

# GGR 217 | Urban Landscapes and Planning

Summer 2020



Aerial view of Paris, France, centered on the Arc de Triomphe, Collier's New Encyclopedia, 1921, v. 4, frontispiece. Accessed through wikimedia commons.

## **Class time:**

Mondays & Wednesdays, 2:00pm-4:00pm

Lecture online\* (BB Collaborate - Access through Quercus)

\*Lectures will be synchronous and recordings of lectures posted on Quercus afterwards.

## **Instructor:**

Diala Lteif

Office: Sid Smith SS5017 (100 St George Street)

Office hours\*\*: Tuesdays 2:00-4:00pm

Email: [diala.lteif@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:diala.lteif@mail.utoronto.ca)

## **Teaching Assistants:**

Laysa Abchiche Lima

Office hours\*\*: Thursday 3-4pm

Email: [laysa.abchiche.lima@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:laysa.abchiche.lima@mail.utoronto.ca)

Nathan Stewart

Office hours\*\*: Thursday 2-3pm

Email: [nathan.stewart@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:nathan.stewart@mail.utoronto.ca)

\*\* Office hours will be held as an open room on BB Collaborate, you are strongly encouraged to sign-up beforehand on any given week.

## COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course considers the role of planning in shaping the urban landscape through historical and contemporary examples that illustrate the interplay of modernist and post-modernist approaches to city building. The course content traces the origins, competing rationalities and lingering effects of planning in the production of urban space. We conclude on possibilities for engaging planning critically to address challenges of social justice in cities today.

## COURSE GOALS

The course is designed with four main goals in mind:

- Spark your interest in planning as a profession and an area of critical inquiry;
- Learn key concepts of urban change and understand important planning paradigms;
- Develop your ability to critically evaluate these different planning approaches;
- Develop your understanding of how planning shapes the urban landscape and by extension society and the world.

## SCHEDULE AND READINGS

MAY 4 INTRODUCTION

MAY 6 HAUSSMANNIZATION

- Engels, F. (2011). The great towns. In R. T. LeGates & F. Stout (Eds.), *The city reader* (5th ed., pp. 46–54). Routledge.
- Kostof, S. (1992). Haussmanization. In *The city assembled: The elements of urban form through history* (1st North American ed, pp. 267–273). Little, Brown.

MAY 11 UTOPIAN CITY

- Fishman, Robert. (2016). Urban utopias in the twentieth century: Ebenezer Howard, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Le Corbusier. In S. S. Fainstein & J. DeFilippis (Eds.), *Readings in planning theory* (4th Ed., pp. 23–34). Wiley-Blackwell.

MAY 13 COLONIAL EXPANSION

- Wright, G. (1987). Tradition in the service of modernity: Architecture and urbanism in French colonial policy, 1900-1930. *The Journal of Modern History*, 59(2), 291–316.  
<https://www-jstor-org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/stable/1879728>

- MAY 18 VICTORIA DAY - No Lecture  
 Make up session : instead of a make-up lecture, you will watch these two short documentary on YouTube:
- Dodson, D. W. (1957). *Crisis in Levittown, PA | Segregation and racial conflict in suburbicon* [Documentary].  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXQQ9o3R-Rc&t=0s>
  - Rushing, J. (2012). *For sale: The American dream | Fault lines* [Documentary]. Al Jazeera. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S3rzN42HE00&t=1476s>
- Note: Both documentaries will be assigned one pop-quiz and will be required for the week of May 18's reading response. Both assignments will need to be submitted by Sunday May 24th, 2020.
- MAY 20 SUBURBANISM
- Hayden, D. (2009). Sitcom suburbs. In *Building suburbia: Green fields and urban growth, 1820-2000* (pp. 128–153). Vintage Books.
- MAY 25 POSTMODERNISM
- Relph, E. C. (1987). Post-modernism in planning and architecture. In *The modern urban landscape: 1880 to the present* (2nd ed., pp. 211–237). Routledge.
- MAY 27 NEOLIBERALISM AND PLANNING
- Hackworth, J. (2007). The place, time and process of neoliberal urbanism. In *The neoliberal city: Governance, ideology, and development in American urbanism* (pp. 1–14). Cornell University Press.
  - Goonewardena, K. (2007). Planning and neoliberalism: The challenge for radical planners. *Planners Network, Summer*, online.  
<https://www.plannersnetwork.org/2007/07/planning-and-neoliberalism-the-c-hallenge-for-radical-planners/>
- JUNE 1 URBAN ACTIVISM
- Scott, J. C. (1998). The high-modernist city: An experiment and a critique. In *Seeing like a state* (pp. 132–146). Yale University Press.
  - Jacobs, J. (2011). The uses of sidewalks: Safety. In R. T. LeGates & F. Stout (Eds.), *The city reader* (5th ed., pp. 105–109). Routledge.
- JUNE 3 PLANNING FOR INFORMALITY
- Roy, A. (2005). Urban Informality: Toward an epistemology of planning. *Journal of the American Planning Association; Chicago*, 71(2), 147–158.  
<http://dx.doi.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/10.1080/01944360508976689>
- JUNE 8 INSURGENT PLANNING

