

Course website: <https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1259422>

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Office Hours: Gould 448J, Thursdays 10:00-11:30 or by appointment

COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES

URBDP 424/524 provides students with an overview of site planning as both a design activity and also as a nexus of principles and issues that are central to urban planning and its allied professions, including architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering and real estate. The course is informed by the working definition of site planning phrased by Kevin Lynch and Gary Hack: the practical, moral and aesthetic “art of arranging structures on the land and shaping the spaces between” (*Site Planning*, 1984, p.1).

Course lectures, readings, and discussion address the basic techniques and norms of good physical design as well as critical issues, regulations and policy, and their place in the historical evolution of approaches to site layout, from the early days of the industrial revolution through the advent of the automobile, the rise of “New” Urbanism, and current renewed concerns for ecological performance, health/well-being, and social inclusion. The assignments familiarize students with key tasks of site planning: site observation and analysis; basic topographical and hydrological analysis and manipulation; property subdivision; residential, mixed-use and shopping center layout; laying out roadways, parking, and pedestrian circulation; and finally site furnishing, lighting, planting and paving. More advanced students will also have an opportunity to apply specialized knowledge in areas of particular interest to them. Lectures and readings will also include enough historical background and cases of innovative practice to enable critical thinking about current conventions and the application of technique.

GRADING

Student performance will be graded as follows:

Participation in class discussion and in-class exercises: 10%.

Assignment #1. Site Analysis: 15%

Assignment #2/Quiz. Subdivision Revision/Markup: 10%

Assignment #3. Site and Housing Typology Study: 10%

Assignment #4. Residential Cluster Plan: 15%

Assignment #5. Commercial Site Layout: 15%

Final Assignment: 25%. URBDP 424 students must revise Assignment #1, the Site Analysis.

Under special circumstances, with the instructor's approval, they may instead revise Assignment #5 or #6. URBDP 524 students who are taking the course for the Urban Design Certificate or MUP Urban Design Specialization must both revise and add further detail to either Assignment #4 or #5, e.g. revise it according to the instructor's comments as well as design a grading and drainage layer, or include detailed site furnishings, lighting and landscape for a portion of it. Other URBDP 524 students must revise Assignment #4 or #5, and conduct a basic traffic impact (trip-generation and -distribution) analysis, a financial analysis, environmental/health/climate impact assessment, or other analysis suited to their specialization.

* If you have a disability (physical, learning, or psychological) that makes it difficult for you to carry out the coursework as outlined and/or requires accommodations, such as recruiting note-takers, readers, or extended time on assignments and exams, please contact me, or Disabled Student Services, within the first week of the quarter. DSS is available at 685-1511, or at http://www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Disabled_Student.html, and will be able to provide you with information and review appropriate arrangements for reasonable accommodation.

FORMAT

Class sessions will be based on a series of lectures, with some time given to presentation and discussion of the readings and assignments. Most assignments will be take-home and will require students to visit off-campus sites on their own time, but some amount of class time will also be put aside for students to work together on assignments, with coaching from the instructor. One or two class field trips involving extra time outside of the normal class time may also be scheduled.

Materials needed: sketch/notebook; camera; engineering scale ruler showing 1"=20', 1"=40', 1"=100', etc.; protractor; drawing pens and pencils (of your choice, but a fine and a medium felt-tip black marker, and a small selection of colored pencils is recommended); tracing paper (either 11"x17" sheets from a tablet, or cut neatly from an 11" roll of tracing paper). Tracing paper is available from the University Bookstore. Also, students are expected to obtain base maps, GIS data and aerial photographs normally available through online databases and the map library.

Use of laptops and handhelds is not permitted in class sessions. Students are expected to use and develop hand sketching and note-taking ability, both in-class and for field observation and incorporation in assignment submissions. Use of digital modeling and presentation tools (ArcMap, SketchUp, etc.) is encouraged for homework assignments, but is not necessary. The basic clarity of line drawing (e.g. as afforded by the use of variable line weights, etc.), is more important than being able to use sophisticated digital media.

