

# GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

## SURP 840 – Land Use Planning – Winter 2026



<b>Contact Time</b>	2-hour lecture; 2-hour lab	
<b>Format</b>	One 2-hour lecture / site visit; one 2-hour lab weekly	
<b>Class Assessment (potential)</b>	<b>Development proposal analysis report</b> (10 pages) (20% of final grade) <b>Land use plan for a small city</b> (5 biweekly group assignments for 70% of final grade) <b>Class participation</b> (5 % of final grade) <b>Group participation</b> (5% of final grade)	

### LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Assess existing and emerging community conditions and choose appropriate methods.
2. Formulate goals and objectives to fit a range of community situations.
3. Translate projections of economic and population change into their land use implications.
4. Determine the suitability of land and locations for various land uses.
5. Apply computer technology to specific plan-making tasks such as map presentations, land suitability analyses, and the drawing of plans. Tutorials for MS Excel and ArcGIS Pro will be available.
6. Deploy oral, graphic, and written communication skills to prepare a comprehensive land use plan.
7. Evaluate the quality of a comprehensive land use plan, using the principles of good plan-making
8. Work as an effective member of a small planning team.

### COURSE TOPICS

Course topics will include (tentative list): Types of buildings and land uses; provincial legislation and policies, comprehensive land use plans, secondary plans, zoning bylaws, site plan control, development permits, subdivision plans and approval and innovative practice.

You will learn what constitutes a comprehensive plan, principles of good plan-making, where to start, specific steps to take, information needs, and current land use planning issues. Students work in small groups to flesh out the socio-economic, cultural, environmental and political aspects of a small city as context, which allows you to pursue particular issues of interest while creating a comprehensive land use plan.

By the end of the course, students will have completed many elements of a planning portfolio useful for an employment search.

### COURSE READINGS

#### Required texts:

Hodge, Gordon & Shaw, *Planning Canadian Communities*, 7th. ed. Nelson, 2021.

Leung, Hok-Lin, *Land Use Planning Made Plain*, (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) Toronto, ON: University of Toronto Press, 2003.

Other readings and land use planning documents will be assigned by the instructor and available in OnQ.