SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT URBP-295: CAPSTONE STUDIO IN COMMUNITY PLANNING FALL 2022

| Instructors: | Ahoura Zandiatashbar, Ph.D. Gordon Douglas, Ph.D. | | |
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| Office hours: | Zandiatashbar: Thursdays (11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.) Appointments strongly preferred. Sign up via link on Canvas. Douglas: Tuesdays 1:30-2:30 p.m. ; Thursdays 12:30-1:30 p.m. Appointments strongly preferred, please email. | | |
| Class days/time: | Thursdays 1:30 – 6:00 p.m. beginning August 25, 2022 | | |
| Classroom: | Washington Square Hall, Room 208 | | |
| Class website: | All course materials will be posted to Canvas. | | |
| Prerequisites: | Completion of at least 24 MUP course units and/or instructor consent | | |
| Units: | 6 units | | |

Course Catalog Description

Through fieldwork and laboratory assignments, the student applies theories and techniques of analysis to identify the assets, problems, and opportunities of an urban community.

Course Format

Details for each class session are provided in this syllabus and on the course Canvas site. Our August. 26 class will meet on Zoom. Our Sep. 1 and Sep. 8 classes will meet outdoors at Guadalupe River Park, the focus of our project. Starting Feb. 16 our class will meet in person in WSQ-208.

Course Overview

Professional planners are engaged in meaningful work that helps to create a comprehensive vision for a community. Good planning helps create communities that offer better choices for where and how people live. Planning also helps community members envision the direction their community will grow and helps determine the right balance of new development and essential

services, protection of the environment, and innovative change.¹ Fundamentally, urban planners help to shape our built environment and that's what you'll undertake during this course. In this exciting service-learning course, students will be guided by Profs. Ahoura Zandiatashbar and Gordon Douglas and will be exposed to contemporary tools, terms, and methods of community assessment - a thorough documentation of current conditions in a study area – and urban design. Some of the community characteristics we as urban planners study include land use, transportation networks, urban form, streetscapes, demographics, and the identification of community stakeholders. A proper community assessment also involves direct engagement with the stakeholders to ascertain the study area's assets, challenges, and aspirations.

Background

Cities thrive when public spaces are magnets for equitable civic engagement and which provide safe opportunities to see our neighbors and friends and reconnect with nature. However, many communities in the United States lack vibrant, safe, and appealing public spaces for community members to gather and build a "civic commons".

As communities have become segmented by income, technology has advanced, and priorities have shifted, support for civic assets has declined. Due to underinvestment and apathy, our civic assets are no longer providing the connective tissue that binds us together and anchors neighborhoods. The result is more than overgrown ballfields and lackluster libraries: research shows that Americans spend less time together in social settings, trust each other less, and interact less with others whose experiences are different.² This should alarm us as urban planners charged with serving the public interest! As emphasized by the American Planning Association, our job is to help create great communities for all.

Guadalupe River Park ("GRP") is San José's most important open public space connecting the parts of the city undergoing the most rapid change. It has the potential to be Downtown's grand park as well as the front door to the city's vibrant neighborhoods and Silicon Valley's multimodal transit connections. GRP connects the city's diverse neighborhoods and is the common thread connecting some of the Valley's most influential institutions and its residents.

Back in 2014, SPUR recommended promoting a larger area for Central San José, with Downtown at its core, in its report The Future of Downtown San José³. *Key among these was a re-envisioning and retrofitting of Coleman Avenue, which connects diverse land uses to vital parkland in an expanded downtown geography*. Things are moving quickly in Downtown San José. In the years since, Downtown has expanded west through the pre-development of Google's Downtown West campus, and planned transit investments in BART Phase II, High Speed Rail, and an Airport Connector will further connect the region to the city's core. Due to its proximity to key amenities and transit nodes, Coleman Corridor is positioned for substantial change over the next ten years.

¹ American Planning Association, "What is Planning?" http://www.planning.org/aboutplanning/whatisplanning.htm (accessed July 31, 2012)

² "A New Way of Working with Cities". https://civiccommons.us/app/uploads/2018/01/FNL_RCC_Way-of-Working_One-Pager_0219.pdf (accessed August 14, 2020)

³ https://www.spur.org/sites/default/files/2014-03/SPUR_TheFutureOfDowntownSanJose.pdf

Course's project scope of work:

In this course, our focus site is Coleman Avenue which rings the GRP's large northwestern segment and serves as a major commercial-industrial corridor between Downtown San José and San José International Airport ("SJC"). Coleman has a large concentration of retail and commercial businesses and is one of the few remaining areas of San José with industrial use. The areas adjacent to Guadalupe River Park and Gardens have immense potential for redevelopment, growth, and improved connectivity to the neighborhoods surrounding the park and on the other side of CA Highway 87. New plans and major infrastructure investments that were not substantially envisioned or included during planning in the early 2000s are beginning to impact the potential of the park and the neighborhoods in the larger area of Central San José.

Our course project will <u>focus on the people, neighborhoods, businesses, and street improvements</u> <u>that will guide the development of the park and adjacent commercial areas near Coleman</u> <u>Avenue in the years to come</u>. This work will ensure that the community informs equitable redevelopment and good planning as these land uses and transit nodes are re-envisioned for the long-term, and identifies and problem solves for the pressure points of economic development and multi-modal investments in the short term. This project will envision, develop, and make the case for a specific plan for the Coleman Corridor. <u>This plan will evaluate land use options</u>, <u>street improvements, and neighborhood connectivity alongside alignment with existing plans to</u> <u>develop a vision for the future of Coleman Corridor and Guadalupe River Park</u>.

