

## Syllabus & Schedule

Location: NE 305

Instructor: Nikhil Kaza

Office hours: T 10 -11 AM (or by appt.)

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## Objective

Da Vinci was believed to have said, “He who loves practice without theory is like the sailor who boards ship without a rudder and compass and never knows where he may cast.” The objective of this course is, therefore, to equip ourselves with the concepts and arguments that might take us somewhere in our practice. Or at the very least, know where we are, when we get there. In this course, we are not really concerned with what constitutes a theory or a body of knowledge, but how the accepted body of knowledge can be brought to bear on planning questions. And how planning questions can advance those bodies of knowledge. To this end we will consider classic readings from multiple fields such as philosophy, political science, sociology, economics and others. Despite the denigration of theory in favour of practice in the planning profession, the adopted theoretical lens is singularly important, if insidious. We will cover a large number of theories and apply them to situations planners face. We examine their strengths, weaknesses and limitations of these theories along with the distortions they project onto the world.

## Student Responsibilities

Being a required course for Ph.D. Planning program, this course will be move quickly to cover a lot of ground. You are expected to read and digest large number of classic readings and talk about them intelligently in class. There is a significant workload in this class and you are expected to budget your time accordingly.

By virtue of being a small class, this class will be structured exclusively as a seminar. This essentially means that there are no lectures, only discussions that draw upon the readings of the week, the interests of the participants and their experiences.

Each student is responsible all readings each week. You are to provide a response to the readings every week, except two of your own choosing. This summary is due by Monday. These are posted on the Forums under topics for each week on the Sakai website. The responses are relatively polished short articles (~ 1,000 words), complete with references. The responses should be an argument that you put forward in light of the readings assigned for the week, summarising the author’s views, contesting them, putting them in the context of one another and in general engaging critically with the material. The references are formatted according to the Chicago Manual of Style.

Every student is expected to come prepared for the class, to ask pointed questions for clarification as well as for discussion that results in synthesis of material. As you will see the readings for each week are extensive. Despite this, we barely scratch the surface of various debates.

This format of seminar organisation is new and, therefore, is subject to tweaking. You are expected to contribute to the structure of the organisation, by suggesting changes, strengthening what works, modifying what does not, throughout the semester. It is your class.

In the event of my unavoidable absence due to travel, alternative arrangements will be discussed in class.

**A key skill to develop to negotiate this course, is to read effectively large volumes of literature to grasp main ideas.** You will find that readings assigned for each week are both voluminous and dense. I strongly urge you to meet outside the class and discuss the readings. Research is not a solitary pursuit, but an ongoing conversation with fellow scholars.

By the end of the semester, you should have an annotated bibliography that you could use for your planning theory portion of the comprehensive examination. You should be able to defend and justify why this bibliography is suitable for the research questions you are interested in.

There are a number of other topics that are appropriate for planning theory that could not be included for the lack of time. They include, but not limited to, Organisational decision making, Bureaucracy, Collective action, Marxist critiques and Modernity and Post-modernity. You are welcome to suggest readings in these or any related topics and we will make space to discuss them at appropriate junctures.

My calendar is available at <http://nikhilkaza.youcanbook.me>. You can schedule a meeting at time that is open and convenient to both, directly on the website.

All email concerning the class to me should have 'PLAN 805' in the subject line for easy filtering. Or better yet, use the Sakai messaging tool.

The email group is [plan805-fall17@sakai.unc.edu](mailto:plan805-fall17@sakai.unc.edu). You can initiate discussion and ask for clarifications. No polemics, please.

## Grading and Assignments

Grading will be based on in class participation (30%), weekly responses (30%) an annotated bibliography (10%) and a well argued paper (30%).

Each week, you are expected to write a short critical summary (no more than 2 pgs) of the materials that are assigned to you. These should be posted on the forum on Sakai by Monday evening.

A well crafted paper that applies the concepts you have learned during the course of the semester, is due at the end of the semester. This paper is of length and quality of a journal article. You are welcome to choose a topic, a question that interests you and examine it critically and bring to bear arguments and concepts that clarify (or muddle) positions. You will introduce your topic to the class by **Oct 11**. We will discuss a draft of these papers on **Nov 15** and critique them. Chicago Manual of Style will be the style guide for the paper, including references. Final papers are due COB on **Dec 1**.

Concurrently, you will also develop an annotated bibliography. A draft of the annotated bibliography is due on **Oct 29**. You are expected to develop this annotated bibliography within a bibliography software, such as Zotero, EndNote, BibTeX, Mendeley and RefWorks. You may as well develop good academic habits now. Final annotated bibliography, which will serve as a starting point for your comprehensive exam reading list, is also due COB on **Dec 1**.