Readings are listed below, and are also indicated next to each topic in the syllabus schedule to which they relate. Many are available electronically on the course Canvas website. Some further suggested readings may also be placed on the library course reserve, added to Canvas, or distributed in class. The readings are offered as a resource for you to read selectively, as an aid and reference to doing the assignments and understanding the related issues. Students should read the materials marked with an asterisk (*) *before* the class session for which they are listed, in order to best participate in class discussion and in class-time exercises. Other readings are mainly for reference use in doing assignments outside of class-time.

The primary required text for this course has been ordered through the University Bookstore:

- Gary Hack, *Site Planning: International Practice* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2018). It is also available directly from MIT Press as an eTextbook to students for \$45.

2019 is the first year that the course uses this textbook, however, and students (especially undergraduates taking URBDP 424) may find it useful also to refer to the previous main text, which will continue to be the basis for some in-class discussion, and includes in Appendix L a handy list of rule-of-thumb quantitative standards that are very useful for the assignments:

- Kevin Lynch and Gary Hack, *Site Planning*, 3rd Edition (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1984). This book is available on reserve in the Built Environments Library in Gould Hall.

Students taking the course for graduate-level credit (URBDP 524) should also refer frequently to:

- Thomas H. Russ, *Site planning and design handbook* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2002). This book has a more thorough approach to technical specifications. Note that a 2nd edition of Russ's

Site Planning and Design Handbook (2009) is now available in the library's reference section (does not leave the library). The Canvas online readings and reserves (both on the shelf and electronic) include chapters from the 1st edition (2002), which is similar enough for all but the most technical of purposes.

Also, for useful technical definitions, see Appendix A in James LaGro's *Site Analysis: Informing Context-Sensitive and Sustainable Site Planning and Design* (2013), available as an e-book through UW Libraries.

Finally, two other classic (i.e. "old") but extremely useful design references edited by Joseph De Chiara, *Time-Saver Standards for Housing and Residential Development* and *Time-Saver Standards for Site Planning*, are in the Built Environments Library reference section. An older and less complete (but still very useful) book by De Chiara, *Site Planning Standards* (1978 and 1984), is under the reserve readings for this course. Students are expected to refer to these books for help in completing the assignments for the course.

RESOURCES

Materials on reserve in the Built Environments Library, Gould Hall (not including materials in Canvas, some of which are also on reserve, see next page)

Alexander, Christopher et al. *A pattern language: towns, buildings, construction* (New York : Oxford University Press, 1977). HT166.A6147

Alexander, Ernest R. and K. D. Reed. *Density measures and their relation to urban form*. HT110 .A54 1988

Alternative Development Standards for Sustainable Communities: Design Workbook. AURES PC
Arendt, Randall G. *Conservation design for subdivisions: a practical guide to creating open space networks* (Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 1996). HD1390.2.A73 1996

Balmori, Diana, and Gaboury Benoit. *Land and Natural Development (LAND) Code: Guidelines for Sustainable Land Development* (Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2007). HD255 .B34 2007

Bookout, Lloyd W. *Value by design: landscape, site planning, and amenities* (Washington, D.C. : Urban Land Institute, 1994). SB472.45.B66 1994

Burden, Dan. *Street design guidelines for healthy neighborhoods* (Sacramento, CA: Center for Livable Communities, [1999]). TE279.B87 1999

Campoli, Julie and Alex MacLean. *Visualizing Density* (Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2007). HB1965 .C25 2007 (book and disc).

Davis, Sam, ed. *The Form of housing* (New York : Van Nostrand Reinhold, [1977]). HD7293.F63

De Chiara, Joseph. *Site planning standards* (New York : McGraw-Hill, 1978; 1984). NA2540.D4 (Reference Section)

Fader, Steven. *Density by design: new directions in residential development* (Washington, D.C.: ULI, Urban Land Institute, 2000). NA7205.D44 2000

Girling, Cynthia and Ronald Kellet. *Skinny Streets and Green Neighborhoods: Design for Environment and Community* (Washington, D.C.: Island Press, 2005). HT167.G57 2005

Gary Hack, *Site Planning: International Practice* (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2018). NA2540.5.H33 2018

Jarvis, Frederick D. *Site planning and community design for great neighborhoods*. HD259.J37 1993