The final strategic plan developed in this course will answer the following central questions in two themes:

• <u>Communities' assets:</u>

- What existing or potential retail and commercial uses support the development of Guadalupe River Park as the city's grand park in an expanded downtown core?
- What are the opportunities for plans of the airport, nearby residential neighborhoods, and the remaining park and trail south of Coleman that is home to many significant community assets? These assets include San Pedro Square, SAP Center, Children's Discovery Museum, Diridon Station, and more.

• <u>Strategies and recommendations:</u>

- What does an equitable redevelopment and visioning of uses along Coleman Corridor look like?
- How can the city and its partners best connect and expand pedestrian and multimodal access to the park?

To answer these questions, we will deploy the following three methods:

Method #1 - Third-party data analysis: Assessment of data collected by outside organizations, such as the U.S. Census as well as best case study analysis.

Method #2 – Mapping and spatial analysis: Mapping and spatial analysis of the communities' assets and capacities.

Method #3 – Surveys and podcast interviews: Surveys conducted nearby the project site with people who can inform how to improve the corridor and access to the park.

Through our work this semester, let's "think big": how can we as urban planners build a "case" and find allies to support public life and advocate for centering public life on social and economic development? And how can Guadalupe River Park be a centerpiece of San Jose's effort for an euiqtable growth, especially considering massive changes coming with Google's Downtown West campus?

At the midpoint and end of the semester we'll present our assessment findings and recommendations to several stakeholder groups. Also, we will create a professional-grade report to share with all the project partners. Moreover, we will draw upon the techniques for disseminating our findings with a broader community via podcasts. As a unique aspect of our work, sharing our findings via a series of podcasts will allow residents, professionals, or influential decision makers to draw upon the results of the analyses that teams conduct in this course. It is important that our finished work build a case for why public life and civic commons is important to community prosperity.

Course 'Mindset'

In URBP-295 students are exposed to contemporary tools, terms, and methods of a community assessment – an authoritative and accurate reporting of current conditions as a platform for future planning. The data you collect about Coleman Avenue connection to Guadalupe River Park will be important to several organizations as well as city staff and officials, and neighborhood groups as we consider the value of civic spaces as a component of healthy communities.

This course will present an unparalleled opportunity to engage in substantive and challenging issues around open space equity and access, how unhoused persons factor into open space planning, and the physical conditions of central San Jose. Guest speakers, readings, and in-class discussions will help us explore these topics more deeply.

Our engagement with community members will be characterized by rigorous data collection methods while embracing an "asset-based community development" mindset. What is this mindset? In brief, whereas traditional planning practice has focused on a "needs-based" assessment approach (i.e. focusing primarily on what's "wrong" with a community and how planners can "fix" these problems), this course instead adopts an <u>asset-based</u> approach by building relationships with local community leaders, business owners, and trusted institutions that *already* possess the capacity to shape and enact positive change in their community. This approach positions local residents and business owners – not planners – as the true *experts* in their community's affairs. The faculty-guided student teams, in turn, are trained to develop *expertise* in the process of documenting current conditions qualitatively and quantitatively while facilitating fact-finding dialogues with community members.

The final report and podcasts you produce will capture our primary assessment and community engagement findings. They will be widely shared with city staff and community leaders and will play a role in fostering awareness of civic infrastructure in San Jose. Several past reports produced by students in this course have won regional and state-level awards from the American Planning Association and SPUR!

We hope you really enjoy this service-learning course and use it as an opportunity to practice the work of professional planners, develop new skill sets, apply your existing strengths and talents, and directly serve vital San Jose communities.

Course Learning Objectives

This course implements one of the Urban & Regional Planning Department's Program Learning Objectives: "developing planning strategies to advance community priorities through collaborative engagement with stakeholders, and to do so in a manner that deliberately incorporates multicultural and historical perspectives."

URBP-295 is a "learning by doing" course, a culminating experience where you apply what you've learned academically and professionally to a real-world planning study. Be prepared to contribute <u>substantially</u> each week, both individually and as a team member. Put another way, this is NOT a passive-learning, lecture-based class, and the majority of your grade will be based upon how effectively you contribute to the project. You can think of your role this semester as taking part in an internship, or working in a small consulting firm with your instructors as the project managers.

Upon successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- 1. Use a systematic urban planning process to identify, analyze, communicate, and develop solutions to complex real-world situations. The planning processes that students will learn to conduct include, at a minimum, the following components:
 - A. Selecting, managing and applying appropriate research strategies for identifying the assets, problems and opportunities present in a community.
 - B. Selecting, managing and applying appropriate outreach strategies for engaging diverse community stakeholders in the planning process. Community engagement strategies include, among others, stakeholder interviews, focus groups, door-to-door canvassing, community workshops and charrettes.
 - C. Applying a collaborative, community-based process to develop a plan in partnership with a client community.
- 2. Create graphics (including base maps, analytical and conceptual diagrams, and illustrative plans), written materials and oral presentations to clearly communicate to a client community the results of the community assessment and plan development processes.
- 3. Evaluate, select, and develop the best means to disseminate the information synthesized in the plans. Dissemination methods include, among others, oral presentations at public meetings, visual displays, written reports, websites, and videos.
- 4. Work effectively as members and leaders of diverse planning teams and apply an understanding of interpersonal group dynamics to assure effective group action.
- 5. Prepare a plan to effectively facilitate a meeting.
- 6. Describe and explain how theories of community participation and engagement can be used to bring about sound planning outcomes.
- 7. Compare and contrast community participation in planning in different countries.
- 8. Describe and explain key ethical issues related to working with clients.

- 9. Describe and explain the role of officials, stakeholders, and community members in the planning process.
- 10. Describe and explain the social and cultural factors that influence urban growth and change.
- 11. Describe and explain the equity concerns of the community planning process.

Planning Accreditation Board (PAB) Knowledge Components

This course partially covers PAB Knowledge Components 1b, 1d, 1e, 1f, 2a, 2b, 2d, 2e, 2f, 3a-3e.

