

General Information:

Name of Course:

URBAN STUDIES 1-2

Course Code:

PMRURNE131A

Semester:

Number of Credits:

Allotment of Hours per Week: 2 Lessons /Week

Evaluation: Practical mark

Prerequisites:

Instructor:

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Introduction, Learning Outcomes:

The aim of the course is to understand the various processes and mechanism of cities and urban development. The lectures provide an overview of urbanism, urban development and urban planning. The essence of urban planning will be discussed through the semester projects, the site of which will be selected by each student. Examples will be presented for urban planning and also for large-scale urban development. The main steps in preparing the semester project: research, analysis, understanding, strategy and planning.

General Course Description and Main Content:

The course will contain on one hand several lectures and on the other hand practical lessons, consultations, discussions aiming to solve the semester project and also the presentation of these projects. Lectures will explain the theoretical background of urbanism, urban development and urban planning. On the practical lessons students should participate on an intensive studio work. They should be able to define complex urban problems, to analyse them and propose solutions. They should define an urban action area, where they can propose different actions and projects for urban development and also to make an overall strategy for the development. They should prepare a masterplan, including aerial perspective, axonometric view or 3D computer block-model. Finally students will present the semester projects.

THE TOPIC OF THE SEMESTER PROJECT:

making analysis and proposals for developing a defined urban action area.

The semester project will contain the following tasks:

PART 1:

- defining an urban action area in Pécs or in another selected city
- analysing social, economic and environmental characteristics of the defined urban area (conclusions based on data, charts, diagrams, tables, maps, etc.)
- spatial analysis of the selected area (open space, routes and movements, different characters, transport network, land use, views and landmarks etc.)
- defining problems on the study area
- defining objectives of urban development in the action area
- SWOT analysis

1st PRESENTATION on the mid-time of the semester about the urban action area, the structure and characteristics of the area (using maps, diagrams, and other tools of analysis, describing social, economic and environmental characteristics, important buildings, green areas and open spaces, squares, routes and links, relationships, views, etc.)

PART 2:

- making preliminary proposals, defining proposed actions and projects on the action area
- option testing
- making an overall strategy (with drawings on maps) for implementing the proposed actions and projects
- to prepare an illustrative masterplan for the selected action area indicating built form and blocking, landscape structure, urban grain and orientation and overall character;
- to make aerial perspectives, axonometric views or 3-D computer block model of the urban development action area.

FINAL PRESENTATION of the semester project, discussion about the proposed actions, projects, strategies and the masterplan.

Methodology:

The course is based partly on ppt lectures and partly on individual skills with consultations, discussions and presentations.

Schedule:

Two lessons per week

The rough outline of the schedule is as follows:

Week 1: THE PROGRAM OF THE SEMESTER, DISCUSSION

- Presentation: aims, topics, tasks and schedule of the semester,
- Evaluation and grading, requirements of fulfilment.
- Settlements: notion, diversity, connections
- Examples of settlements with different characters
- Introduction of the semester project.

Week 2: Lecture 1. STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF SETTLEMENTS:

- Structural elements of settlements: Network of roads and streets. Air-space ratio. Cross-sections of different types of roads, streets, footpaths, etc. Principles of traffic organization. Types and shapes of public squares.
- Blocks as units. Systems of accesses of blocks' inside areas.
- The building plot. Buildings and types of plot installation. Main rules and examples of locating buildings in freestanding,- boundary,- twin,- and closed-row type of installation.

PRACTICAL / CONSULTATION

- Presentation about the different tasks regarding the semester project, with examples of student's work made in previous semesters
- Selecting and defining the action areas as subjects of the semester projects
- Discussion about the main features of the action areas

Week 3: STUDENT'S PRESENTATIONS:

- Presentation of the selected sites of the semester projects with photos made on site
- Discussing the first impressions and problems noticed during site visit

Week 4: Lecture 2. ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FEATURES

- The process of Research-Analysis-Strategy-Planning.
- Analysis of former concepts, plans and documents
- Types of diagrams
- Analysis of demography and statistics of the population
- Analysis of housing statistics
- Analysis of economic indicators

CONSULTATION

- Consultation about the analysis of the selected action areas of the semester projects

Week 5: Lecture 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SPATIAL ANALYSIS.