- Miraftab, F. (2016). Insurgent planning. In S. S. Fainstein & J. DeFilippis (Eds.), *Readings in planning theory* (4th ed., pp. 480–498). Wiley-Blackwell.

#### JUNE 10 JUST CITY AND RIGHT TO THE CITY

- Fainstein, S. S. (2016). Spatial justice and planning. In S. S. Fainstein & J. DeFilippis (Eds.), *Readings in planning theory* (4th ed., pp. 258-272). Wiley-Blackwell.
- Marcuse, P. (2009). Postscript: Beyond the Just City to the Right to the City. In P. Marcuse, J. Connolly, J. Novy, I. Olivo, C. Potter, & J. Steil (Eds.), *Searching for the Just City: Debates in urban theory and practice* (pp. 240–254). Routledge.

#### JUNE 15 FINAL ASSESSMENT PREPARATION

- No readings.

## EVALUATION

### Overview

EXERCISE	FREQUENCY	SINGLE GRADE	TOTAL
Lecture pop-quiz	10	1%	10%
Lecture discussion	1	4%	4%
Reading response	3	17%	51%
Final Assessment	1	35%	35%

### Lecture pop-quiz

These short multiple answer quizzes will be made available directly after each lecture. They are meant to quickly verify that you attended and grasped the key concepts presented during the lecture. We have 11 lectures scheduled this semester, one of which is a movie (not counting the last lecture which will serve as final assessment preparation and revision and therefore won't have an associated pop-quiz). After each lecture, I will post in the quiz section of the course Quercus page the relative pop-quiz. On any given week, you will need to take both quizzes (associated with the M-W lectures) by Sunday 11pm; although I strongly encourage you to take each quiz right after each lecture, as the information will still be fresh in your mind! Since there will be 11 pop-quizzes, you may choose to skip one, or take all 11 and only your best 10 grades will be accounted for in your total grade.

Marking: Each question has multiple answers to choose from. You will receive a full mark if all your answers are correct, and half-mark if one or more answers are incorrect.

### **Lecture discussion**

You will be assigned one lecture discussion this semester. This discussion will be hosted on BB Collaborate after each lecture and will include groups of 8-10 people each. Each session will be between 20 to 30 min. They are a time for us to get to know each other better and discuss more thoroughly any questions you might have about the lecture or the course in general. You will be encouraged to have your microphone and camera on during that time. You will be graded on your level of active participation during these sessions.

Note: Please check the list posted on Quercus to figure out which dates you were assigned. If your assigned session creates a conflict for you, please contact your TA immediately and they will do their best to reassign you.

### **Reading Response**

Each week on Wednesday, I will post a new detailed assignment regarding your reading response no later than 6pm. These are meant to be short essays (approximately 500 words) during which you reflect on the readings and lectures from a given week. A good reading response will connect content from both lectures and readings assigned during that week. You will be required to post your response to Quercus no later than 11pm on the following Sunday. You may choose which three weeks (out of six in total) you would like to submit your reading response.

