

Contact Time	Four 3-hour sessions
Format	Lecture/Discussion/In-Class Activities. All classes will be delivered in person.
Class Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Developing a Public Engagement Plan (Group Assignment) Part 1 – Group Written Report (max. 10 pages) 40%. Part 2 – Group Presentation (10 minutes) 20% In-Class Activities (20%) Participation in Class Sessions (20%)

COURSE OVERVIEW

Public interest is a fundamental consideration for the planning profession. Engaging with and consulting the public and stakeholders whether in the public or private sector is a key role that planners undertake. This module will explore public engagement techniques and the role of the “planner” to provide for meaningful public participation by examining engagement methods and how these are used in the context of land use planning, infrastructure and environmental planning and social planning. Public Participation will be reviewed with an emphasis on skill development through the interactive discussion of tools and techniques and hands-on in class learning. The course will provide students with an understanding of how to use tools and techniques to inform and engage with different audiences including public meetings, visioning workshops, pop-up sessions, and stakeholder focus groups and meetings. Techniques and formats for both in person and virtual engagement will be explored. Virtual engagement methods will include approaches, formats and success factors for online public meetings, live presentation and various public feedback collection mechanisms. A new component will include methods for addressing heightened public opposition and conflict.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

To become familiar with approaches and how to evaluate the use of different techniques in various settings.

To develop an understanding of what constitutes effective engagement and meaningful public participation and approaches for addressing public concerns and conflict.

To practice skills for participating in public engagement processes.

COURSE TOPICS**Public Participation Techniques**

Explore the continuum of public participation, consultation plans, key audiences, tools for input, effective meetings, and virtual engagement methods.

Community and Land Use Plan-Making Techniques

Examine plan-making approaches in policy, redevelopment, strategic initiatives, community visioning, and group dynamics.

Environmental Planning Techniques

Learn techniques for public participation in environmental processes, infrastructure planning, and sustainability involving multiple organizations.

Housing and Human Services Techniques

Understand techniques that build partnerships and capacity for change through constructive conversations.

COURSE READINGS

David Gordon and Gerald Hodge, The Texture of Participation in Community Planning, Chapter 12 in *Planning Canadian Communities*

James Creighton, Public Meeting Tools in *The Public Participation Handbook* (available in PDF download)

IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum (available in PDF download)

Additional material will be referenced with best practice examples of different techniques