- Kulash, Walter M. *Residential streets* (Washington, D.C.: ULI, the Urban Land Institute, 2001). TE279.K85 2001
- LaGro, James A. *Site Analysis: Informing Context-Sensitive and Sustainable Site Planning and Design*. Hoboken: Wiley, 2013). UW Libraries e-book.
- Listokin, David and Carole Walker. *The subdivision and site plan handbook* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers, State University of New Jersey, Ctr. for Urban Policy Research, 1989). KF5698.L57 1989
- Lynch, Kevin and Gary Hack, *Site Planning*, 3rd Ed. (Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 1984). NA9030.L9 1984
- Marcus, Clare Cooper and Wendy Sarkissian. *Housing as if people mattered: site design guidelines for medium-density family housing* (Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1986). NA7115.M27 1986
- Marshall, Stephen. *Streets & Patterns* (London; New York: Spon Press, 2005). NA 9053.S7.M37.2005.
- NAHB. *Land development* (Washington, D.C.: National Assoc. of Home Builders, 1987). TD163.L36 1987
- Newman, Oscar. *Community of Interest*. 1st ed. (Garden City, N.Y.: Anchor Press/Doubleday, 1980). HN90.C6 N49
- Pyatok, M. *Designing for density: ideas for more compact housing and communities*. NA9051.4.D48 1992
- Rubenstein, Harvey M. *A guide to site planning and landscape construction* (New York: John Wiley, 1996). NA2540.5.R83 1996
- Schueler, T. R. *Site planning for urban stream protection* (Wash., DC: Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; Silver Spring, MD: Center for Watershed Protection, 1995). TD365.S34 1995
- Schwanke, Dean et al. *Remaking the Shopping Center*. HF5430.3.S32 1994
- Southworth, Michael and Eran Ben-Joseph. *Streets and the shaping of towns and cities* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1997). TE279.S58 1997
- Untermann, Richard K. *Principles and practices of grading, drainage, and road alignment: an ecologic approach* (Reston, Va.: Reston Pub. Co., 1978). TE145.U62
- Untermann, Richard K. and Robert Small. *Site Planning for Cluster Housing* (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1977). NA9051.4.U57
- White, Edward T. *Site analysis: diagramming information for architectural design* (Tucson, Arizona: Architectural Media, 1983). NA2540.5.W55 1983

Canvas Online Readings (items that are also available on reserve separately have call numbers)

- Calthorpe, Peter. "Pedestrian Pockets" in *Whole Earth Review*, Spring 1988, pp.118-123.
- Clausen, Meredith L., "Northgate Regional Shopping Center – Paradigm From the Provinces," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* Vol. 18 No. 2 (May 1984), pp. 144-161.
- Chrest, Anthony P. *Parking structures: planning, design, construction, maintenance, and repair* (Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2001). [TL175 .C48 2001](#)
- Gladwell, Malcolm. "The Terrazzo Jungle." *The New Yorker* (March 15, 2004), pp. 120-127.
- Greenwood Avenue Cottages* and permitting materials, and *Cottage Housing Ordinance Preliminary Proposal* (2 April 2002)
- "Integration of a Neighborhood Mall," *Canadian Architect* (July 1985), pp. 32-33.