Note: For those who wish to improve their grade, you are allowed to submit four reading responses and only the three best grades will be calculated into your total grade.

### **Final Assessment**

The final assessment will be scheduled during the final assessment period (June 17 - 25, 2020) and will be posted on Quercus. The format, length and mode of administration of the exam will be discussed during lectures, where you will get a chance to vote on your preferred options!

## **COURSE STRUCTURE**

### **Lectures**

This is an online hybrid course. Lectures will be delivered live twice a week (M-W 2-4pm) via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra (accessible through the course Quercus) with the last portion of each session dedicated for a group discussion (refer to the 'Lecture discussion' section for more information about this portion).

The course website can be found on Quercus at <https://q.utoronto.ca/>. From the Dashboard tab, navigate to GGR217H1-F. All course information can be found here, including the link to BB Collaborate, syllabus, quizzes, assignment guidelines, and important announcements.

All students are *strongly* encouraged to attend lectures during the designated class time, as important announcements and information about the course content, assignments and final exams are discussed during that time. This is also an opportunity to communicate directly with me and build some interpersonal connections despite the virtual nature of this course.

Recordings of the lectures only (not the discussion) will be made available afterwards for those unable to attend during class time. The recordings will be posted on Quercus by 8pm on the same day.

Note: please note that if you wish to dial into the lecture via phone (through regular call) your carrier may charge you fees.

### **Office hours**

Nathan, Laysa and I will hold office hours via BB Collaborate in an open room format. Refer to the top of the syllabus for days and times they will be held. We strongly encourage you to make good use of these virtual office hours, as these are rare opportunities in a virtual course to connect directly.

#### *Which office hours to attend:*

Attend office hours with your TA when:

You have questions or would like to discuss an assignment, extension, deadline and anything relevant to your course submissions with your TA. Make sure to attend the office hour of your assigned TA (Laysa or Nathan). Please consult the groups tab on Quercus to determine which TA you were assigned.

Attend office hours with your instructor when:

You have questions about course content, lectures, reading, accessibility needs, and any sensitive information you deem important for your successful completion of the course.

#### *Booking an office hours appointment*

We encourage you to reserve a slot during office hours by using the calendar feature on Quercus. To reserve a slot, simply go to the 'calendar' tab on Quercus and in the right hand panel click on 'find appointment'. This will allow you to select a 10min slot with either of the TAs and/or a 15min slot with me.

### **Announcements**

Please be sure to check your University of Toronto email regularly and attend lectures to keep apprised of course updates. Important announcements will also be posted on Quercus under the announcement tab.

### **Lecture discussions**

The last portion of every lecture will be dedicated to a discussion about the lecture and the readings with a group of 8-10 students. This will be a time for me to get to know you a bit more and create a time for more personal connections during this time of social isolation.

Students will be assigned a lecture discussion group number, also known as the LD number. You are to attend *one* mandatory lecture discussion group this semester. If students wish to attend more discussion sessions, or if their assigned dates create a conflict, please email Laysa directly for a re-assignment.

Please note that, if needed, two alternative meeting times will be announced to accommodate students presently based in a different time zone.

Your participation in the lecture discussion group will serve as your participation grade for the semester, as indicated in the evaluation breakdown.

### **BB collaborate**

During the lecture portion of class on BB collaborate you will not be required to have your camera or microphone on. Participation will be through the chat panel, interactive polls and hand raising.

During the lecture discussion section, you will be encouraged to turn both your camera and microphone on to facilitate live discussion and interacting with each other.

## **COURSE INFORMATION**

### **Email**

The instructor and TAs will **only** respond to emails sent from a University of Toronto account and that have "GGR 217" in the subject line.

*Who to address your email question to:*

Email your TA when:

You have questions about assignments, extensions, deadlines, lecture discussion/tutorial groups and anything relevant to your course submissions to your TA directly (Laysa or Nathan). Please consult the groups tab on Quercus to determine which TA you were assigned.

Email your instructor when:

You have questions about course content, lectures, reading, accessibility needs, and any sensitive information you deem important for your successful completion of the course.

Please do not expect an immediate response. We will do our best to respond to emails within 1-2 days working days. Please do not ask questions over email that require a long response,

these should be reserved for office hours with your TA or myself. If you do not receive an answer to your email within 48h, please check Quercus announcements or the course syllabus, as the answer you are looking for might have been posted there.

### **Course Readings**

There is no required textbook for this course. Course readings will be made available electronically through Quercus under the 'Library Course Reserves' tab. All readings will be available to download in PDF format.

### **Assignment Submissions**

Assignments must be submitted through Quercus by 11pm on the due date. We recommend submitting in PDF, word, or equivalent format.

All assignments must be submitted through Quercus via the Assignments tab. No paper copies are necessary. Student grades will also be posted on Quercus throughout the semester as well as final course grades at the end of the term.

### **Late Assignments and Extensions**

It is important you submit assignments on-time, especially during the shorter summer semester. The late penalty is 5% per day (including weekend days) except when an extension is allowed. Assignments submitted more than 7 days late will not be accepted.

If you need an extension please contact beforehand your TA directly.

### **Re-grading Requests**

You can request a re-assessment of your grade a day after the assignment was posted on Quercus and for the next seven days. In other words, you must wait 24hrs between receiving the feedback and grade for your assignment before requesting a re-mark, but you cannot wait more than one weeks after that to do so. After you've carefully read the feedback you've received, draft a short rationale explaining why you believe you deserve a better mark. Send your request along with the graded assignment directly to your TA. Your TA may request to see you during their office hours to discuss further.

Please note: your mark may go up, stay the same or go down.

### **Accessibility Needs**

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible:  
[accessibility.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:accessibility.services@utoronto.ca)

### **Academic integrity**

Plagiarism is an academic offense at the University of Toronto. Plagiarism is quoting (or paraphrasing) the work of an author (including the work of fellow students) without proper use of citation. Quotation marks are required when using an author's words. Students also should



not be submitting any academic work for which credit has previously been obtained or is being sought, without first discussing with the instructor.

Please consult the “Rules and Regulations” section of the Arts and Science Calendar <https://fas.calendar.utoronto.ca/rules-regulations#marks> for further information and check the ‘How not to plagiarize’ website at:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/how-not-to-plagiarize>.

### **Equity and Academic Rights Information**

The University of Toronto is committed to equity and respect for diversity. All members of the learning environment in this course should strive to create an atmosphere of mutual respect. As a course instructor, I will neither condone nor tolerate behaviour that undermines the dignity or self-esteem of any individual in this course and wish to be alerted to any attempt to create an intimidating or hostile environment. It is our collective responsibility to create a space that is inclusive and welcomes discussion. Discrimination, harassment and hate speech will not be tolerated. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns you may contact the Equity & Diversity Office.

### **Religious Observance**

It is the policy of the University of Toronto to arrange reasonable accommodation of the needs of students who observe religious holy days other than those already accommodated by ordinary scheduling and statutory holidays. Students who require such accommodation should contact the TAs or myself in a timely fashion to upcoming religious observances and anticipated absences. We will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, examinations, or other compulsory activities at these times. You can find more information about UofT’s policy in that regards here:

<https://www.viceprovoststudents.utoronto.ca/policies-guidelines/accommodation-religious/>

### **Academic Resources**

- The Writing Centre (<https://writing.utoronto.ca/news/writing-centre-summer-openings/>)
- English Language Support (<http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca/current/advising/ell>)
- Academic Success Center (<http://www.asc.utoronto.ca/>)

### **Technical Resources**

- Quercus Support Resources: [uoft.me/qresources](https://uoft.me/qresources)
- Quercus general support ([q.help@utoronto.ca](mailto:q.help@utoronto.ca))
- Another channel for support: if you're experiencing technical difficulties using Quercus (Canvas) or Blackboard Collaborate Ultra, please contact our Support Team via [elarning@utoronto.ca](mailto:elarning@utoronto.ca) or 416-978-3880.