

SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

SYLLABUS

Urban and Regional Planning 136/225: Land Use and Urban Planning

Fall, 2010

Section: 01
Day: Monday
Time: 7:15 – 10 p.m.
Room: Engineering (ENG) Room 338

Instructor: John Davidson
Telephone: 408/535-7895
Email: urbp225.davidson@gmail.com
Office: WSQ 218
Office Hours: Mondays 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- Study the methods and tools by which local, state, and federal governments control the use of land
- Examine contemporary growth and land use management techniques.

COURSE METHODS

Through lecture, discussion, field activities, and assignments, the class will examine fundamental land use controls (i.e., General Plans and Zoning) as well as contemporary growth and land use management techniques (i.e., Specific Plans, development policies, guidelines, interjurisdictional agreements, etc.). The class will discuss urban design and urban environments to inform the discussion of the land use policy framework. The class will pay particular attention to land use decision-making as a discretionary process, and will delve into the interaction between discretionary processes and environmental review.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- Students are required to attend all sessions.
- Students should come to class well-prepared to participate in discussions, answer questions regarding the assigned material, and ask questions to encourage critical thinking.
- Students shall adhere to San Jose State's Academic Integrity Policy, which can be found at http://sa.sjsu.edu/student_conduct.
- Students must complete all assignments, including field work, on time.
- All written work should be well-organized, thorough, thoughtful, and free from grammatical and typographical errors.
- All presentations should be well-organized, demonstrating clear thinking and communication techniques.
- If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, please contact me. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with DRC to establish a record of their disability.

REQUIRED TEXTS

William Fulton (2005). *Guide to California Planning, Third Edition*. Solano Press.

City of San Jose (2005). *Planning in San Jose: A Community Guide*.

Selected articles and other materials to be distributed in class.

REFERENCE TEXTS

City of San Jose (2009). *San Jose 2020 General Plan*.

City of San Jose (2010). *Zoning Ordinance*.

Cecily T. Talbert (2010). *Curtin's California Land Use and Planning Law*. Solano Press.

Gary Hack, Eugenie L. Birch, Paul H. Sedway, Mitchell J. Silver, editors (2009). *Local Planning: Contemporary Principles and Practice*. ICMA.

State of California, Office of Planning and Research. (2010). *CEQA: The California Environmental Quality Act – Statutes and Guidelines*. Available on-line at:
<http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/>

KEY COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

1. All Students, Working Individually: Document and describe development patterns in San Jose over time by investigating a major thoroughfare (details to be provided in class).
2. All Students, Working Individually: Collect at least five related planning articles, columns, and/or editorials published in the print media, and complete required paper (undergraduate and graduate student requirements different; details to be provided in class).
3. All Students, Working Individually: Attend a local Planning Commission and/or City Council meeting regarding land use matters and complete required paper (undergraduate and graduate student requirements different; details to be provided in class).
4. All Students, Working Individually: Review a development proposal (plan set and associated materials) for conformance with a City's General Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and adopted policies (undergraduate and graduate student requirements different; details to be provided in class).
5. Final Examination, working both in teams and individually: Working in teams, evaluate a development proposal. As individuals, write an analysis of the development proposal, and the proposal's conformance with relevant ordinances. The following week, as a team, present the group's analysis of the project.

COURSE GRADE

Individual Written Work: 60%
 Final (presentation and write-up): 20%
 Class Attendance and Participation: 20%
 (including in-class assignments)

Assignments less than 48 hours late will be accepted with a three-grade penalty; assignments later than 48 hours late will not be accepted.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Assignments and Required Reading
August 30	Course Overview: - What is land use planning? - Why plan? - Issues and trends in California land use planning	None
September 6	Labor Day – No Class	
September 13	Video: <i>The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces</i> Discussion: Urban Design in Downtown and at SJSU	<i>Planning in San Jose: A Community Guide</i>
September 20	Walking Tour Two Different Development Patterns – San Jose and Taiwan	Fulton, Chapters 1-3
September 27	Federal and California Planning Framework: - The General Plan	Fulton, Chapters 4-6 SJ GP 2020, Chapters 1-3 <i>First Paper Due</i>
October 4	Zoning: - Legal Authority and Purpose - Approaches/Content The Subdivision Map Act	Fulton, Chapters 7+8
October 11	Environmental Review: - California Environmental Quality Act - National Environmental Policy Act - Examples and Applications	Fulton, Chapter 9
October 18	Exactions and Takings: Growth Controls: - Urban Growth Boundaries - “Smart Growth” Planning	Fulton, Chapters 10+11 Fulton, Chapters 13+17 <i>Second Paper Due</i>
October 25	Other Planning Tools: - Specific Plans - Policies and Design Guidelines	Fulton, Chapters 12+18
November 1	Economic Development	Fulton, Chapter 14 <i>Third Paper Due</i>

Date	Topic	Assignments and Required Reading
November 8	Redevelopment and Neighborhood Revitalization Plans	Fulton, Chapter 15 Additional materials to be provided
November 15	Transportation Planning	Fulton, Chapters 19+20
November 22	Thanksgiving week – no class	
November 29	Putting It All Together: - The Permitting Process - Public Participation Models Current Planning Issues and Challenges Final Exam – practice session	Fulton, Chapter 25
December 6	Final Exam – written portion	<i>Fourth Paper Due</i>
December 13	Final Exam – presentations	Start Time – 7:45 p.m.