- Lennertz, William & Laurence Qamar. *Principles of a Balanced Transportation Network: Implementing the Oregon Transportation Planning Rule* ("funded through a contract with the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development", c.1998) AURES PC
- Moudon, Anne Vernez. "The Evolution of Twentieth-Century Residential Forms: An American Case Study," in Whitehand and Larkham, eds., *Urban Landscapes: International Perspectives* (London; New York: Routledge, 1992), pp. 170-206. [NA9095.U74 1992](#)
- Newman, Oscar. *Design Guidelines for Creating Defensible Space* (1975)
"Reviving Dead Malls," *New Urban News* (January-February 2000).
- Robinette, Gary O. *Parking lot landscape development* (Plano, TX.: Agora Communications, 1993). [TL175.R6 1993](#)
- Rowe, Peter G. *Making a Middle Landscape* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1991), pp. 197-213. [HT352.U6 R68 1991](#)
- Russ, Thomas. H. *Site planning and design handbook* (New York, McGraw-Hill, 2002), Chapters 6, 8 and 9, "Infrastructure," "Site Layout," and "Vegetation in the Site Plan." [NA2540.5 .R87 2002](#) (Reference Section)
- Smith, Mary S. *Shared Parking* (Washington, D.C.: ULI, 2005). [HE336.P37 S52 2005](#)
- Untermann, Richard K. *Grade easy; an introductory course in the principles and practices of grading and drainage* ([McLean, Va.] American Society of Landscape Architects Foundation [1973]) [SB476.U57](#)
- Urban Land Institute, and National Parking Association. *The Dimensions of Parking*. 4th ed. (Washington, DC: ULI; National Parking Association, 2000), Chapters 3-5, 7-9. [HE336.P37 D55 2000](#)
- Valente, James R. and Leslie A. Oringer, "Retail's Evolving Footprint," *Urban Land*, July 1998, pp. 30-35, and other articles from that issue of *Urban Land* on trends in shopping center development. See especially, Lassar, Terry J. "Shopping in Seattle," pp. 42-45, 84, on University Village.
- Walker Parking Consultants, Urban Land Institute, and International Council of Shopping Centers. *Parking Requirements for Shopping Centers: Summary Recommendations and Research Study Report*. 2nd ed. (Washington, DC: ULI, 1999), Chapters 1-9, various appendices. [HE336.P37 P37 1999](#)

Miscellaneous outdoor lighting specifications samples.

Also, online:

Lincoln Institute project on density: <http://www.lincolninst.edu/subcenters/visualizing-ccdensity/>

New Urbanist approaches to mall redevelopment: <http://www.cnu.org/malls/> and <http://www.doverkohl.com/> (see "Downtown Kendall" and "Eastgate Town Center" in the Retrofitting Suburbia section of their Portfolio)

Housing diversification: <http://www.psrc.org/about/pubs#housing>

Low Impact Development: Technical Guidance Manual for Puget Sound
http://www.psp.wa.gov/LID_manual.php (news on update)

SCHEDULE

Week	Day	Topic	References
1	T 1/8	INTRODUCTION - instructor and student interests and background - overview of course and syllabus - handout and discuss Assignment #1	
	Th 1/10	SITE ANALYSIS AND MAPPING - site inventory and evaluation - range and process of different types of site development and design - regulatory considerations - relation of program to design - importance of slope - learn to read a topographical map and relate it to natural systems	*Hack, Parts 1 and 2 *Lynch & Hack, chaps.1,2,3 Russ, pp.1-34 *LaGro, Section 1.5, and all of Part II Listoken & Walker, pp.189-195 *Untermann (in reader), pp.2-12 Untermann & Small, pp.21-35, 183-200 NAHB, <i>Land...</i> , chap.2 White Rubenstein, chaps.2,6
2	T 1/15	SITE ANALYSIS CONTINUED - on-site reconnaissance and note-taking for site analysis	*Hack, Part 3 *Lynch & Hack, chaps.4,5,6
	Th 1/17	Site planning walking tour of UW campus Due online 11:59pm: Assignment #1a - Site Analysis (Part I)	
3	T 1/22	DRAINAGE AND GRADING - moving earth and water given different slopes, soil types and ground cover - strategies for minimizing runoff and preserving natural vegetation and habitat - wastewater systems	*Hack, chaps. 25, 27, 32 *Lynch & Hack, chap.8, Appendix K Russ, chap. 6 (in reader) *Untermann (in reader), p.13ff Jones, et al Rubenstein, chaps.7,8 Schueler Untermann, "Principles..."
	Th 1/24	PROPERTY SUBDIVISION AND ACCESS: ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUT - basics of conventional subdivision layout - road intersection standards and horizontal and vertical alignment principles	*Lynch & Hack, chap.7 (pp.193-221), Appendix J Russ, Chap.8 *Listoken & Walker, pp.293-342 Rowe (in reader) Southworth & Ben-Joseph, chaps.1,2,3 Kulash, chaps.1,2,3,4 Rubenstein, chap.9
4	S 1/27	Due online 11:59pm: Assignment #1b - Site Analysis (Part II)	
	T 1/29	PROPERTY SUBDIVISION AND ACCESS: ECOLOGICAL AND PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY DESIGN - shared/controlled access - green infrastructure	*Hack, chap. 16 Burden *Girling and Kellett Arendt * http://www.psp.wa.gov/LID_manual.php Alternative Development Standards