A complete list of the PAB Knowledge Components can be found at https://www.sjsu.edu/urbanplanning/graduate-programs/masters-in-urban-planning/pabknowledge.php (accessed January 17, 2022)

Field Work Safety Protocols

Student safety during field work is a top priority this semester. You will be asked to review a written safety protocol that complies with SJSU and Santa Clara County Public Health Department standards. You will also be asked to sign a few forms required by the university that are necessary when coursework is conducted off campus.

Course Readings

There are no textbooks to purchase for this course. Instead, all readings will be available on Canvas, grouped into five themes shown below. Students will reflect on the readings in writing via Canvas Discussions. From time to time, we may post additional short readings to Canvas to supplement the list below.

Theme #1: Guadalupe River Park role in San José's Future

Required:

- 1. San Jose State University, URBP-295 Students in Capstone Studio in Community Planning Course (2022). "Guadalupe River Park"
- **2.** SPUR (2021). "Guadalupe River Park: A Shared Future in Downtown San José. Economic analysis, equitable reinvestment and governance opportunities"
- **3.** SPUR (2014). The Future of Downtown San Jose How the South Bay's urban center can achieve its potential
- 4. City of San Jose, CEQA Analysis for The North 1st Street Local Transit Village Plan, (2022):

https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/81516/637787962732330000

Recommended:

 City of San Jose, Airport Department & Parks, Recreation, & Neighborhood Service Department, (2002). "Guadalupe Gardens Master Plan" http://www.grpg.org/Files/2002GGMasterPlan.pdf

- SPUR, Hood Design, Baird & Driskell Community Planning (2019). "Re-Envisioning the Guadalupe River Park https://www.spur.org/sites/default/files/publications_pdfs/ SPUR_Re-envisioning_the_Guadalupe_River_Park.pdf
- City of San Francisco (2019). "Public Life Study: Standards Manual" http://default.sfplanning.org/Citywide/publicspace/docs/SFDCP_PLS_StandardsManual. pdf
- 4. Gehl Institute (2021). "Public Life Tools." https://gehlpeople.com/tools/ (accessed January 25, 2022)

Theme #2: City of San José Design Guidelines and Growth Plan

<u>Required:</u>

- 1. City of San Jose (2022). Envision San José 2040: https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/22359/637841721973600000
- 5. City of San José (2021). "San José Citywide Design Standards And Guidelines" https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/69148/637520903552430000
- City of San José (2022). "Move San José Plan" <u>https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/096082d53c5c4e5baf9eb6afe15a1f0f</u>

Recommended:

- Comprehensive Land Use Plan Santa Clara County (2011), Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport: https://stgenpln.blob.core.windows.net/document/ALUC SJC CLUP.pdf
- 2. City of San José (2022). "San José's Downtown Transportation Plan" <u>https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-</u> <u>offices/transportation/planning-policies/downtown-transportation-plan</u>
- 3. City of San José (2020). "San José Better Bike Plan" https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/68962/637477999451470000

Theme #3: Urban Design for Connected Communities

<u>Required</u>

- Dunham-Jones, Ellen & June Williamson. 2011."Ch. 4: Retrofitting Social Life Along Commercial Strips" (pp. 59-94) (please also take a look at the case study that follows it on pp. 95-107) and "Ch. 11: Suburban Office and Industrial Park Retrofits" (pp. 203-218), in *Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs*. Hoboken: Wiley. Ebook via the library: <u>https://sjsuprimo.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/permalink/f/egdih2/TN_cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_978 1118027691</u>
- Houston, Douglas & Michelle E. Zuñiga. 2019. Put a park on it: How freeway caps are reconnecting and greening divided cities, *Cities* 85: pp. 98-109. <u>https://wwwsciencedirect-com.libaccess.sjlibrary.org/science/article/pii/S0264275117314750</u>

- Russell, Adam. 2019. Improving first/last mile conditions near highways: An investigation of access and coordination barriers. <u>https://escholarship.org/content/qt1fx5k8k9/qt1fx5k8k9_noSplash_fcf9d25a412feac6fba</u> <u>77e659db2d0d6.pdf</u>
- Walker, Alissa. 2016. "Now This is How you Design a Freeway Underpass." Curbed website. <u>https://archive.curbed.com/2016/8/11/12441906/freeway-underpass-californiawalking</u>

<u>Recommended</u>

- 1. Jacobs, Allan B. 1995. *Great Streets*. Paperback Ed. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press. (ask Gordon for PDF)
- 2. Loutzenheiser, David R. 1997. "Pedestrian Access to Transit: Model of Walk Trips and Their Design and Urban Form Determinants Around Bay Area Rapid Transit Stations." *Transportation Research Record*, 1604(1): pp. 40-49. (ask Gordon for PDF)
- 3. Memarovic, M. and M. Langheinrich. "Your place or mine?"–Connecting communities and public places through networked public displays." People-Centered Computing Lab, Università della Svizzera italiana. <u>https://pc.inf.usi.ch/wp-content/cache/mendeley-file-cache/2bbf78a5-eba1-34a1-8e04-0396ca1db0c2.pdf</u>
- 4. NACTO. 2013. *Urban Street Design Guide* (online). Peruse the different sections and familiarize yourself with contemporary street design components. <u>https://nacto.org/publication/urban-street-design-guide/</u>

Theme #4: Podcasting techniques, survey data collection; and community engagement

<u>Required:</u>

- The Podcast Host (2022). "What is a podcast? An explanation in plain English." (n.d.). <u>https://www.thepodcasthost.com/listening/what-is-a-podcast/</u> (accessed January 24, 2022)
- Adobe (2022). "How to make a podcast." (n.d.). <u>https://www.adobe.com/creativecloud/video/discover/make-a-podcast.html</u> (accessed January 24, 2022)
- Adobe (2022). "Create a podcast that gets people talking." (n.d.). <u>https://www.adobe.com/products/audition/podcast-recording-software.html</u> (accessed January 24, 2022)
- 4. More materials on recording, editing, mixing, hosting and publishing your podcast will become available on Canvas

