



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

**Course Number:** PLAN 201

**Course Name:** Planning and the Future of Cities

**Classrooms:** [REDACTED]

**Instructor:** Natalie Robertson

- Email: [nsrobert@ucalgary.ca](mailto:nsrobert@ucalgary.ca)
- Office Hours and Location: Mondays, 3-5pm or by appointment; PF 3172

**Communication with Instructor(s) Outside of Class Time:**

- To communicate with the Instructor(s) outside of class time, please use your UCalgary email account. Email is a widely used professional communication tool. Please specify the course name and section number in the subject line of all emails (e.g., PLAN 201, Tut 01).
- Please ensure you check spelling, grammar, salutations, and other professional etiquette requirements for email communications. Instructors will not respond to emails that do not contain this information.
- Please provide at least two 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 to answer all student questions. When replying, if the Instructor determines that communicating via email is not optimal, they may request a virtual/in-person meeting.

**Teaching Assistants:**

- Ahmed Inzamam Chowdhury (Tut 01)  
Email: [ahmedinzamam.chowdhu@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ahmedinzamam.chowdhu@ucalgary.ca)
- Ayesha Zahid (Tut 02)  
Email: [ayesha.zahid1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ayesha.zahid1@ucalgary.ca)

**Class Dates:**

(in-person) Mondays and Wednesdays, Jan 13 – Apr 9, 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm

**Tutorial Dates:**

(in-person) Fridays, Jan 17 – Apr 11, 12:00pm – 12:50pm

## Course Description:

An introduction to city building through the lens of physical planning and urban design. The course examines the social, cultural, historical, technological, political, economic, and natural contexts in which city building occurs. Student will develop an understanding of the challenges facing the contemporary city and explore how cities can become an instrument for positive future change.

- Academic Calendar description: <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/courses/1652631>
- Course Hours: 3 units; (2-1T)

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

- Prerequisite(s): None

## Course Delivery:

- Classes are delivered in-person
- Attendance at Tutorials is mandatory

## Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course, students will:

1. Build a vocabulary to examine, describe, and analyze the urban environment.
2. Develop a transdisciplinary awareness of the complexities involved in urban design + development decision-making across different scales.
3. Critically consider different ways of thinking and viewing the built environment and urban design as a product and (re)producer of society.
4. Leverage new understanding and apply and contextualize acquired knowledge to address contemporary stressors and future issues.

## Learning Resources:

Required readings, textbooks, and learning materials:

- Textbook and/or readings will be provided in the course D2L site.

Technology requirements:

To successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students are required to have reliable access to digital technology, including broadband internet access. The following details provide a basic level of computing – please refer to the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape for additional information, including specialized software that may be relevant to given programs of study.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- A current web browser;
- Webcam (built-in or external);
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software;
- Microsoft Office software including Word, Excel and Powerpoint.
- Student IT Resources

### Special Budgetary Requirements:

There are no special budgetary requirements for PLAN 201.

### Additional Classroom Conduct and Related Information:

- **Code of Conduct:** 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.

### 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	Weight	Aligned Course Learning Outcome
A1. Spatial Analyses	In-class activities	10%	1, 3
A2. Research Report	Summary + Analysis	30%	1, 4
A3. Group Project	Collaboration + Report	35%	2, 3, 4
A4. Group Presentation	Sharing Group Project	15%	2, 3, 4
A5. Engagement	Lecture Summary + Tutorial Participation	10%	2, 3, 4

- Assessment and Evaluation Information:
  - Assessment in the course will be based on competency and completeness of assignments, including following requirements for deliverables, adhering to standards for graphics, and meeting quality of design, delineation and communication.
- 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 four excused absences (for courses that meet twice or more per week) and up to two excused absences (for courses that meet once per week) 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 two per semester (for courses that meet twice per week) and one per semester (for courses that meet once per week) are grounds for failure in the course.
- **Total Number of Absences:** The combined total number of excused AND unexcused absences per semester cannot exceed four per semester (for courses that meet twice per week) or 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 (e.g., projects, papers, presentations, etc.) must be turned in on time.
  - Please submit all assignments electronically through Dropbox in D2L.
  - Physical copies of assignments are submitted in-person during Tutorials.
  - Unless otherwise noted, assignments must be submitted in PDF format (scan/photos must be converted to PDF). Assignments should have a file name as follows:  
"Coursenumber\_semester\_LastnameFirstname\_assignment-title"  
(e.g., PLAN201\_W2025\_IsmailKaterina\_A1\_Plan-Drawings).
  - Assignments must be submitted electronically 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 24 hours after the submission date/time (A → B)
    - Assignments submitted more than five days late constitute automatic failure.
- Final Examinations: There is no Final Examination in PLAN 201
- Expectations for Writing:
  - <https://calendar.ucalgary.ca/pages/2c2d1ce47b8c4d008aec9cc3da49876e>
  - All written components of assignments must use proper grammar and correct spelling. Formatting requirements, as specified by the instructors, must be followed. Citations and references must be consistent and follow guidelines as noted by instructors.
- Criteria that must be met to pass: All assignments are required to be completed to successfully complete the course, though a passing grade on each individual assignment is not required. In cases where an assignment receives a failing grade, the instructor or TA may offer the opportunity to revise the assignment for reevaluation purposes.

## Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade):

As per [Section 3.5.1](#) of the Academic Calendar, the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape permits the Flexible Grade Option (CG Grade) for 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	95-100	Outstanding performance
A	4.00	3.85-4.00	90-94.99	Excellent performance
A-	3.70	3.50-3.84	85-89.99	Approaching excellent performance
B+	3.30	3.15-3.49	80-84.99	Exceeding good performance
B	3.00	2.85-3.14	75-79.99	Good performance
B-	2.70	2.50-2.84	70-74.99	Approaching good performance
C+	2.30	2.15-2.49	65-69.99	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	2.00	1.85-2.14	60-64.99	Satisfactory performance
C-	1.70	1.50-1.84	55-59.99	Approaching satisfactory performance. <b>Minimum grade requirement for prerequisite courses.</b>
D+	1.30	1.15-1.49	50-54.99	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
D	1.00	0.50-1.14	45-49.99	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:

The following is a topic outline, or general schedule, of our semester. It is subject to change in consideration of many dynamic factors, such as guest availability, emerging opportunities, need for content review & reinforcement, etc. Instructors will update the class over the term as any changes are required.

WEEK OF:	TOPIC	ACTIVITY	ASSESSMENTS + DUE DATES
(1) Jan 13	Introduction to Planning I	Guest Lecture (BDCI)	A5 Introduced
Tut:		Introduction	
(2) Jan 20	Introduction to Planning II		
Tut:		A1-A introduced; In-class activity	
(3) Jan 27	Introduction to Planning III		
Tut:		A1-B introduced; In-class activity	
(4) Feb 3	Planning Considerations I		
Tut:		A2 Introduced	A1-A+B Due (Feb 7)
(5) Feb 10	Planning Considerations II		
Tut:		In-class work	
Feb 17-21	Reading Week, no classes		
(6) Feb 24	Planning Considerations III		
Tut:		A3 Introduced	A2 Due (Feb 28)
(7) Mar 3	Planning Considerations IV		
Tut:		In-class work	
(8) Mar 10	Contemporary Issues I		
Tut:		A4 Introduced	
(9) Mar 17	Contemporary Issues II		
Tut:		In-class work	
(10) Mar 24	Contemporary Issues III	Guest Lecture	
Tut:		In-class discussion	A3 Due (Mar 28)
(11) Mar 31	Future Cities I	Guest Lecture	A4 Due (Apr 3)
Tut:		A4 (Presentations)	
(12) Apr 7	Future Cities II		
Tut:		A4 (Presentations)	A5 Due (Apr 11)

## Scheduled Out-of-Class Activities:

There are no out-of-class activities for this class

## 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/](http://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

**Some Use Permitted:** Students may use generative AI tools in this course in accordance with the instructions and guidelines outlined for each course assignment or assessment. The use of generative AI tools must be referenced and cited following citation instructions outlined by the course instructor. Use of generative AI outside assessment or assignment guidelines or without citation will constitute academic misconduct. It is the student's responsibility to be clear on the limitations on the use of generative AI tools for each assessment or assessment, on the expectations for citation and referencing, and on fact checking statements created by generative AI tools. If you are in doubt as to the use of generative AI tools in this course, please discuss your situation with the course instructor.

- AI tools are prohibited for tests, major assignments, or research papers but allowed for information gathering.
- AI tools can be used for learning course material but not for completing assignments.
- The use of AI tools for assignments may be considered an academic offense.
- Students must not copy or paraphrase from AI applications for assignments.

The use of generative AI, including the use of work created by generative AI tools and applications in course assignments and assessments may be considered in accordance with the university's academic misconduct policy. <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy> If you are in doubt as to the use of generative AI tools in this course, please discuss your situation with the course instructor.

## 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