Speaking of academic habits, Mark Twain once said, "...substantially all ideas are second-hand, consciously and unconsciously drawn from a million outside sources, and daily used by the garnerer with a pride and satisfaction born of the superstition that he originated them..." However, as academics we deal in the currency of ideas. While you may appropriate and build on others' ideas, please make every effort to give their progenitor, a small satisfaction of recognition.

## Textbooks and Readings

Many of the book chapters and articles are linked in the Sakai website. Books that are required to be purchased/acquired individually are marked with an (\*). Recommended, though not required books are marked with a (\*\*). It is not necessary for everyone to purchase all the required books. You may also use communal strategies that planners advocate in analogous situations. I expect that you will organise yourself collectively.

## Schedule (Subject to revision)

Aug 23rd

**Week 1**

### **Introduction and Preliminaries**

What is planning? Who is it for? How is it justified? Who does it? Who should plan?

- R. E Klosterman. Arguments for and against planning. *Town Planning Review*, 56(1):5–20, 1985
- Susan S. Fainstein and James DeFilippis, editors. *Readings in Planning Theory*. Wiley-Blackwell, Chichester, West Sussex, UK, fourth edition, January 2016 (Chapter 1)
- M. Gunder and J. Hillier. *Planning in Ten Words or Less*. Ashgate, Aldershot, UK, July 2009 (chapter 1)
- O. Yiftachel. Planning and Social Control: Exploring the Dark Side. *Journal of Planning Literature*, 12(4):395–406, May 1998

Aug 30th

**Week 2**

### **Planning Histories**

How do we conceptualise and construct the field of planning? You will need to organise amongst yourselves to split different chapters in Krueckeberg and Sandercock. Each student should read at least two chapters from each book and the class as a whole should cover all the material.

- Peter Hall. The turbulent eighth decade: Challenges to American city planning. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 55(3):275–282, September 1989
- Donald A. Krueckeberg, editor. *Introduction to Planning History in the United States*. Routledge, New Brunswick, N.J, first edition, 1983 (\*\*)
- Leonie Sandercock, editor. *Making the Invisible Visible: A Multicultural Planning History*. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, first edition, 1998 (\*)

Sep 6th

**Week 3**

### **Recap of material from PLAN 704**

What should be central questions of planning and how should we theorise about them? How should we teach them? You will be given access to the syllabus and Sakai site for PLAN 704 and you will pick and choose the material. This will help students who have not taken the class before. I will not lead the class, but you will collectively work through the material.

Sep 13th

Week 4

### Theory, Theories, Evidence, and Competing Explanations

What is a theory? What counts as a right explanation? Who decides? What is the nature of evidence?

- J. Woodward. Scientific Explanation. In Edward N. Zalta, editor, *The Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy*. Winter 2011 edition, 2011
- R. W Miller. *Fact and Method: Explanation, Confirmation and Reality in the Natural and the Social Sciences*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey, 1987 (Chapters 1 & 3)
- Douglas Torgerson. Between knowledge and politics: Three faces of policy analysis. *Policy Sciences*, 19(1):33–59, March 1986
- J. Runde. Assessing causal economic explanations. *Oxford Economic Papers*, 50(2):151–172, 1998
- John McCumber. America's Hidden Philosophy, <https://aeon.co/essays/how-cold-war-philosophy-permeates-us-society-to-this-day>

Sep 20th

Week 5

### Domain of Planning Theory

What positive and normative aspects should *the* theory of planning cover?

- J. Friedman. *Planning in the Public Domain: From Knowledge to Action*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1987 (Chapters 1–6) (\*\*)
- Richard E. Klosterman. Planning theory education a thirty-year review. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 31(3):319–331, September 2011
- K. P. Donaghy and L. D. Hopkins. Coherentist theories of planning are possible and useful. *Planning Theory*, 5(2):173–202, 2006

Sep 27th

Week 6

### Plans & Planners

Who plans? What are plans? What do planners do?

- N. Kaza and G.J. Knaap. Principles of planning for economists. In N. Brooks, G.J. Knaap, and K.P. Donaghy, editors, *Oxford Handbook of Urban Economics and Planning*, chapter 2, pages 29–50. Oxford University Press, New York NY, 2011
- John F. Forester. *The Deliberative Practitioner: Encouraging Participatory Planning Processes*. The MIT Press, October 1999 (Chapters 1, 2 & 5) (\*)
- C. Hoch. Making plans: Representation and intention. *Planning Theory*, 6(1):16–35, 2007
- Ernest Sternberg. Justifying public intervention without market externalities: Karl polanyi's theory of planning in capitalism. *Public Administration Review*, 53(2):100–109, March 1993

Oct 4th

Week 7

### Plans & Planners (contd.)

Who plans? What are plans? What do planners do?