Recommended:

- 1. North Liberty Library. (n.d.). "Love, Light & Lit: Reimagining the Civic Commons; North Liberty Library". <u>https://soundcloud.com/nlibertylibrary/love-light-lit-reimagining-the-civiccommons</u> (accessed January 24, 2022)
- 6. **2.** Federowicz, Martha with Olivia Arena and Kimberly Burrowes. (2020) "Community Engagement during the COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond: A Guide for Community-Based Organizations." Urban Institute. (available on Canvas)
- 3. Myerson, Deborah L.. (2004) "Involving the Community in Neighborhood Planning". ULI Community Catalyst Report Number 1. http://uli.org/wpcontent/uploads/2012/07/Report-1-Involving-the-Community-in-Neighborhood-Planning.ashx_.pdf (accessed August 20, 2019).
- 8. **4.** Biggs, David, et al. (2018). "100 great community engagement ideas: tips, tricks, and best practices to help guide planners to better results!", Metroquest. (available on Canvas)

Theme #5: Homelessness and Urban Planning Impacts

<u>Required:</u>

- Bonakdar, A., & Gaetz, S. (2021). "Push the Optimism Forward: Destigmatizing Homelessness and What We Can Do About it". Homeless Hub. https://www.homelesshub.ca/blog/push-optimism-forward-destigmatizing-homelessnessand-what-we-can-do-about-it
- Waldron, J. (2019). "Homelessness and the Issue of Freedom." Journal of Constitutional Law, 2019(1), 27-50. <u>https://constcourt.ge/files/2/Journal2019.1/Jeremy-Waldron-</u> <u>2019.1eng.pdf</u> (accessed January 25, 2022)
- Huttenhoff, M. (2021). "Coexistence in Public Space; Engagement tools for creating shared spaces in places with homelessness". SPUR. <u>https://www.spur.org/publications/spur-report/2021-01-25/coexistence-public-space</u> (accessed January 25, 2022)

Recommended:

- Bonakdar, A. (2022). Pathways into Youth Homelessness. *Homeless Hub*. <u>https://www.homelesshub.ca/blog/pathways-youth-homelessness (</u>accessed January 25, 2022)
- 5. Somerville, P. (2013). Understanding Homelessness. *Housing, Theory and Society, 30*(4), 384–415. <u>https://doi.org/10.1080/14036096.2012.756096</u> (accessed January 25, 2022)

- Zerger, S., Strehlow, A. J., & Gundlapalli, A. V. (2008). Homeless Young Adults and Behavioral Health: An Overview. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 51(6), 824–841. <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/0002764207311990</u> (accessed January 25, 2022)
- Davis M (1992). "Fortress Los Angeles: The militarization of urban space" in Sorkin M (ed.) Variations on a Theme Park: The New American City and the End of Public Space. New York: Hill and Wang, pp. 154–180.
- Loftus-Farren, Z. (2011). "Tent Cities: An Interim Solution to Homelessness and Affordable Housing Shortages in the United States". California Law Review 99(4): 1037-81. <u>https://29qish1lqx5q2k5d7b491joo-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wpcontent/uploads/2014/10/03_Loftus-Farren.pdf</u> (accessed January 25, 2022)
- 9. Mitchell, D. (2020). "Mean Streets: Homelessness, Public Space, and the Limits of Capital". University of Georgia Press.
- 10. Herring, C. (2019). "Complaint-Oriented Policing: Regulating Homelessness in Public Space." American Sociological Review 84.5: 769-800.

Theme #6: Tips for Effective Visual Communication and Oral Presentation

<u>Required:</u>

- I. Williams, R. (2015). "The non-designer's design book: Design and typographic principles for the visual novice." Pearson Education. <u>https://csu-</u> <u>sjsu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?context=PC&vid=01CALS_SJO:01CALS_SJ O&search_scope=MyInst_and_CI&tab=Everything&docid=cdi_askewsholts_vlebooks_9780132 103923 (accessed January 24, 2022)
 </u>
- 2. Davis, M., & Hunt, J. (2017). "Visual communication design: An introduction to design concepts in everyday experience." Bloomsbury Publishing. <u>https://csu-sjsu.primo.exlibrisgroup.com/discovery/fulldisplay?context=L&vid=01CALS_SJO:01CALS_SJO:04CAL</u>
- 3. Munzner, T. (2014). "Visualization analysis and design". CRC press. <u>https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~tmm/talks/minicourse14/vad17stat545-4x4.pdf</u> (accessed January 24, 2022)
- 4. Ten Simple Rules for Making Good Oral Presentations. (n.d.), University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Office of Graduate Studies, Graduate Connections. <u>https://www.unl.edu/gradstudies/connections/ten-simple-rules-making-good-oral-presentations</u> (accessed January 24, 2022)

Theme #7: best practices for synthesizing data for reports and presentations

<u>Required:</u>

- 1. **1.** Rothfeder, R., & Ewing, R. (2020). "Technical Writing. In Basic Quantitative Research Methods for Urban Planners" (pp. 18-45). Routledge. (available on Canvas)
- *2*.

Recommended:

3. **1.** Kousoulas, C. (2019). "Writing for Planners: A Handbook for Students and Professionals in Writing, Editing, and Document Production". Routledge.

Fundamentals for Success in this Course

We will make every effort to help you succeed in this course so that you can apply what you've learned to your personal and professional growth. Naturally, it is your responsibility to complete all assignments and to take advantage of the many learning opportunities this semester. Your final grade will reflect your overall commitment to learning; higher grades correlate with student efforts that clearly meet – or exceed – instructor expectations for graduate-level work.

