

Principles of Urban Sustainability

Urban Studies 130

Course Instructor

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SES 2352, 312-355-0954
Mondays 11-12 in SES 2352, other times by appointment only

Course TA

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Course Time, Location

10:00 AM – 10:50 AM
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
Thomas Beckham Hall TBH 180G
CRN: 38169 (3 credits)

Course Readings

Various – all will be available online on the US 130 website: (<https://us130urbansustainability.wordpress.com/>)
Password to be provided.

Course Description

This course builds on UIC's core urban strengths and addresses a critical priority for cities today. With sustainability as a motivating force, cities move center stage as the key locales for the development of and implementation for sustainable systems and protection of resources. US / UPP 130 Principles of Urban Sustainability course introduces student to fundamental principles, interdisciplinary approaches, historical trends, policies and planning programs that promote sustainability in urban regions.

Course will have online and blended learning and participation portions.

Participation

Class participation is an important part of the course and will count for 60% your grade for the course. This includes being an active contributor in class discussions, completing all of the required readings *before* class (not during), and respecting others. Expectations also include paying attention in class, being prepared, and giving full effort.

Attendance Policy

You are allowed **no more than 3 excused absences**. In the case of an excused absence, please provide adequate documentation (doctor's note, etc.) or else it will be counted as unexcused.

You are allowed **no more than 3 unexcused absence**. More than 3 absences over the course of the semester will negatively affect your grade.

Please communicate via email with the professor at all times about all absences whether excused or unexcused. Makeup work may be an option for some absences. Please ask the professor about this option.

Grades

Final grades will be determined using breakdown:

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| WordPress Blog Assignments | 20% |
| Class participation | 50% |
| - Commenting on classmates' blog postings (WP) | 20% |
| - Readings Discussion Days (BB) | 10% |
| - Participation (in class) | 20% |
| Final Paper & Project | 30% |

A single letter grade of A, B, C, D or F is assigned at the end of the semester according to the final score each student has earned. The grade of incomplete (I) is given only in special cases according to very strict criteria. Please note: the last day to complete late registration; last day to add a course or make section changes; last day to drop individual courses via Student Self-Service without receiving W grade on academic record.

Disclaimer

The terms of this syllabus may change as the semester progresses. Always refer to the course website (<https://us130urbansustainability.wordpress.com/>) for the most up-to-date information.

Syllabus

| Week 1 | Topic/Lecture |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01/15 | NO CLASS – UIC CLOSED FOR Martin Luther King Jr. Day |
| 01/17 | Introductions |
| 01/19 | Lecture: UIC Sustainability Fee Program & UIC Climate Commitments <i>Guest Lecture – Sarah Koning*</i> |
| Week 2 | Topic/Lecture |
| 01/22 | IN CLASS WORK DAY - Final Paper & Projects <i>*Student sustainability Interests</i> |
| 01/24 | IN CLASS WORK DAY – Blogs, Assignments & Wordpress <i>*Blogs on Blackboard, Discussion Days & Wordpress</i> |
| 01/26 | Lecture: Climate Reality Project & Climate Leadership Training Program <i>Guest Lecturer – