce course content - Project 1 introduction and team formation	Course outline (provided in D2L) Txt Ch.1	Complete week 1 entry survey (D2L) D2L introductions
2	Jan 21	Cities for Everyone (Guest)	- Movie discussion; views of the future - Team work	Txt Ch.2	- D2L discussion post
3	Jan 28	Sustainability and global (climate) change	- Team work	Txt Ch.3	- D2L discussion post
4	Feb 4	Global cities and cities of the future	- Team work and finalize Project 1	Txt Ch.4	Project 1 due - D2L discussion post
5	Feb 11	Urban challenges overview	- Project 2 introduction and team formation	Txt Ch.5	Project 1 Learning Reflection - D2L discussion post
6	Feb 18	READING WEEK/TERM BREAK			
7	Feb 25	Water and air	- Team work	Txt Ch.6	- D2L discussion post
8	Mar 4	Housing and demographics	- Team work	Txt Ch.7	- D2L discussion post
9	Mar 11	Food	- Team work and finalize Project 2	Txt Ch.8, pp.254-294	Project 2 due - D2L discussion post
10	Mar 18	Waste	- Project 3 introduction and team formation - Team work	Txt Ch.8, pp.295-334	Project 2 Learning Reflection - D2L discussion post
11	Mar 25	Energy & Transportation	- Team work	Txt Ch.9	- D2L discussion post
12	Apr 1	Governance & Policy	- Team work	Txt Ch.10	- D2L discussion post
13	Apr 8	Urban Sustainability Goals	- Team work and finalize Project 3	None	Project 3 due - D2L discussion post
Finals week	Apr 15	Final reflection	- No class	None	Project 3 / Final learning reflection due

* Topics may shift based on availability of guest speakers and their schedules.

** "Txt" denotes Textbook, followed by chapter to be read. *If there are any additional readings, they will be provided on D2L at least a week in advance of class. They are due as noted.*

University of Calgary Policies and Supports:

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY COVID-19 UPDATES AND PROCEDURES

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/covid-19-response/covidsafe-campus>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations>

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/sites/default/files/teams/1/Policies-Accommodation-for-Students-with-Disabilities-Procedure.pdf>

Students needing 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 (contact information on first page above).

[Student Accessibility Services](#) will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedures please visit:

- Student Academic Misconduct Policy: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>
- Student Academic Misconduct Procedure: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-procedure>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks, etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-non-academic-misconduct-policy>).

Notice to Students Regarding Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Applications and Tools in Learning Environments

Students may use generative AI tools throughout this course to enhance their learning in any course learning activities, assignments, and assessments. Students are responsible for citing and referencing all work generated by AI tools as outlined by the course instructor.

- **Guidelines/expectations:**

- Students may use AI tools for understanding course materials and producing assignments but must be accountable for their submissions.
- AI-generated content must be submitted as an appendix with the prompt used.
- Reflections on AI tool usage should be included in assignments.
- AI-generated content must be cited appropriately.

INSTRUCTOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF PRIVACY

Student information will be collected in accordance with typical (or usual) classroom practice. Students' assignments will be accessible only by the authorized course faculty. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary.

SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE POLICY

The University recognizes that all members of the University Community should be able to learn, work, teach and live in an environment where they are free from harassment, discrimination, and violence. The University of Calgary's Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Policy guides us in how we respond to incidents of sexual and/or gender-based violence, including supports available to those who have experienced or witnessed sexual/gender-based violence, or those who are alleged to have committed sexual/gender-based violence. It provides clear response procedures and timelines, defines complex concepts, and addresses incidents that occur off-campus in certain circumstances. Please see the policy available at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/sexual-and-gender-based-violence-policy>.

UNIVERSITY STUDENT APPEALS OFFICE

If a student has a concern about a grade that they have received, they should refer to Section I of the Undergraduate Calendar (<https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/uofcregs/university-regulations/reappraisal-term-work>) which describes how to have a grade reappraised.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Please visit the Registrar's website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines> for additional important information on the following:

- Wellness and Mental Health Resources
- Student Success
- Student Ombuds Office
- Student Union (SU) Information
- Graduate Students' Association (GSA) Information
- Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points
- Safewalk