Here are some tips to help you succeed this semester:

Enjoyment of Learning: A strong motivation to learn, explore and have fun while learning is essential. This course will require a significant amount of independent work and relies heavily on student initiative. The course is intended to be a culminating experience in which you apply all of your knowledge from previous coursework, professional practice, and your own life experiences to create a planning document for a real-world community. As in the planning profession itself, a great deal of self-initiative is required. A sense of humor always helps, too!

Understanding Roles: The role of the instructor in a studio course is to teach, guide, mentor and encourage the project teams. The role of the student is to take full advantage of the academic freedom and flexibility offered by a studio course to collaborate with fellow students, to complete assigned tasks in a manner that exceeds expectations wherever possible, to serve San Jose communities, and to produce a professional-grade document and presentation for the student's portfolio. The course will be conducted in a manner that mirrors professional practice in order to help you develop valuable workplace skills.

Focus and Respect: We fully understand the temptations and distractions we all face today with smartphones vying for our attention. Please turn off or mute your phone during class, and note that lab computers may only be used for class exercises during the class period. If you have to "get something else done" during the class period, please step outside and do it elsewhere.

Professional Conduct: We will conduct this course in a manner that mirrors professional practice in order to help you develop valuable workplace skills. We all need to be in agreement that the following standards will apply, as listed in the two sections below.

Instructor responsibilities include:

- To create a physically and intellectually safe and stimulating environment for learning
- To assist students as much as possible with their individual and collective learning goals
- To help resolve conflicts that hinder learning by answering student questions clearly and promptly, or to research answers and reply to the student as soon as possible
- To treat students with respect and kindness, using encouragement and humor to foster learning

- To arrive prepared and organized, with clear learning objectives and a schedule for the day
- To evaluate/grade student work fairly and accurately while providing constructive feedback

Student responsibilities include:

- To attend each class session and to arrive punctually, bringing all needed materials
- To treat other students and the instructor with absolute respect, supporting fellow students whenever possible with their learning objectives, and minimizing distractions in class
- To complete all assignments on time and professionally according to requirements listed in this syllabus
- To fully read and understand this syllabus and to carry out the requirements herein
- To actively and consistently participate in class discussions and question-and-answer sessions
- To demonstrate self-reliance and self-direction in setting and completing learning objectives
- To accept responsibility for working collaboratively in the learning process

More Success Tips

Students that typically do well in studio courses:

- Pull their weight by sharing the workload equally with team members and attend all team meetings and discussions
- Consistently demonstrate enthusiasm for the project, even when deadlines loom and stress levels elevate
- Consistently demonstrate full support for their team
- Proactively raise concerns with team members and, if necessary, the instructors, and attempt to address them in a respectful and positive manner
- Devise strategies for carrying out the team's short- and long-term tasks and goals
- Are organized, respectful and professional in their conversations with community members and agency officials you are a representative of the planning profession and our university
- Embrace the flexibility and inherent creativity of a studio course to actively pursue career interests and the acquisition of new skills
- Quickly adapt to changes in project goals and schedule changes (though these will be minimized to the extent practicable)
- Have confidence in their abilities and recognize that their contributions are valuable and important
- Know when to ask for help, then ask for it
- Are organized and diligent note-takers
- Are respectful of everyone in the class and handle disagreements professionally and assertively, focusing on the issues at hand and not the person
- Share ideas with others and offer constructive suggestions to improve work processes and project goals

Students that typically do **<u>not</u>** do well in studio courses:

- Expect the course to be "an easy A" it's most definitely not
- Rely on their team members to perform the bulk of the work this is inexcusable
- Do not take initiative at key moments to move their team and the project forward
- Focus on setbacks and negativity rather than finding proactive solutions
- Are consistently late to class and to group meetings this is inexcusable
- Add a minimum of effort, rather than quality work that reflects the best of their abilities
- Fail to ask for assistance when it is needed

It is important to remember that the instructor's primary role in a planning studio course is to help you succeed and grow as a professional planner. Therefore, you should always feel welcome to ask for help during the class period, privately during office hours, or remotely via e-mail. Asking for assistance will <u>never</u> be perceived as a liability and will <u>never</u> impact your grade negatively.

We look forward to a creatively exciting experience with each student. You are encouraged to offer your views of the course at any time during the semester; you do not need to wait for the formal end-of-semester course evaluation. We very much wish for this course to be useful, interesting, and exciting for you, so please let us know how you feel it is progressing. Compliments and professional, constructive criticisms are both welcome!

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

We strive to create a supportive learning environment where everyone has a place at the table. We all can benefit from welcoming a diversity of thoughts, perspectives and experiences that includes all of our identities (including race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, religion, disability, and others). It is our hope that you will contribute your views, while working together to create a space where everyone is valued for their contributions.

While we may have challenging discussions, our intention is to approach these moments first and foremost with respect for other people, patience, care, and generosity. In doing so, we can deepen our understanding of different perspectives, listen and learn from others, and have an opportunity to understand how our identities and experiences may influence our worldviews and those of others around us. Acts of discrimination and harassment—direct and indirect—have no place in this classroom.

The field of urban planning has historically been dominated by a subset of privileged voices. Where possible, we have made a concerted effort to highlight the work and contributions from Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in the course materials. There may be unintended omissions; however, recognizing a diverse range of perspectives helps to strengthen our understanding of cities. Please feel free to contact us or submit anonymous feedback if you have suggestions for how to improve the quality of the course materials.

Your experience in the class is important to us. With the recognition that learning to support students from all backgrounds is an ongoing process, we acknowledge that improving our practices of diversity and inclusion in the classroom requires active work and thoughtful reflection. Your suggestions for how we can improve the effectiveness of the course for you personally or for other students is deeply encouraged and appreciated.

