

Behavior Planning Theories Syllabus

Spring 2018

Institutes: Urban Governance Program, Real Estate and Built Environment

Graduate and Doctoral programs, National Taipei University

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Course introduction

Urban planning tends to approach the cities from above; yet planning appears to be more effective when it is able to engage the individual and the society by incorporating users' lived experience and knowledge into planning practice.

Urban planning as a profession also tends to focus on creating the exterior form of a city, instead of addressing the grounded problems of inhabitants. In other words, planners care about what a city is supposed to look like more than how a city operates in reality. Yet, the body of planning theories has undergone a transformation during the past decades integrating ever wider theoretical perspectives from behavioral science, human geography, political economy, urban sociology, and so on, and expanding its attention to the city as physical, mental, social and virtual form.

This course, built on the critiques suggested above, encourages students to rethink planning and urban studies through the theoretical lens offered by a set of readings combining the environment-behavioral, social and cultural analyses of people, places, and the cities. This is a seminar course. I will not be lecturing. Students need to be prepared to read the material, comment on it, and to engage in class discussion. I will elaborate the key theoretical arguments, responding to everyone's presentations, as well as the research ideas.

Requirements

1. Students will take turns, or share equal rounds to introduce weekly readings (articles) by summarizing them and creating probes that promote discussion among class members.
2. Everyone needs to read the article of the coming week and participate in class discussion. You will also share a research idea inspired by it with class members.
3. There will be a take-home midterm written exam testing your understanding

of the readings.

4. Final paper: How do the readings and theories covered in this course inform your current research?

Course schedule

PART 1 The fundamental debates

2/23 Course overview

3/02 Introduction: Acknowledging the complexity of the city/planning

Alexander, C. (1965). A city is not a tree. Architectural forum.

[3/8 Neil Brenner talk (UP 630) 2:00-4:00p (3/7 NTU as well)]

3/09 Rethinking rational planning: Jane Jacob's critiques

Jacobs, J (2003). The death and life of great American cities. In Susan S. Fainstein (Ed.) Readings in planning theory (pp.61-74). Blackwell.

3/16 Planning after modernity: the Myth of Pruitt Igoe housing

Bristol, K. (1991). The Pruitt-Igoe Myth. Journal of Architectural Education, 44. (3):163-171.

PART 2 Behavioral aspects (human experience, perception and cognition) of planning; seeing through the users' eyes and minds

3/23 Walking in the city: spatial practice, strategy-tactics dichotomy

De Certeau, M. (1984). Walking in the city. In The practice of everyday life. Berkeley: University of California Press.

3/30 Modes of knowing cities: cognitive map, way finding

Milgram, S. & Jodelet, D. (1970) Psychological maps of Paris. In Proshansky, H., Ittelson, W. & Rivlin, L. Environmental Psychology, 2nd Edition, pp.104-124. New York: Holt, Rinehart, & Winston.

4/13 Good city form

Lynch K. (1981). The good city form. MIT Press. (Prologue, CH 6 ~CH 11)

4/20 Good city form (cont.)

4/27 Midterm exam

PART 3 : Social and cultural significance in planning

5/04 The creative-city theories; cultural economy and planning social milieu

Florida, R. (2002). The rise of the creative class. The Washington Post.

Currid, E. (2007). The Warhol Economy: How Fashion, Art and Music Drive New York City. (The Introduction). Princeton University Press.

5/11 Uncovering state-society/ structure-agency synergy: planning as negotiated, interactive performance: the case of governing street vending in Taiwan

Chiu, C. (2013). Informal management, interactive performance: Street vendors and police in a Taipei Night Market. *International Development Planning Review*, 35(4), 335-352.

5/18 Urban informality as planning epistemology

Roy, A. (2007). Urban Informality: Toward an Epistemology of Planning. *Journal of American Planning Association*, 72 (2): 147-158.

5/25 Urban informality and “the other” cities (cont.)

Also on The Southeast Asia as aspiring world cities (Tim Bunnell talk video)

Bunnell, T., & Harris, A. (2012). Re-viewing informality: Perspectives from Urban Asia. *International Development Planning Review*, 34(4), 339-347.

6/1 Squatters settlement and assemblage urbanism

Dovey, K. 2012. Informal urbanism and complex adaptive assemblage. *International Development Planning Review*, 34(4): 349-368.

6/8 Conclusions; Students give final oral presentations

6/15 No class, invited talk switched to 3/8 or T.B.C

Final paper due 6/29 5:00p in my email box