

UPD 7203 Action and Strategic Planning

Hours Per Week			Hours per Semester	Weighted Total Mark	Weighted Exam Mark	Weighted Continuous Assessment	Credit Units
LH	PH	TH	CH	WTM	WEM	WCM	CU
3	0	3	45	100	60	40	3

Course description:

Planning has suffered a crisis in confidence reflected in the growing consensus about its inability to manage fast changing cities effectively. One of the key reasons for this can be attributed to the existing gap between strategic planning, which is the norm at the top, and the unconventional actions of small communities at the bottom as they try to meet their largely neglected needs. Action planning introduces planners to the practical and common sense alternatives, linking the needs of community with the strategic plans of government. Because its methods are problem driven, community derived, participatory, fast, adaptive and incremental, it provides a new and more refreshing approach to dealing with current urban problems.

Objectives:

1. To develop an understanding of the complex social challenges facing today's growing underprivileged urban communities and how they shape urban form.
2. To develop an awareness of the shortcomings between/among responses of government and the realities facing urban communities on a day-to-day basis.
3. To develop an understanding of the nature of diverse responses adopted by urban communities to deal with the problems they are confronted with on a regular basis.
4. To develop an ability to devise more effective, problem driven, participatory, fast and adaptive solutions to address the problems facing our urban communities.

Learning outcomes:

At the conclusion of this course students will demonstrate:

1. Research Skills – Ability to employ basic methods of data collection and analysis to effectively inform the planning process.
2. Analytical Skills – Ability to make comprehensive analysis and evaluation of urban contextual realities.
3. Interactive Skills – Ability to interact and relate meaningfully with local urban communities so as to build critical linkages and networks between them and urban city managers.
4. Creativity & Innovation Skills – Ability to engender realistic solutions to effectively address problems affecting local urban communities.

Delivery method:

The course will be delivered in form of lectures and group discussions. Students will additionally be required to make presentations demonstrating an understanding and critical engagement of course readings.

Assessment method:

This will be done through continuous assessment (including coursework and tests) and written examination at the end of the semester. Coursework and test will be assessed out of 40% and examinations, out of 60%.

Course content:

The course covers but is not limited to:

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| 1. Concepts of strategic planning & action planning | 8 CH |
| 2. Plan-Analyze-Survey: Planning from back to front | 6 CH |
| 3. Approaches to Strategic planning | 11 CH |
| 4. Governance, participation & networks | 4 CH |
| 5. Rigor & Relevance in planning | 8 CH |
| 6. Best planning practice-Case studies | 8 CH |

Proposed staff: Dr. Kenneth Ssemwogerere

References:

1. Reinhard Goethert (1997): Action Planning for Cities: A Guide to Community Practice Academy Press
2. Nabeel Hamdi (2004): Small Change: The Art of Practice and the Limits of Planning in Cities Earthscan Publications Ltd.
3. William Peterman (1999): Neighborhood Planning and Community-Based Development: The Potential and Limits of Grassroots Action (Cities and Planning), 1st Edition Sage Publications Inc.
4. Marisa Carmona, Rod Burgess and Sakke Badenhorst (2009): Planning through Projects: Moving from Master Planning to Strategic Planning Techne Press.
5. Christopher Wood, Mark Baker, Jeremy Carter and Carys Jones (2005): Strategic Environmental Assessment and Land Use Planning: An International Evaluation (Earthscan Planning Library) Earthscan Publications Ltd.
6. Harry Dimitriou and Robin Thompson (2007): Strategic Planning for Regional Development: Principles and Practice in the UK (The Natural and Built Environment Series) Routledge.
7. Alessandro Balducci, Valeria Fedeli and Gabriele Pasqui (2011): Strategic Planning for Contemporary Urban Regions (Urban and Regional Planning and Development) Ashgate.