



**UNSW**  
SYDNEY

Australia's  
Global  
University

# Built Environment

PLAN1003  
Urban Society, History, Theory



## Disclaimer

Information within this document is subject to change. The full and most accurate course outline will be available in Moodle closer to the start of the term in which the course is offered.

## 1. COURSE STAFF

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## 2. COURSE DETAILS

<b>Credit Points</b>	6 units of credit (uoc)
<b>Workload</b>	Approx. 150 hours including class contact hours, weekly individual and group online learning activities, readings, class preparation, and assessment activities.
<b>Teaching Times and Location</b>	Find details in timetable <a href="http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au">http://www.timetable.unsw.edu.au</a>

## Description

This course is an overview of planning studies through the frameworks of history, and urban planning theory. This is applied to modern planning practice, and the development of urban planning as a distinct profession. The main topics include the different planning paradigms and theories that have influenced urban planning in Australian and world cities; city typologies, past and present 'ideal' models of the city; social order; and the contemporary art of city-making in changing socioeconomic, environmental and political worlds.

## Aims

The primary objective of this course is to encourage students to critically consider their understanding of the society in which they live. Students are introduced to different planning and urban theories in order to describe and analyse aspects of society and the way in which a built environment professional approaches planning history and the current urban order. How has the Australian cityscape and planning framework come to be the way it is? Issues of development, social equity, social class, housing, technological change, ideal and imagined communities are canvassed and underpinned by an interest as to how planning has historically influenced contemporary built and social form. Rather than providing specific solutions to these issues, the course will provide many opportunities to ask questions of planning history, urban social issues and discuss various directions for the future city.

This course provides a theoretical basis for most other Bachelor of City Planning courses.

## Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

At the successful completion of this course, you will be able to:

1. Apply a major urban theoretical perspectives, and be familiar with historical, modern and postmodern urban and social theory.
2. Identify different social, cultural, economic and political representations of historical and contemporary societies.
3. Identify, understand, and theoretically critique planning policies and places.
4. Summarise extensive information and data succinctly.
5. Understand the basics of the planning profession – ethics + expectations.

## 3. ASSESSMENT

Assessment task	Weight	CLOs Assessed
1. SUMMARIES of readings	30%	1, 5
2. Tutorial quizzes and tasks	30%	1, 2, 4, 5
3. Urban issue – summary + bibliography	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
4. Urban issue – presentation	10%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
5. Urban issue – final report	15%	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

## 4. COURSE IMPROVEMENT AND FEEDBACK

Feedback from students is an integral part of improving courses and teaching approaches. One of the primary mechanisms of feedback is myExperience, which we strongly urge all students to complete at the end of term. Course convenors use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. This is communicated in Moodle in the myFeedback Matters page.