- Henry Mintzberg. *The Rise and Fall of Strategic Planning: Reconceiving Roles for Planning, Plans, Planners*. Free Press, New York, 1994 (\*)
- Harvey A Goldstein. Planning as argumentation. *Environment and Planning B: Planning and Design*, 11:297–312, 1984
- L. D. Hopkins and Gerrit-Jan Knaap. Autonomous planning: Using plans as signals. *Planning Theory*, September 2016
- Nikhil Kaza *Vain Foresight: Against the idea of implementation in planning*  
Unpublished Manuscript

Oct 11th

Week 8

### Property Rights & Planning

Why are planning and property rights so intimately intertwined?

- Y. Barzel. *Economic Analysis of Property Rights*. Political Economy of Institutions and Decisions. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, England, 1989 (\*)
- H. Demsetz. Toward a theory of property rights. *American Economic Review*, 57(2):347–359, 1967
- E. Ostrom. Beyond Markets and States: Polycentric Governance of Complex Economic Systems. *American Economic Review*, 100(3):641–672, 2010
- Joseph William Singer. *Entitlement: The Paradoxes of Property*. Yale University Press, New Haven Conn., first edition edition edition, November 2000 (Chapters 1 & 2)

Oct 18th

Week 9

### Political Justice

- Steven Lukes. *The Curious Enlightenment of Professor Caritat*. Verso, November 1996 (\*\*)
- Heather Campbell and Robert Marshall. Utilitarianism's Bad Breath? A Re-Evaluation of the Public Interest Justification for Planning. *Planning Theory*, 1(2):163–187, July 2002
- Leif Wenar. What We Owe to Distant Others. *Politics, Philosophy & Economics*, 2(3):283–304, October 2003
- Anthony D Sorensen and Richard A Day. Libertarian Planning. *The Town Planning Review*, 52(4):390–402, 1981

Oct 25th

Week 10

### Political Justice (contd.)

- Susan S. Fainstein. *The Just City*. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, 1 edition, July 2011 (Chapters 1 & 2) (\*\*)
- A.K. Sen. *The Idea of Justice*. Belknap Press, Cambridge, MA, 2009 (Chapters 1, 2 & 14)
- Colin Farrelly. *Introduction to Contemporary Political Theory*. SAGE Publications Ltd, London, first edition, 2004 (\*)

Nov 1st

Week 11

### Institutions & Organisations

- W. Richard Scott. *Institutions and Organizations: Ideas, Interests, and Identities*. SAGE Publications, Inc, Los Angeles, fourth edition, July 2013 (Chapter 1) (\*\*)
- Walter W. Powell and Paul J. DiMaggio. *The New Institutionalism in Organizational Analysis*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, first edition, October 1991 (Chapter 1) (\*\*)
- John R. Logan and Harvey L. Molotch. *Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place*. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, March 2007 (Chapters 1, 2&3) (\*)
- Clarence N. Stone. Urban regimes and the capacity to govern: A political economy approach. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 15(1):1–28, 1993

Nov 8th

Week 12

### Power

- B. Flyvbjerg. *Rationality and Power : Democracy in Practice*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago, IL, 1998 (\*)
- S. Lukes. *Power: A Radical View*. Macmillan, London, second edition, 2005 (Chapters 1 & 3)

Nov 15th

Week 13

### Multiple Rationalities

- Herbert A. Simon. Rationality in Psychology and Economics. *The Journal of Business*, 59(4):S209–S224, October 1986
- J. Elster. *Ulysses Unbound: Studies in Rationality, Precommitment and Constraints*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK, 2000 (Chapter 1)
- Ernest R. Alexander. Rationality Revisited: Planning Paradigms in a Post-Postmodernist Perspective. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 19(3):242–256, 2000
- Niraj Verma. Pragmatic Rationality and Planning Theory. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 16(1):5–14, September 1996

Nov 22nd

No Class – Thanksgiving

Nov 29th

**Week 14**

### **Communicative Planning**

How do we produce knowledge that is defensible? How does that form a basis for individual and collective action?

- J. E Innes. Planning through consensus building: A new view of the comprehensive planning ideal. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 62(4):460–472, 1996
- P. Healey. *Collaborative Planning: Shaping Frameworks in Fragmented Societies*. Macmillan, London, UK, 1997 (\*)
- M. Huxley. The limits to communicative planning. *Journal of Planning Education and Research*, 19(4):370–377, 2000

Dec 6th

**Week 15**

Discussion of papers & Recap