Course Assignments and Grading Policy

Each course assignment is designed to produce written and/or graphical material that can be integrated into the final course report due on May 18. Since the final professional-grade report will be used by many community stakeholders, our work needs to be well researched, clearly written, authoritative, and with easily understood graphics to support the narrative. The instructors will set high standards and provide frequent feedback to move us all in this direction.

Your grade for the course will be based on the following assignments and other graded activities (which will be discussed in greater detail in class):

| Assignments and Other Graded Activities | Percent of Course Grade | Course Learning Objectives Covered | |
|---|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Written Reflections on Course Readings | | | |
| Reading Reflections . To deepen the course project experience, students will individually prepare five separate written reactions and observations based on the five themed sets of readings listed in the "Course Readings" section above. The written remarks will be shared in Canvas Discussions and students will be encouraged to respond to postings by their peers. Each posting will be evaluated for substance, insight, and clarity of writing. (3% of final course grade x 5 postings) | 15% | 6-11 | |
| PHASE ONE: Getting to Know the Study Area and Data Collection | | | |
| Assignment 1 – Project Background and Orientation. This assignment, completed individually, will help students to get immersed in the San Jose's future plans and Guadalupe River Park's role. Also covered will be policies and regulations pertaining to Guadalupe River Park and an opportunity to see the work of the Spring 2022 URBP-295 students, upon which we will build this semester. | | 1, 3, 4, 9, 10 11 | |
| Assignment 2 – Demographic Mapping and Story Map Production. Students will work individually on tasks tied to demographic mapping with Community Analyst and produce a Story Map of their findings from Guadalupe River Park walking tours. | | 2 | |
| Assignment 3 – Data Collection Progress Report; Preparations for Mid- Semester Findings Presentation. Students will work in small teams to undertake present their mid-semester findings from direct observations of park users, community surveys, and best-case analyses. A practice presentation will prepare students to present to project stakeholders as part of Assignment 4. | 10% | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 | |
| Assignment 4 – Summary Phase One findings boards/report; interim presentation to project partners. Students will work in teams to present10%2, 3, 4, 5their mid-semester findings from their work in Phase One.10%2, 3, 4, 5 | | | |

PHASE TWO: Data Analysis and Synthesis; Report Production; Final Presentation

| Assignments and Other Graded Activities | Percent of Course Grade | Course Learning Objectives Covered |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Assignment 5 – Final Presentation of Project Findings; Draft Project Report; Podcasts Finalized. Students will work in small teams to present their findings from the semester's work, incorporating feedback from instructors, peers and project stakeholders. Students will also prepare a draft written report that captures the semester's key findings. Students will also finalize a series of short podcasts as another vehicle with which to synthesize project findings. Each student team will produce a podcast based on the interviews that they conduct as part of assignment 3. Tips, learning materials and rubrics for an effective podcast will be shared | 30% | 1 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 |
| on Canvas. Assignment 6 – Final Project Report. Students will work in small teams to submit a final report that captures the semester's key findings. | 15% | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11 |

Calculation of Final Course Letter Grade

We will calculate the final letter grade for the course by weighting the grade for each assignment according to the percentages in the table above. To do this, we first convert the letter grade for each assignment to a number using a 4-point scale (A+ = 4.33, A = 4.0, A- = 3.67, B+ = 3.33, B = 3.0, B- = 2.67, C+ = 2.33, C = 2.0, C- = 1.67, D = 1, and F = 0).

We then use these numbers and the weights for each assignment to calculate a final, numerical grade for the course based on a 4-point scale. That number is converted back to a letter grade (A = 3.85+, A- = 3.50 - 3.84, B+ = 3.17 - 3.49, B = 2.85 - 3.16, B- = 2.50 - 2.84, C+ = 2.17 - 2.49, C = 1.85 - 2.16, C- = 1.41 - 1.84, D+ = 1.17 - 1.40, D = 0.85 - 1.16, F = 0 - 0.84). Please read the "URBP-295 Grading Standards" document on Canvas for more details about how the instructors will evaluate written and oral work.

Participation in Class and Attendance

Student participation in class discussions is a vital component of this course and students should make every attempt to attend all classes and actively participate in discussions. You can participate in many ways such as helping explain a concept to others, sharing a thoughtful perspective that aligns with the topic covered in section, monitoring yourself so you don't hold the floor for too long and dominate the discussion, coming to office hours with thoughtful questions, commenting on your peers' work, asking questions, and responding to questions thoughtfully. Your intellectual contribution to the discussion will be noted each time you participate.

Participation in walking tours, data collection, group studio work, and other class activities is also essential for the learning goals of this course. In cases where a student misses a significant number of lectures or does not actively participate in discussions, this will impact the final course grade negatively. According to SJSU policy F69-24, "Students should attend all meetings of their classes, not only because they are responsible for material discussed therein, but because active participation is frequently essential to ensure maximum benefit for all members of the class. Attendance per se shall not be used as a criterion for grading."

Completing Assignments on Time and Professionally

Assignments are due at the date and time specified on each assignment handout. In only rare instances will late assignments be accepted, as described below. Late assignments will receive a one-half letter grade deduction for each day an assignment is late. For example, if the assignment would normally receive a grade of "B" but is submitted one day late, it will receive a final grade of "B-minus" and after two days late it will receive a grade of "C+".

We realize that life happens. If you expect not to be able to complete an assignment on time, it is important for you to do two things:

1. Contact your instructor **at least 24 hours prior to the due date** and, if appropriate, the other students in a group (for group project work). If you do not communicate an anticipated late assignment within this timeframe, the standards above will apply.

