City of Seattle Comprehensive Plan Update Studio

URBDP 507 B: General Urban Planning Laboratory
SPRING 2021

Lecture: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays | 1:30 - 4:00 pm | Online via Zoom

Instructor : Katie Cote, Senior Planner, BHC Consultants and Branden Born, Associate Professor

Course Description

The intent of the URBDP 507, the first planning studio, is to introduce the plan-making process, or elements thereof, building upon the work completed in URBDP 506, Planning Studio Prep. The prep course provided time for skill building, background research, issue identification, some community involvement, and preliminary analysis. Some of this was geared as an academic exercise for class, and some was for the community partner or to develop your familiarity with the location and project.

During Spring Quarter, URBDP 507 will build on that work, focusing on the development and evaluation of plan/design alternatives and recommendations based on project/community partner needs and best practices, taking into account local conditions and community involvement, as possible--particularly in a pandemic-necessitated socially-distant environment.

Studio is an intensive learning experience that seeks to meaningfully cover a complex subject in a relatively brief period of time. The project for this section of 507 this year will help the City of Seattle's Office of Planning and Community Development, to understand implications of different future scenarios for Downtown post-COVID, and what the planning or policy considerations would need to be to address those scenarios at the city level. It will include research, scenario development, policy analysis and draft alternative policy development depending on scenarios, data compilation and organization, and community engagement.

You will have the opportunity in this studio to:

Work with city planners and other city staff, nonprofit organizations, community members, and (possibly) elected and appointed officials

Prepare background research and materials

Facilitate and prepare materials for a final client/community advisory meeting and mid-term project development presentations; you'll familiarize yourself with the opportunities and challenges inherent in a variety of online tools.

Develop draft scenarios, appropriate policy responses, and planning documents that will indicate possible approaches for the City of Seattle to consider. The City is hoping to present the work of

all three 507 studios in an installation during the summer, and/or in online formats on the City's webpage.

This course is highly participatory. Its success will rest on your participation and involvement in teams and individually. Work early, work often!

Objective of the Course

The class will develop skills in the following:

Research methods
Issue identification and clarification
Idea/alternative development
Professional protocol
Public participation/community engagement
Report or document preparation

Participation, Assignments, and Grading

Each participant is expected to work in teams and individually to complete assignments in a competent and timely manner. Professional quality work is expected, as much as possible. Please be kind and generous of spirit to yourselves and your colleagues. Every class, indeed every group, is a new opportunity to improve ourselves. In this strange and unexpected COVID environment we may be carrying significant mental loads invisible to others, so let's all do our best to support each other in our academic and professional pursuits in this studio.

You are expected to:

1. Attend and actively participate in scheduled classes and events.
2. Contribute to the effectiveness of your teams.
3. Prepare and submit high-quality assignments in a timely manner.

Grades will be based on:

1. How regularly and actively you participate in class discussions and activities.
2. Your ability to listen and support your colleagues in discussion.
3. Your effectiveness as a team member.
4. Completion and quality of assigned tasks.

Grades are approximately distributed by:

Class Participation and Attendance, (leadership?)	30%
Problem Identification, Work Plans, and Scoping	20%
Element/Alternative Drafting, Development, and Presentation	20%
Final Documents and Presentation	30%

Differently-abled students are always welcome in my class. If you have a disability that makes it difficult for you to carry out the coursework as outlined and/or requires accommodations, please contact Disability Resources for Students within the first week of the quarter. DRS is available by telephone at 543-8924, or online at: http://depts.washington.edu/uwdrs/ and they will be able to provide you with information and review arrangements for reasonable accommodation.

Finally, I expect students to uphold university policies on academic integrity. Failure to uphold academic integrity will be dealt with in accordance with university procedures. The UW's policy on academic integrity and plagiarism is located at:

http://depts.washington.edu/grading/issue1/honesty.htm. Any issues that arise will be elevated to the dean's office as per CBE policy.

Preliminary Weekly Schedule

Week 1:	Welcome, norms, getting settled into studio; Task generation, scoping, material development April 2nd: Guest Speaker: City of Seattle Land Use 101 - Intersection of urban planning, colonization, and segregation
Week 2:	Draft work proposals (scopes) prepared, preliminary research and material development, outreach to stakeholders/client?
Week 3:	Work days. Draft work proposals vetted by client. Idea development, research, and material development. Outside Expert Mini Lecture: Topic TBD
Week 4:	Work days, check-ins
Week 5:	Work days, respond to stakeholder feedback Outside Expert Mini Lecture: Topic TBD
Week 6:	Midterm stakeholder meeting, presenting materials to date .
Week 7:	Work days, check-ins
Week 8:	Work days, final client presentation (TBD)
Week 9:	Material preparation: report and meeting presentation.

Week 10:	Final preparations for Meeting with clients and stakeholders, Final presentation date/time TBD.
Finals Week	Final documents due Friday

Typical Class Agenda (subject to change to suit the needs of the studio or client):
Monday and Wednesday:

1:30 - Whole class meeting; provide 'news' updates; possible mini-lecture on relevant topic by instructor or outside guest.

2:00 - Break for group work. Instructor will schedule time to meet with each group, as needed, or will otherwise be available in the Zoom room.

3:30 - Check-back meeting; short debrief or Q&A with the whole group.

*4:0*0 - Class ends.

Friday: Team work day. Instructor is available in the Zoom room during class time and can/will drop-in to student work sessions, as needed to provide feedback or other assistance.

Studio Description

(distilled from several CBE instructors' thinking…) We'll try to build and maintain this, even in our online virtual space... suggestions welcome!

Studio is . . . a class involving lectures, discussion, design work, problem-solving work, independent research, individual and team informal reviews of student work (Desk crits and pin-ups), formal reviews of student work by outside faculty and clients (or client stand-ins), and . . .a culture: studio is an intense learning experience with every participant fully committing to the project while working individually or in various team settings. It only works if there is an infectious energy about it – everyone keeps everyone else up at night; it is unavoidably competitive, but it should also be mutually supportive and, above all, a form of PLAY. a place: studio is a second home; students will be expected to maintain the work space and arrange it to suit their own working habits; drawing tables, computers, discussion area, etc. an iterative, dynamic approach to problem-driven learning; each phase of the work is reviewed and discussed by the group or inside/outside reviewers, and presentations at each pin-up or review should be polished, even as they will be revised according to the reviewers' and instructor's comments. Each assignment and exercise follows from the last, and therefore the exact structure of the course cannot be determined in advance; though the main structure is set in the course schedule. an exercise in commitment: studio earns more credit and

requires more class time than any other course, and students might expect to give it priority over other classes. Studio differs from most other courses in that it requires more teamwork, interdisciplinary exchange, research, discussion and work on multiple scales and aspects simultaneously.