The Ohio State University
Knowlton School
City and Regional Planning

CRPLAN 2100: Reading the City through History and Law 3 credit hours
Tuesday-Thursday 9:35 – 10:55
Knowlton Hall 176

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Office hours:
Wednesday: 10am-1pm
Other days: appointment

Course Goal

This course introduces students to concepts that provide the basis for understanding the city as the basic form human settlement. With an emphasis on the American urban experience, the course also introduces students to the legal and constitutional framework of land use regulation.

Course objectives

This course is an introduction to the evolution of the city from antiquity through the modern era. The focus of the course will be the role of history and law, as reflections of society, in shaping the development of urban areas in America. The main objectives of the course include:

- familiarizing students with the historical development of cities and regions
- familiarizing students with the role that law has played in shaping urban development.
- providing students with an opportunity to explore how law and history have influenced the development of a particular city or town

At the end of the course, students should be able to:

- identify the social, economic, political, and environmental forces that influence development in metropolitan areas in America and elsewhere
- understand the role of human advancements in shaping cities
- understand—at a basic level—the legal and constitutional foundations of land use regulation in America
- apply principles and concepts learned in an analysis of a city or town
Course Overview

This course explores the process of urbanization by examining key people, movements and themes of city planning, and the role of the constitution and laws in American planning. The course will highlight the movements, events, and issues that have shaped cities over time, and have evolved into modern planning.

The course is divided into four main parts:

I. The American city in the twentieth century

The first part of the course is an overview of a subject with which most students will have some experience and familiarity—the modern American city. This overview will cover the critical components of cities, and an introduction to the field of urban studies. Emphasis will be placed on significant planning developments in the US, the forces that shaped particular cities and towns, and regional differences in urban development, including suburban development.

II. Cities in world history

Following the survey of planning and urban development in the US, the course will briefly shift to a consideration of urban development and cities in Europe, and in non-western cultures. The purpose of this is to provide a basic understanding that, despite some common elements, urban forms and patterns differ from place to place, for several reasons.

III. Legal foundations of American planning

This part of the course will cover the legal and constitutional foundations of land use regulation in America. This will include standard zoning enabling acts, and the important US Supreme Court cases through the 1976 decision in Penn Central v. City of New York and beyond. There will also be a review of some standard land use regulatory techniques (zoning, subdivision, etc.).

IV. The future of planning in America

The course will conclude with a consideration of the future of cities, modern planning concepts such as sustainability and new urbanism, and the future of planning. During this part, students will present their group projects (see below) to the class.

Group project: About mid-way through the semester, Students will be divided into groups of 4-5 individuals. The group will consider a particular municipality in the Columbus area (any city except Columbus—e.g., Gahanna, Worthington). The purpose of this consideration is to identify and explain—using the concepts learned in class, why that particular municipality developed in the way that it has, and what may happen in that city in the near future (20-25 years). There will be several required updates and “check-ins” (brief status reports) during the course of the semester. Groups will make a brief presentation (10 minutes) to the entire class, using any appropriate medium, and will submit their findings as a term project or paper. The
A project/paper format should include visuals and graphics as well as text. The dates for the presentations will be determined, but will occur during the last two weeks of the semester.

**Course requirements and grading**

This course will be a combination of lectures, discussion, videos, and group work; students are responsible for all material regardless of format. The course includes a heavy amount of participation based on the reading and individual research. Students will be expected to have read the assigned materials prior to the class so that they may actively participate in class discussions. There are three assigned texts (with the possibility of a fourth):

Teaford, Jon C., *The Twentieth Century American City*, (2d edition) Johns Hopkins (herein “JT”)


[TBA--text or article on cities in world history]

Edited versions of cases and statutes will be supplied by the instructor.

Other readings will be assigned

There will also be links to online materials posted on Carmen or other common site. Note that not all the material presented in class will be in the readings; it is essential that you attend class lectures.

Handouts will be distributed in class with questions pertaining to the materials covered. These will be collected at the end of class and count toward students’ participation grades. On line exercises will be drawn from materials in the text book and class presentations. There may also be take home assignments. ALL take home assignments must be TYPED and submitted by the start of the next class. The exams will be in class and likely consist of a combination of multiple choice, true/false, and short answer questions. For exams, point values will appear with each question. For other assignments like projects or short written assignments, point values/grading scheme will be explained in more detail when the assignment is made. Some assignments must be completed, but will not be graded.

Grading will be designed to measure how well the student satisfies the objectives of the course, and understands the material. Students must attend the examinations when scheduled. Exceptions will be made only for serious circumstances in the sole discretion of the instructor. There will be no grading curve in the class. If you are encountering circumstances beyond your control that may prevent you from performing in the class, or if you are in fear of failing the course, please see the instructor as soon as possible to discuss options; do not wait.

