

## GEOG 3461F – Land Use and Development Issues Course Outline: Section 001 Fall 2021

This course is taught in-person

### 1. Course Information



	Delivery Mode	Day/Time	Location
Lecture	In Person	Wed 2:30-4:30	SSC 1004
Lab	In Person	Wed 4:30-5:30	SSC 1059

\*Details about design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 6

Classes Start	Fall Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
September 8	November 1-7	December 8	December 9	December 10-21

September 16, 2021: Last day to add a first-term half course

October 11, 2021: Thanksgiving Holiday

November 12, 2021: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
John Fleming	jflemit82@uwo.ca	By Appointment (Wednesdays - 11:30-2:30)

Teaching Assistant(s)	Contact Information	Office Hours
David Lui	dlui25@uwo.ca	Mondays – 10:30-12:30

Office hours will be held in person with either the Instructor or Teaching Assistant, depending upon the subject matter.



In-class project check-ins have been scheduled for a variety of dates which will be posted on OWL.

### 2. Calendar Description

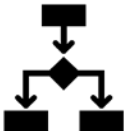
Critical examination of current land use and development projects; students are required actively to participate in the discussions.

2 lecture hours and 1 laboratory hour - 0.5 course

Antirequisite(s): None

Prerequisite(s): Third or fourth year status at the University

Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility



Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.”

### 3. Textbook



You do not have to buy any textbooks for this course. All resources will be posted on OWL

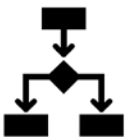
### 4. Course Objectives and Format

This course focuses on contemporary planning and development issues facing North American cities and the way that planners, developers and a multitude of other stakeholders address these issues. The interrelationship between planning and urban issues such as core area regeneration, urban sprawl, urban design, climate change mitigation & adaptation, equitable cities and local politics.

Through weekly lectures, the course examines the fundamentals of planning and development from both a public sector policy and private sector development perspective, touching on issues that shape our cities and their built environments.

The course gives students exposure to a variety of current planning and development issues in a real-world setting, through several compulsory field studies within the London area (all accessible by London Transit). Through weekly lab sessions, students learn how to use various tools that help them to more deeply investigate, analyze, understand and converse on current planning and development issues.

Finally, the course requires students to conduct a primary research project whereby they will synthesize the knowledge and skills they have gained through the course to (1) submit a competitive project proposal to work on a real-world planning and/or development issue and (2) undertake that research project to collect data, analyze data, formulate potential solutions and offer recommendations designed to address the planning and development issue they are tackling.



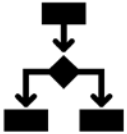
This course is designed to meet the following more general objectives:

- Expose students to contemporary planning and development issues – how cities are planned and how development shapes our urban environments and daily lives.
- Develop knowledge and skills necessary to critically analyze and evaluate planning and development issues and actions taken by planners, developers, politicians and other actors in local planning and development processes.
- Immerse students within the context of various sites in London, Canada to demonstrate how these planning and development issues present themselves in a real-world setting.
- Develop a good understanding of how to design and implement a research project to evaluate a planning and development issue and offer robust and justified recommendations to address that issue.

Develop valuable tools used to explore, evaluate, and participate in planning and development processes, including such things as data collection and management, data analysis, analytical mapping, delivering effective presentations and designing quality proposals for urban projects.

- Attendance is required
- Students are responsible for their own transportation to local Field Study locations – all will be accessible by London Transit
- Missed work should be completed within 48 hours

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class. Students are to review the OWL site on a regular basis to identify any such changes.



Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#).

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

## 5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will:

- Better understand the fundamentals of urban planning and development
- Comprehend how key aspects of planning and development shape our built environments.
- Understand the relationships between planning and development and topics such as climate change, affordable housing, urban regeneration, placemaking, city design, the politics of planning decision-making.
- Learn about a host of contemporary planning and development issues faced by cities across North America.
- Explore how these issues are manifesting themselves in their home communities and how they are affecting the shape of the cities that they live in.
- Enhance practical skills for collecting primary data related to urban environments outside of the classroom.
- Gain proficiency for collecting, analyzing and interpreting different forms of geographical data in relation to natural, built and social environments in cities.
- Develop an introductory knowledge and practical skills for visualizing geospatial data with a geographic information system.
- Understand how to analyze real-world problems and how to develop practical solutions to such problems through the collection and analysis of data and the preparation of analytical reports, mapping, graphics, presentations and related recommendations.
- Build effective presentation and communication skills.



