DEPARTMENT OF

GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

SURP 871: Social Planning



Format	Lecture/discussion, guest presentations, in-class activities
Class Assessment	Social Planning Overview 10%
	Social Planning Report 45%
	Social Planning Presentation 30%
	Participation in Class Sessions 15%

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course focuses on planning practices for community social and economic development and increased well-being. The course explores approaches to the design and delivery of social programs and plans at the national, organizational or neighbourhood scale which have been developed and implemented with and/or for specific populations. This course explores theories and practices used in social planning within the urban and regional context. Social planning frameworks including community action, collaborative, participatory, communicative and advocacy planning will be explored as techniques to achieve desired outcomes for society as well as to enable thinking and analysis to this question. Attention to planning for social justice, equity, inclusion and diversity will be explored. Practicing social planning and policy experts will share experiences with current and emerging social issues including food security, the provision of fuel, public health, the natural environment and climate change. The overarching question throughout the course will be: How can social planning be utilized to achieve increased well-being of community residents with respect to the economic, social and physical elements of urban and regional settlements? Attention will be paid to process and outcomes outlined in the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Roadmap of the Canadian Institute of Planners.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Understand and discuss a variety of social planning issues with a focus on Canadian society.
- Identify critical issues related to social change, justice, equity, inclusion and diversity
- Develop a broad understanding of social planning techniques and policy perspectives

COURSE TOPICS

- Affordable Housing
- Community Mobilization
- Social Planning Councils
- Environmental Action
- Community Food Resources
- Urban Planning as a Human Right
- Planning for Ageing
- Social Impact Assessment

COURSE READINGS

Simmons, L. (2024). Community organizing in social work and progressive urban planning - interdisciplinary challenges and opportunities. *Journal of Community Practice*, 32(3), 267–284. https://doi.org/10.1080/10705422.2024.2384594

Jansma, J. E., & Wertheim-Heck, S. C. O. (2021). Thoughts for urban food: A social practice perspective on urban planning for agriculture in Almere, the Netherlands. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 206, Article 103976. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2020.103976