Th 1/31 Handout and discuss Assignment #3, Site & Housing Typology Study

Week	Day	Topic	References
4	Th 1/31 (cont'd)	HOUSING, HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES: DENSITY AND DIVERSITY - residential area design, given increased diversity of housing types; enhanced pedestrian and transit access	*Hack, chap. 33 *Lynch & Hack, chap.9, App. E Alexander & Reed Bookout, pp.3-25; case studies *Campoli & MacLean *Davis, chaps.1,2 Fader *Lennertz & Qamar (in reader) NAHB, <i>Land...</i> , chap.5 Moudon (in reader) Southworth & Ben-Joseph, chap.5 (pp.109-120)

Due online 11:59pm: “Assignment” #2 – Subdivision Quiz

5	T 2/5	Handout and discuss Assignment #4, Residential Cluster Plan Review Assignment #1 Site Analyses	
	Th 2/7	Due in class: Assignment #3 – Site & housing typology measurement study	
		HOUSING, HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES: PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPACES - residential area design, given increased public/collective responsibility for on-site environmental conservation and public amenities - sun angles and shadow studies	*Hack, chap. 40 Corbett Greenwood Avenue Cottages (in reader) Jarvis Listoken & Walker, pp.200-205 *Newman (in reader) Newman (on reserve) Pyatok

6	T 2/12	HOUSING, HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES: THE “NEW” URBANISM - recent trends in residential site planning from an historical perspective	*Calthorpe (in reader) *Southworth & Ben-Joseph, chap.5 (pp.97-109; 120-129), chap.6
	Th 2/14	SITE VISIT: THE “ECOLOGICAL NEW URBANIST” NEIGHBORHOOD <i>(exact time and location to be announced)</i> To read in advance: http://www.svrdesign.com/high-point-redevelopment/	

7	T 2/19	Due for IN-CLASS REVIEW: Assignment #4 - Residential cluster plan	
	Th 2/21	Handout and discuss Assignment #5, Commercial Site Layout	
		MIXED USE AND COMMERCIAL SITES: LAYOUT AND ACCESS - densification/diversification of suburban malls	*Hack, chaps. 34, 35, 39 *Lynch & Hack, chap.10 *Clausen; Gladwell; Valente & Oringer; and other articles on malls Schwanke

Online: www.cnu.org/malls/

Week	Day	Topic	References
8	T 2/26	MIXED USE AND COMMERCIAL SITES: PARKING DEMAND - access and parking - trip generation and distribution	*Hack, Chaps. 21-24 Barton-Aschman (in reader) Chrest (in reader) Robinette (in reader) *Urban Land Institute (in reader) Walker Parking Consultants (in reader)
	Th 2/28	SITE VISIT: THE NEW URBANIST SHOPPING CENTER <i>(exact meeting time and location to be announced)</i>	
9	T 3/5	Due for IN-CLASS REVIEW: Assignment #5 - Commercial site layout Handout and discuss Final Assignment	
	Th 3/7	SITE DETAILS: MICROCLIMATE, PLANTING, FURNISHING AND LIGHTING	*Lynch & Hack, review Chaps.3, 6, 7 (pp.203-205), and 8 (pp.246-247) *Russ, Chap.9 (in reader) Listoken & Walker, pp.235-282 Marcus Miscellaneous outdoor lighting specifications samples
		Due online 11:59pm: Final Assignment Topic (URBDP 524)	
10	T 3/12	NO CLASS; INSTRUCTOR AT CONFERENCE	
	Th 3/14	Wrap-up; course evaluations	
		<i>This week schedule out-of-class consultations on final assignments</i>	
Finals Week	W 3/20	Due 11:59pm: Final Assignment	