All grading will be done as fairly and as consistently as is reasonably possible. Lateness in submitting assignments is not acceptable. In some cases, however, there are extenuating circumstances that may lead to a late assignment. Requests to turn in an assignment late must be made in advance, in writing. Requests will considered on a case-by-case basis, and extra work may be assigned. Only those students
whom the instructor deems to have legitimate external issues will be given opportunity to make up projects.

Student performance will be evaluated based on:
- in class/on line/take home exercises (15 points)
- two exams (25 points each, 50 points total)
- project status memos (5 points)
- group project, including presentation and paper (20 points)
- attendance and participation (10 points).

--Grading scale

A = >95, A- = 90-94.99
B+ = 87-89.99, B = 83-86.99 B- = 80-82.99
C+ = 77-79.99, C = 73-76.99, C- = 70-72.99
E = < 60.

Students who are persistently unprepared, late, or absent may, after appropriate warning, have final grades reduced by up to two grade increments (e.g. B+ to B-).

--Appeal of Grade

Students wishing to appeal the grading of an assignment must make the appeal in writing within 5 calendar days after an assignment/exam is returned. As per University policy, you have one term to appeal a final grade.

Course Policies

All students are held responsible for knowing and abiding by the Department’s policies on plagiarism and the University’s policies on academic misconduct. These have been distributed to all CRP students. If you have not received a copy, please obtain one from the graduate studies office on the first floor of Knowlton Hall. Students are encouraged to share ideas in intellectual discussions relating to the class. However, all assignments (exercises, papers, projects) MUST include proper citations within the text and proper references/bibliographies at the end. This is a critical component of any scholarly writing effort as well as any effort that uses other sources of information. Violations fall under academic misconduct regulations and can result in dismissal from the program and the University. If you do not know proper citation procedures, contact the OSU Center for the Study and Teaching of Writing (http://www.cstw.osu.edu/writingcenter). You may also see me during office hours.
ADA Policy Statement

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Office of Disability Services at (614) 292-3307.

Course Communication

Initially, the primary means of communication about the course will be via e-mail to the class roster. My e-mail address is oast.1@osu.edu. As soon as I become familiar with Carmen, it will become the primary repository for information about the class, including class announcements, assignments, submission deadlines, and similar information.

This course will also make extensive use of our library and digital media. You will likely rely heavily on online information which provides additional insights into classroom lectures; supplemental information will also be provided as possible from these resources. Students also will be expected to conduct much of the background research for the group project on their own time using digital resources available from the OSU Libraries web site and official governmental websites, including OhioLINK.

Course Schedule

The following is the proposed schedule for this class; please note that some changes are possible and I will try to provide as much advance notice as possible to any change. You will be held responsible for the content of required readings only; optional readings will provide you with a richer understanding of key topics and information on related topics. For all topics, we will highlight primary events, people, and places.

I. The American City in the Twentieth Century

Week #1  Jan 13 and 15

   Introduction and housekeeping
   -Written assignment and discussion

Week #2  Jan 20 and 22

   Precursors and antecedents of modern American city planning
   -WR Chapters 1-4

Week #3  Jan 27 and 29

   The birth and early days of American city planning
   -WR Chapters 5-6
   -JT Chapter 2
Week # 4  Feb 3 and 5

The growth of the city
  -WR Chapter 7
  -JT Chapter 3

Week # 5  Feb 10 and 12

Depression, war and the beginning of suburbia
  -WR Chapter 8
  -JT Chapter 4

Week # 6  Feb 17 and 19

Decline of the central city
  -JT Chapters 5-6

Week # 7  Feb 24 and 26

Urban renaissance
  -WR Chapter 9
  -JT Chapter 7

II. Cities in world history

Week # 8  March 3 and 5

Ancient and international cities
  -reading TBA
  Mid term review

Week # 9  March 10 and 12

Mid term exam Mar 10

III. Introduction to planning and land use law

Introduction to law and the American legal system
  -Reading TBA

Spring Break March 16 – 20
Week # 10 March 24 and 22

Basics of zoning and land use regulation
-N & R Chapters I, II and IV (note: page numbers to N & R text are based on previous edition and will change)

Week # 11  March 31 and April 2

Important legal developments in American planning history—cases and laws
-Hadacheck v. Sebastian
-Standard State Planning and Zoning Enabling Acts
-Euclid v. Ambler
-N & R Chapter V., pp. 80-92

Week # 12  April 7 and 9

-Nectow v. Cambridge
-Penn Central v. New York City
-Lucas v. South Carolina Coastal Comm’n
-N & R Chapter V., 117-138

Week # 13 April 14 and 16

Understanding zoning and land use regulations (ZOTAs, ZOMAs, PUDs and CUDs)
-N & R Chapter VII., 172-201

IV.  Future of land use planning

Week # 14  April 21 and 23

Planning in in the twenty-first century
-WR Chapter 10
-JT Chapter 7

Review for final

Final Exam: