General Information:

Name of Course: # URBAN STUDIES 1

Course Code: PMRURNE130A
Semester:
Number of Credits:
Allotment of Hours per Week: 2 Lessons /Week
Evaluation: Practical mark
Prerequisites:

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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 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. 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:

- 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

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.)

- SWOT analysis
- defining proposed actions and projects on the action area
- making an overall strategy for implementing the proposed actions and projects (with drawings on related site plans)

FINAL PRESENTATION of the semester project, discussion about the proposed strategies, action and projects,

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: DEBUTS, THE PROGRAM OF THE SEMESTER, DISCUSSION
- Debuts
- Presentation: aims, topics, tasks and schedule of the semester
- Introduction of the semester project
- Evaluation and grading, requirements of fulfilment
- Discussion about urban issues of the student's home cities based on their own experiences.

Week 2: Lecture. INTRODUCTION TO URBAN STUDIES
- Settlements: notion, diversity, connections
- Examples of settlements with different characters
- Social trends in space: urbanization-suburbanization-deurbanization-reurbanization. Examples.

CONSULTATION
- Selecting and defining the action areas as subjects of the semester projects
- Discussion about the main features of the action areas

Week 3: Lecture. STRUCTURAL ELEMENTS OF SETTLEMENTS;
- Structural elements of settlements: road network – blocks – plots – buildings. Air-space ratio. Categories of roads of local public road network – morphology. 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.

Week 4: Lecture. THE NETWORK OF SETTLEMENTS IN HUNGARY
- The development of the network of settlements in Hungary
- Types of settlements in the 1990's
- Classification of the villages in Hungary
- International and Hungarian trends

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

Week 5: Lecture. 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 6: Lecture. 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

CONSULTATION
- Consultation of semester projects about spatial analysis

Week 7-8: STUDENT'S 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)
  - Defining problems on study areas

Week 9: AUTUMN HOLIDAY

Week 10: Lecture. 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

CONSULTATION
- Consultation of semester projects about conceptual analysis

Week 11: Lecture. 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

CONSULTATION
- Consultation about defining proposed actions and projects on the selected action areas

Week 12: Lecture. OPTIONAL LECTURE (taking into account Urban studies 2 further participations)

A.) 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

B.) MORPHOLOGY OF SPACE DEVELOPMENT
- Central-type development of urban spaces
- Linear-type development of urban spaces
- Filling-type development of urban spaces

CONSULTATION
- Consultation about defining proposed actions and projects on the selected action areas
- Consultation about making overall strategies for implementing the proposed actions and projects

Week 13: FINAL CONSULTATION
- Finalization of defining proposed actions, projects and overall strategies on the selected action areas
- Consultation about formal requirements of semester projects

Week 14-15: STUDENT'S FINAL PRESENTATIONS AND EVALUATIONS
- Presentation and evaluation of the final semester projects
  - Short description of the selected action areas, spatial analysis and the defined problems (a summary and conclusion of the first presentations)
  - Presentation of proposed actions, projects and overall strategies on the selected action areas
  - 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%
- 1st presentation of semester project: 30%,
- Final presentation of semester project: 40%,

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 drawing 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 official website.

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 & M A G A S I N E S

Bally Meeda, Neil Parkyn, David Stuart: Graphics for Urban design (ENG)
Sarah Gaventa: New Public Sapces (ENG)
Urban Design magazine (http://www.rudi.net/)

W E B S I T E S

http://www.udg.com/
http://www.urbanmovement.co.uk/