Contextual analysis:

- Setting;
- Location of the site and context;
- Contextual appraisal

Spatial analysis:

- Opportunities and constraints
- Development area
- Open space analysis
- Movement, routes and links
- Figure ground
- Nolli plan
- Character areas, building profiles
- Landmarks and monuments, designated areas
- Key views and panoramas, topography
- Listed buildings and heritage protection
- Historic evolution
- Pedestrian movement, fundamental use patterns
- Spatial accessibility analysis and availability of public transport

Presenting details:

- Footpaths and cycleways
- Road/street types
- Building heights
- Densities
- Nodes
- Active frontages
- Public transport network
- Land use
- Public transport network
- Street profiles, typical roadway cross-sections

Week 6: Lecture 4. STRATEGY MAKING FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- Working methods: problems-evaluation-conclusions-objectives-SWOT analysis-projects
- SWOT analysis: strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats
- City districts, action areas and projects
- Conceptual analysis
- Public participation
- The initial engagement
- Workshops
- Presenting images
- Rationale
- Preliminary proposals
- Option testing

FINAL PROPOSALS - THE MASTERPLAN

- The masterplan, as a series of themed drawings
- Aerial perspective, axonometric views, 3-D computer block models and detail models
- Illustrative elevations and sections
- Design code drawings
- Photomontage techniques
- Accurate visual representation
- Phasing plan
- Installation plan, environmental design plan
- Presenting details of final proposals

Week 7: Lecture 5. LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF SETTLEMENT PLANNING, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION

- General requirements,
- The role of the state and the local governments,
- Aim and essential requirements of urban development and settlement planning, the task of urban development, task and tools of settlement planning, the local building code, specific legal instruments to ensure the implementation of the settlement planning tasks,
- Requirements for buildings, construction related administrative procedures, the building activity, the built environment to maintain and use,
- Protection of the architectural heritage.
- UNESCO World Heritage in Hungary

CONSULTATION

- Consultation of semester projects about spatial analysis
- Consultation about SWOT analysis

Week 8-9: STUDENT'S 1ST PRESENTATIONS

- Presentation of the analytical stage of semester projects
 - Presentation of the selected action areas (analysis, data, diagrams, maps, photos, master plans, geographical and morphological conditions, social, economic and environmental characteristics, spatial analysis, SWOT analysis). Defining problems on study areas

Week 10: Lecture 6. THE SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE PLAN AND THE REGULATORY PLAN

- The task and tools of settlement planning
- The structure of settlements and the settlement structure plan
- Building zones / zones and related regulations
- The Regulatory plan and its content
- Mandatory and informative regulatory elements
- Other specific legal instruments
- The local building code

CONSULTATION

- Consultation of semester projects about strategy making

Week 11: SPRING HOLYDAY

Week 12: Lecture 7. HISTORICAL EXAMPLES OF COMPLEX URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACTIONS IN EUROPE

- The practice of urban development based on a planned, organized and controlled cooperation of the public and private sector
- Historical example 1: urban development in Paris
- Historical example 2: urban development in Vienna
- Historical example 3: urban development in Budapest
- Historical example 4: urban development in Barcelona and "The General Theory of Urbanization" by Ildefonso Cerda

URBAN RENEWAL – BEST PRACTICE EXAMPLE

- The urban rehabilitation action for Middle Ferencváros in Budapest as a case study
- Historical background, the privatization of the housing stock in Hungary, urban renewal state of the art evaluation,
- Social effects of urban renewal