2. Provide a date and time by which the late assignment will be submitted. If you do not communicate an anticipated late assignment within this time frame or if the late assignment is not received on the date promised, the assignment will begin losing points for every day it is late, as described above. If submission of the assignment continues to be delayed, a final grade of 50 is likely.

A maximum of <u>one</u> late assignment (or parts of assignments) that adhere to this policy will **be accepted**; all subsequent late assignments will receive an automatic grade of 50. Sorry, no exceptions to these policies will be granted, in fairness to the majority of students who submit their assignments on time.

Since this course focuses on the development of professional skills used by urban planners, the presentation of submitted materials will be considered as part of the assignment's grade. All assignments must include the student's name, date, course number, assignment number and other items as directed by the instructor. Neatness, clarity and organization will influence your grade.

As in a professional setting, typed submissions are expected; handwritten assignments are not acceptable. Assignments not meeting these fundamental practices of professional presentation will generally receive a reduction in the grade.

Final Examination or Evaluation

The many activities that you will undertake as part of Assignment 6 will essentially constitute the final examination for this course, along with an individual end-of-the-semester reflection on the studio process. Attendance on the last day of the course (May 18) is mandatory.

Course Workload

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practice. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

Because this is a <u>six</u>-unit class, you can expect to spend a minimum of <u>fifteen</u> hours per week in addition to time spent in class; some weeks will be busier than others as is typical for a project-based course. You should plan to set aside a significant amount of time for out of class activities including, but not limited to, required course readings, data collection and analysis, group meetings, research, preparation of final client materials, etc.

University Policies

Per <u>University Policy S16-9</u> relevant university policy concerning all courses, such as student responsibilities, academic integrity, accommodations, dropping and adding, consent for recording of class, etc. and available student services (e.g. learning assistance, counseling, and other resources) are listed on <u>Syllabus Information web page</u>

(https://www.sjsu.edu/curriculum/courses/syllabus-info.php). Make sure to visit this page to review and be aware of these university policies and resources.

Plagiarism and Citing Sources Properly

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's language, images, data, or ideas without proper attribution. It is a very serious offense both in the university and in your professional work. In essence, plagiarism is both theft and lying: you have stolen someone else's ideas, and then lied by implying that they are your own.

Plagiarism will lead to grade penalties and a record filed with the Office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. In severe cases, students may also fail the course or even be expelled from the university.

If you are unsure what constitutes plagiarism, it is your responsibility to make sure you clarify the issues <u>before</u> you hand in draft or final work.

Learning when to cite a source and when not to is an art, not a science. However, here are some common examples of plagiarism that you should be careful to avoid:

- Using a sentence (or even a part of a sentence) that someone else wrote without identifying the language as a quote by putting the text in quote marks and referencing the source.
- Paraphrasing somebody else's theory or idea without referencing the source.
- Using a picture or table from a webpage or book without reference the source.
- Using data some other person or organization has collected without referencing the source.

The SJSU MLK Library provides a short (15 minutes) and informative plagiarism tutorial. The MUP faculty highly encourage all students to complete it. Details are here: https://libguides.sjsu.edu/c.php?g=853661&p=6111789

Also, the University of Indiana has developed a very helpful website with concrete examples about proper paraphrasing and quotation. See in particular the following pages:

- Overview of plagiarism at www.indiana.edu/~istd/overview.html
- Examples of plagiarism at www.indiana.edu/~istd/examples.html
- Plagiarism quiz at www.indiana.edu/~istd/test.html

If you still have questions, feel free to talk to the instructors personally. There is nothing wrong with asking for help, whereas even unintentional plagiarism is a serious offense.

Citation style

It is important to properly cite any references you use in your assignments. The Department of Urban and Regional Planning uses Kate Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 9th edition (University of Chicago Press, 2018). Copies are available in the SJSU King Library or are relatively inexpensive to purchase.

Please note that Turabian's book describes two systems for referencing materials: (1) "notes" (footnotes or endnotes), plus a corresponding bibliography, and (2) in-text parenthetical references, plus a corresponding reference list. In this class, students should use the "notes" style plus corresponding bibliography.

Library Liaison

The SJSU Library Liaison for the Urban and Regional Planning Department is Ms. Peggy Cabrera. If you have questions, you can contact her at peggy.cabrera@sjsu.edu or 408-808-2034.

About the Instructor:

Ahoura Zandiatashbar, Ph.D.

I am very excited to join Prof. Douglas in this semester to share my experience of being part of multiple comprehensive/master planning projects and knowledge of planning research to support your learning in this course. I hope to help you all to enhance your creativity in your projects. To know me better, please read my formal bio below:

I am an assistant professor of Urban and Regional Planning at San José State University (SJSU) where I expand my research in application of geospatial analytical techniques in mapping the U.S. geography of high-tech zones and exploring the role of urban form in equitable robust knowledge economy and innovation productivity of small firms as well as public safety.

The results of my research have been presented in Journal of Planning Education and Research, Journal of Urban Studies, Cities, Technological Forecasting and Social Change, Landscape and Urban Planning; and more than 20 presentations and talks.

Prior to joining SJSU, I was a clinical assistant professor of geospatial data analysis in Urban Data Visualization Lab (UDVL) at the University of Illinois at Chicago where I was the primary instructor of Geospatial Technology courses and a key member in developing Illinois Map The Count 2020, Illinois COVID-19 Vulnerability, and Chicago's Tap Water web-maps. I have been part of multiple planning projects but the notable one is the winner First Place Award from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in 2015 Campus RainWorks Challenge (eco-flow: a water-sensitive placemaking response to climate change), and (does urban form matter for innovation productivity) People's Choice Best Research Award from the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.

Gordon Douglas, Ph.D.

I am excited to be teaching URBP 295 again and all the more so to be collaborating with Dr. Zandiatashbar and our friends at SPUR and the Guadalupe River Park Conservancy.

