

Department of Planning, Policy, and Design
University of California, Irvine

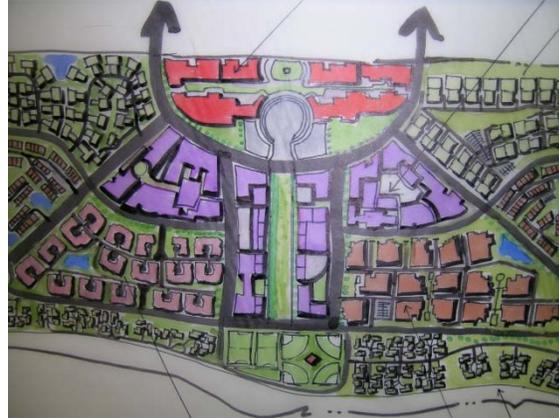
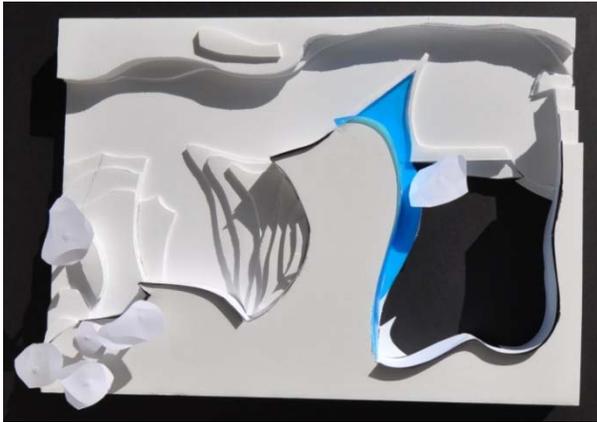
U282 URBAN DESIGN STUDIO FOR PLANNERS: AN INTRODUCTION
Spring 2013, Mondays 2:00-4:50 PM, SBSG 3260

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STUDENT PROJECTS

INTRODUCTION

This course is organized as an introductory urban design studio for planning students. In this course, you will work on a variety of design projects to learn practical aspects of urban design. Lectures cannot serve the objectives of such a course, hence, we will regularly have studio consultation with individual students, class discussions, student presentations, and critiques of your assignments to guide you. The course is organized around several assignments to encourage learning by design. You need not have graphic communication skills at the beginning of the course but you will need to learn basic drawing skills fairly quickly to complete the assignments. Students best learn the subject matter of this course by working on design projects, by completing the drawings/readings in advance of the class, and by participating in class discussions. The assigned textbooks provide important background information for studio discussions and for making drawings for design projects. We will not cover these in the class. Please see the Course Schedule and Assigned Readings for details. Class discussions may include additional relevant materials as and when appropriate. It is expected that, by the end of the term, students will develop a better understanding of urban design and planning of built environment.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS, DUE DATES, AND GRADING PROCEDURES

Attendance in all classes and field trips, and timely submission of all assignments is mandatory. All drawings and scale-models should be submitted in original. All written assignments should be

clearly written, well-organized, and edited for spellings, style, and grammar. For the written part of the assignments (essay, project report, etc.) students must submit a plain paper copy; electronic submissions will not be accepted.

There are no exams. There will be a total of 4 assignments for this course. All assignments are due at the beginning of the class on the due dates. Any assignment not submitted in the class on the due date will be considered late. A 10% deduction of received points may apply per day to discourage late submissions. I may consider late submissions due to valid reasons and you will need to submit doctor's note for any medical reasons. Any assignment not received by the last day of class will not be considered for final grade calculation.

The final grade will be based on total percent points received for this course and will be calculated using the grade conversion table included below. Assignments will be weighted according to the following distribution:

Assignment 1	10%	Graphic representation and drawings
Assignment 2	5%	Comparing urban design quality: two "public plazas"
Assignment 3	30%	Campus Plaza design
Assignment 4	55%	Playa Vista neighborhood design and form-based codes
Total	100%	

Grade Conversion Table

100 Points Scale and Corresponding Letter Grade

A+ = 98.00	A = 95.00	A- = 92.00	B+ = 88.00
B = 85.00	B- = 82.00	C+ = 78.00	C = 75.00
C- = 72	D+ = 68.00	D = 65	D- = 62
F = 61			

Team Work

In this course, you may be required to work in teams for completing an assignment. Since some students may put more effort than others, you will have the option of grading your team members at the end of the quarter. I may consider your feedback when preparing the final grades.

Academic Integrity and University Policy on Plagiarism

Acts of dishonesty in any academic work constitutes academic misconduct. You should familiarize yourself with university policies concerning academic integrity. I will follow the university policies in the event of academic misconduct.

ASSIGNMENTS

You will need to quickly learn drawing and graphic communication techniques to complete these assignments. Please note that design projects (Assignments 3 and 4) have different parts and require preliminary proposals in the form of completed drawings and sketches. These preliminary proposals should be revised, based on feedback from the instructor, and must be resubmitted for final evaluation.

A general outline of the assignments is given below. I will provide more information and related details about some of these assignments in class.