## 6. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Dates	Topic	Lab
1	Sept 8-10	- Introduction - Planning & Development– what is it and why should I care?	Data management and analysis
2	Sept 13-17	- How to Plan a City - How to Write a Great Proposal - Urban regeneration	Evaluating project proposals using an evaluation matrix
3	Sept 20-24	Field Study – Urban Regeneration in Downtown London	Parking utilization survey by Downtown Zone
4	Sept 27-Oct 1	Placemaking and Urban Design	Creating effective analytical maps
5	October 4-8	Field Study – Placemaking in the Old East Village	Analysis – who’s using the park?
6	October 11-15	Climate Change and its Relationship to Planning and Development	Using the City of London’s Sustainability Evaluation Tool
7	October 18-22	Field Study – West 5 Community in London, Ontario	Walking and transit audit
8	October 25-29	How to Deliver Great Presentations	Creating a presentation outline
9	November 1-5	Reading Week	N/A
10	November 8-12	Building an Equitable City	
11	November 15-19	The Politics of Planning & Development	Role play exercise
12	November 22-26	The Developer’s Perspective	Subdivision development
13	Nov 29- Dec 3	Presentations	
14	December 6-8	Presentations	



## 7. Communication

- Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- A regular update will be provided on the OWL announcements
- Students should email their instructor and teaching assistant using their UWO email.
- For any other communication, the centrally administered **e-mail account** provided to students will be considered the individual’s official university e-mail address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that e-mail received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).
- Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response within 48-72 hours



## 8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weight-ing	Due Date
<b>Labs</b> 1. Data management & analysis 2. Parking Utilization Survey 3. Creating a Great Analytical Map 4. Who's Using the Park 5. Walkability & Transit Assessment for West 5	Lab submission to OWL	2% each	1. September 15 2. September 29 3. October 6 4. October 13 5. November 10
<b>Current Planning &amp; Development Issues</b> Posting of current planning issue in your home town and comments on those submitted by others	Posting to OWL	5%	September 22
<b>Project</b> 1. Proposal Submission 2. Data Submission 3. Presentation 4. Final Report 5. Reflection	1. Sub. To OWL 2. OWL 3. In person 4. OWL 5. Online quiz	1. 15% 2. 5% 3. 15% 4. 50% 5. 2% bonus	1. September 29 2. October 27 3. December 1 4. December 8 5. December 11



Students are expected to attend all lectures and labs and are responsible for material covered in lectures, labs and the assigned readings. Written assignments may be submitted to Turnitin.

All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified.

After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days.

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work which is clearly above average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail



#### Information about late or missed evaluations:

- Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty 10 %/day
- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class; the weight will be transferred to the final grade]

**Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.**

## 9. Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

### Academic Consideration for Student Absence

Students will have up to two (2) opportunities during the regular academic year to use an on-line portal to self-report an absence during the term, provided the following conditions are met: the absence is no more than 48 hours in duration, and the assessment for which consideration is being sought is worth 30% or less of the student's final grade. Students are expected to contact their instructors within 24 hours of the end of the period of the self-reported absence, unless noted on the syllabus. Students are not able to use the self-reporting option in the following circumstances:

- for exams scheduled by the Office of the Registrar (e.g., December and April exams)
- absence of a duration greater than 48 hours,
- assessments worth more than 30% of the student's final grade,
- if a student has already used the self-reporting portal twice during the academic year

If the conditions for a Self-Reported Absence are *not* met, students will need to provide a Student Medical Certificate if the absence is medical, or provide appropriate documentation if there are compassionate grounds for the absence in question. Students are encouraged to contact their Faculty academic counselling office to obtain more information about the relevant documentation.

Students should also note that individual instructors are not permitted to receive documentation directly from a student, whether in support of an application for consideration on medical grounds, or for other reasons. **All documentation required for absences that are not covered by the Self-Reported Absence Policy must be submitted to the Academic Counselling office of a student's Home Faculty.**

For Western University policy on Consideration for Student Absence, see

## Policy on Academic Consideration for Student Absences - Undergraduate Students in First Entry Programs

and for the Student Medical Certificate (SMC), see:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf).

### **Religious Accommodation**

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

### **10. Make-up Examinations**

### **11. Use of Electronic Devices**

Electronic devices are allowed in class for note taking and making presentations only. You may not audio or video record any lectures or presentations without expressed permission of the instructor.

### **12. How to Be Successful in this Class:**

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.

1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively.
5. Connect with others. Try forming a study group and try meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.



### **13. Continuity of Education Plan (in-person class pivoting to online learning)**

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the university to direct courses move away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

## **14. Information on COVID-19**

### **Masking Guidelines**

Students will be expected to wear triple layer, non-medical, paper masks at all times in the classroom as per University policy and public health directives. Students who are unable to wear a mask must seek formal accommodation through Western Accessible Education, and present medical documentation.

Students are not permitted to eat or drink while in class to ensure masks stay in place. Students will be able to eat and drink outside of the classroom during scheduled breaks.

Students unwilling to wear a mask as stipulated by Western policy and public health directives will be referred to the Dean, and such actions will be considered a violation of the student Code of Conduct.

### **Course Absences due to Daily COVID Screening Questionnaire**

Missed assessments (e.g., presentations, essays, quizzes, tests, midterms, etc.) require formal academic considerations (typically self-reported absences and/or academic counselling).

## **15. Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence.

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com ( <http://www.turnitin.com> ).

## **16. Western's Commitment to Accessibility**

The Department of Geography and Environment strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website.

More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available.

## **17. Mental Health**

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western's Health and Wellness website for more information on mental health resources.



## **18. Support Services**

Western's Support Services  
Student Development Centre

## **19. Important Dates**

September 8: Classes resume

September 16: Last day to add a first term half course

October 11: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

November 1 to November 7: Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

November 12: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

November 30: Last day to drop a full course without penalty

December 8: Classes end

December 9: Study day

December 10-21: Examination Period