I am an associate professor of urban and regional planning here at San José State University, though my background is actually more in sociology, communications, and interdisciplinary urban studies (I got my PhD in sociology at the University of Chicago). My research, teaching, and community work focus on questions of access, equity, and local cultural identity in urban planning and design. I wrote a book called The Help-Yourself City about people who make unauthorized improvements to streets and public spaces in their communities (aka DIY urbanism), which is also the basis of a fun episode of 99% Invisible. My writing and photography have also appeared in a range of publications including City and Community, Urban Studies, the Journal of Urban Design and a variety of magazines, newspapers, and blogs. I've been interviewed as an expert on topics ranging from gentrification to graffiti and street art for stories in The Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Fast Company, the National Post (Toronto), La Presse (Montreal), and multiple TV and radio outlets. My current research focuses on the architectures of extreme inequality here in the Bay Area, especially the construction of place and community in large encampments of unhoused people.

I was born in England and raised in Davis, California. After living in Los Angeles, London, Chicago and New York, I'm happily installed these days in Oakland with my family. You'll also hear me talking about SJSU's Institute for Metropolitan Studies, which I direct, and our department's two awesome student organizations, the Urban Planning Commission and TRANSITion SJSU. Feel free to ask me about any of this.

URBP 295: CAPSTONE STUDIO IN COMMUNITY PLANNING FALL 2022 COURSE SCHEDULE

This course schedule serves as a general guide for topics and assignments covered in class. Details are subject to change, as is sometimes the case with a project-based studio course. We will communicate changes via email and verbally in class.

| Date | Class Activities | Due Dates for Readings and Assignments | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|
| PHASE ONE Getting to Know the Study Area and Data Collection | | | | |
| Week 1 AUG 25 | Introductions and course/project overview Success tips from recent URBP-295 students Project's stakeholders Aerial photo analysis of project study area Overview of Assignments 1 and 2 | | | |
| Week 2 SEP 01 | Discussion: findings from Readings #1 Guest speaker: [SP 22 URBP 295 Students] Kick off Phase One and form teams | Reading Reflections #1 due (theme: Guadalupe River Park and San Jose) | | |
| Week 3 SEP 08 | Walking tour #1: Guadalupe River Park's access to Coleman Ave Discussion from readings #2 Conduct physical conditions assessment Podcasting project (lecture) | Reading Reflections #2 due (theme: Guadalupe River Park and San Jose) | | |
| Week 4 SEP 15 | Walking tour #2: Coleman Avenues and connection to downtown Conduct physical conditions assessment Discussion: findings from Assignment 1 | Assignment 1 Due Project Foundation: relevant policies and regulations; case study analysis; research on public life, parks and open space, community engagement | | |
| Week 5 SEP 22 | Lecture Urban Design for Connected Communities Spur talk on current and past planning efforts Discussion: findings from Readings #3 | Reading Reflections #3 due (theme: urban Design for Connected Communities) | | |
| Week 6 SEP 29 | Recording and editing podcast techniques using Adobe Audition (Lab) Guest lectures Discussion: findings from Assignment 2 Studio time – Phase One teams | Reading Reflection #4 (optional) Assignment 2 Due Third-party data analysis: Community Analyst, ArcGIS StoryMap production | | |
| Week 7 OCT 06 | Guest lecture: homelessnessDiscussion: findings from Readings #5 | Reading Reflections #5 podcasting project idea blurb due (themes: homelessness and podcasting | | |

| Date | Class Activities | Due Dates for Readings and Assignments | |
|---------------------|---|---|--|
| | Podcast project idea blurb | techniques for survey data collection, | |
| | • Studio time – Phase One teams | direct observations, community | |
| | Meetings with instructors on team progress | engagement | |
| | Diamagican findings from Assignment 3 | Assignment 3 Due | |
| Week 8 | Discussion: findings from Assignment 3Podcast production | Data collection progress report; preparations for mid-semester | |
| OCT 13 | Guest lecture | presentation | |
| | | 1 | |
| | • Lecture: effective oral and visual communication | Reading Reflections #6 due | |
| Week 9 OCT 20 | • Studio time – Phase One teams | (theme: tips for effective oral and visual communication) | |
| 00120 | • Discussion: findings from Readings #6 | visual communication) | |
| | • Mid-semester presentation to project partners | Assignment 4 Due | |
| Week 10 | Complete Phase One peer reviews | Assignment 4 Due Summary Phase One findings | |
| OCT 27 | Form Phase Two teams; Phase Two Overview | boards/report; interim presentation to | |
| | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | project partners | |
| Week 12 NOV 03 | ACSP Conference No Class | | |
| Da | PHASE TWO ta Analysis and Synthesis; Report Production; Fir | nal Presentation | |
| Week 13 | • Studio time – Phase Two teams | Reading Reflections #7 due | |
| NOV 10 | Discussion: findings from Readings #7 | best practices for synthesizing data for reports and presentations | |
| Week 14 | Studio time for Phase Two teams | | |
| NOV 17 | • 'Dress rehearsal' for Dec 01 final presentation | | |
| | Studio time for Phase Two teams | | |
| Week 14 NOV 24 | Thanksgiving No Class | | |
| Weel-15 | • Final presentation to project partners | Assignment 5 Due | |
| Week 15 DEC 01 | Submission of Phase Two draft report | Public presentation, draft report, and | |
| DEC 01 | • Complete course evaluation (SOTES) | podcast recordings | |
| Week 16 | • Submission of all Phase Two final deliverables | | |
| DEC 08 | Written reflections on course accomplishments | | |
| | and evaluation of planning project outcomes | Assignment 6 Due | |
| Course culmination | • Complete Phase Two peer reviews | Final project report due | |
| activities; | • End of semester celebration! | | |
| attendance required | | | |