CONSULTATION

- Consultation of semester projects about the masterplan

Week 13: Lecture. HOUSING ISSUES IN URBAN DEVELOPMENT

- Housing conditions
- Location of housing
- Housing Quality Indicators
- Housing policy goals in the EU countries
- Housing in the market system
- Social housing and best-practice examples

- Affordable housing, the activity of Habitat for Humanity International, initiatives in Hungary

FINAL CONSULTATION

- Finalization of masterplans and all related drawings and materials
- Consultation about formal requirements of semester projects

Week 14-15: STUDENT'S FINAL PRESENTATIONS AND EVALUATIONS

- Short description of the selected action areas and the defined problems and analysis made in the previous presentations
- Presentation of proposed actions, projects and overall strategies with option testing on the selected action areas
- Presentation of the proposed masterplans and all related drawings
- Discussion and evaluation of the final semester projects

Studio Culture:

The course is based on lectures and on collaboration and discussions of practical tasks. This is an interaction between Students and Faculty; used the teaching methods like 'Problem-based learning' and 'learning-by-doing'. The communication and work should reflect a respect for fellow students and their desire to work with regard to noise levels, noxious fumes, etc – from each site of participants.

Attendance:

Active attendance is required on all classes, and will impact the grade (max. 30%). Unexcused absences will adversely affect the grade, and in case of absence from more than 30% of the total number of lessons will be grounds for failing the class. To be in class at the starting time and stay until the scheduled end of the lesson is required, more than 20 minutes late will be counted as an absence. In the case of an illness or family emergency, the student must present a valid excuse, such as a doctor's note.

The highest possible grade on the late project (in two weeks) is '2'. The Final Project cannot be turned in late.

Evaluation + Grading

Grading will follow the course structure with the following weight:

- Attendance of classes regarding all efforts, attitude, progress and participation on discussions: 30%
- Presentation of a selected urban development action: 20%,
- Presentation of semester project: 50%,

Please note that attendance will adversely affect one's grade, both in direct grade reduction and in missing work in the development of a project.

The final grade will be based on the following guidelines:

5. Outstanding work. Execution of work is thoroughly complete and demonstrates a superior level of achievement overall with a clear attention to detail in the production of descriptions, drawings and other forms of representation. The student is able to synthesize the course material with new concepts and ideas in a thoughtful manner, and is able to communicate and articulate those ideas in an exemplary fashion in.

4. High quality work. Student work demonstrates a high level of craft, consistency, and thoroughness throughout all tasks and drawings. The student demonstrates a level of thoughtfulness in addressing concepts and ideas, and participates in group discussions. Work may demonstrate excellence but less consistently than an '5' student.

3 Satisfactory work. Student work addresses all of the project and assignment objectives with few minor or major problems. Descriptions and drawings are complete and satisfactory, exhibiting minor problems in craft and detail.

2. Less than satisfactory work. Descriptions or drawings are substandard, incomplete in significant ways, and lacks craft and attention to detail.

1. Unsatisfactory work. Work exhibits several major and minor problems with basic conceptual premise, lacking both intention and resolution. Physical representation in descriptions and drawings is severely lacking, and is weak in clarity, craft and completeness.

Grading Scale:

Numeric Grade:	5	4	3	2	1
Evaluation in points:	89%-100%	77%-88%	66%-76%	55%-645%	0-54%

PTE Grading Policy:

Information on PTE's grading policy can be found at the following location:

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Students with Special Needs:

Students with a disability and needs to request special accommodations, please, notify the Deans Office. Proper documentation of disability will be required. All attempts to provide an equal learning environment for all will be made.

Readings and Reference Materials:

B O O K S

Bally Meeda, Neil Parkyn, David Stuart: Graphics for Urban design (ENG)

Sarah Gaventa: New Public Sapces (ENG)

M A G A S I N E S

Urban Design magazine (<http://www.rudi.net/>)

W E B S I T E S

<http://www.udg.com/>

<http://www.urbanmovement.co.uk/>