Assignment 1: Drawing and graphic presentation skills

Submission Requirements: Plan and section drawings [Total 10 points]

For this assignment, you will prepare basic drawings including at least one plan and one section (to a scale 1" = 2' 0") of the steps area between building 215 (Social Ecology II) and building 221 (Graduate School of Management) on the UCI campus. Your drawing should include all the steps, sidewalls, profile of adjacent buildings, trees, shrubs, etc., in area. If you submit more than just one plan and one section, I will consider the additional drawings and freehand sketches for a total of 2 bonus points. Please be advised that the drawings and graphic communication skills developed in this assignment are very important for completing other assignments in this course.

Assignment 2: Comparing urban design quality: two "public spaces"

Submission Requirements: Two PowerPoint slides comparing two public spaces [Total 5 points]

For this assignment, you will identify two (proposed or built) public plazas and compare the main design elements, strengths and weaknesses of urban design concepts and physical design elements, and evaluate the overall quality of each of these public spaces on a scale of 0 to 10. You will need to present this assignment in-class using only two PowerPoint slides. These two PowerPoint slides should include all the pictures, text, and graphic material for this assignment. You are required to submit an electronic copy of the PowerPoint presentation for a grade for this assignment.

Assignment 3: Campus Plaza design

Submission Requirements: Drawings and a scale-model [Total 30 points]

You will redesign a parking lot on the UCI campus into a public plaza for this assignment. You will propose a design for the plaza that adds to the functional, aesthetic, and symbolic quality of open spaces on the campus. You will be required to draw at least one plan and make a scale-model of your proposed design for the plaza (scale 1" = 10' 0"). You may include additional drawings such as elevations and sections as well as sketches and photographs to further explain your proposal. You will make a brief presentation in class discussing your final proposal. Your proposal will be reviewed and critiques by others in class. I may invite a guest critic to review your proposals and provide you with feedback.

Assignment 4: Redesign Playa Vista

Submission Requirements: Two one-acre block models, form-based codes, and a site plan of the 150-acre project area [Total 55 points]

For this assignment, you will redesign a part of the Playa Vista project area in Marina Del Rey in Los Angeles area. The City of Los Angeles has decided to promote a higher-density, walkable neighborhood that incorporates mixed-use design on the project site. Although the Playa Vista project is currently being developed on a site of approximately 1087 acres, your proposal will primarily focus on a smaller area covering only ~150 acres of the project site. You will first make a conceptual plan drawing showing different land uses in your project area and then construct two scale-models (scale 1" = 20' 0") of two different "one-acre blocks" that are designed with different densities (first block should be ~20 units/acre, second should be ~40 units/acre) [5 points for each block model]. These one-acre blocks may be integrated in your proposed plan of the 150-acre site.

Next, you will develop form-based codes for your 150-acre site (at least two plan drawings showing location of buildings, setbacks, and property lines, and two section drawings showing configuration of streets, and buildings on both sides of the street) [five points each, total 20 points]. Lastly, you will prepare a final proposal for the 150 acres of the 1087-acre project site, and draw a site plan of your 150-acre area to scale (1" = 200' 0") [25 points].

REQUIRED TEXTS

Wang, Thomas C. 1996 (Second Edition). *Plan and Section Drawing*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE TEXT

American Planning Association. 2006. *Planning and urban design standards*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Katz, Peter. 1994. *The New Urbanism: Toward an Architecture of Community*. New York: McGraw-Hill.

Lynch, Kevin and Gary Hack. 2000. *Site Planning*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Urban Design Associates (UDA). 2003. *The Urban Design Handbook: Techniques and Working Methods*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND ASSIGNED READINGS*

Wk	Date	Activity/Assignments	Readings
1	April 1	Introduction, Course Overview Assignment 1, 2 discussed	No readings
2	April 8	Assignment 1 due Assignment 3 distributed, discussed in class Instructor presentation: public plaza design	Wang (Chapter 1-3)
3	April 15	Assignment 2 due Student presentations of assignment 2 Studio discussion on Assignment 3	Wang (Chapter 4-5)
4	April 22	Assignment 3 conceptual plan drawings due, Studio consultation on Assignment 3 Discussion: WTC memorial competition	Wang (Chapter 6-8);
5	April 29	Assignment 3 working model and plan due Studio consultation on Assignment 3	Wang (Chapter 9-10); UDA (Chapter 2, 4)
6	May 6	Assignment 3 final proposal due: All drawings and models due Final review of assignment 3 and critique Assignment 4 distributed, discussed	Lynch and Hack (Chapters 1-3); Katz (pp. 1-116) UDA (Chapter 5)
7	May 13	Studio consultation on Assignment 4 Conceptual site plan of Playa Vista due (plan of ~150-acre project area) Discussion: Housing types and densities	Lynch and Hack (Chapters 4-6); UDA (Chapter 3, 6) Katz (pp. 1-116)
8	May 20	First one-acre block model due Video: Sacred Ground Students work on ~150-acre site plan, studio consultation on Assignment 4	Lynch and Hack (Chapters 7-9); Katz (pp. 117-220); Review APA Urban Design Standards for Assignment 4
9	May 27	Second one-acre block model and form-based code drawings due Students work on 150-acre site plan, studio consultation on Assignment 4	Lynch and Hack (Chapters 10-12); Review APA Urban Design Standards for Assignment 4
10	June 3	Assignment 4 final proposal due (bring both one-acre block models, form-based codes drawings, and the 150-acre site plan to class for final review and critique) Final review of all parts of Assignment 4 and critique	Any assignment not received by the beginning of this class will not be considered for final grade

* Please note that this schedule of classes, assignment due dates, and course content are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.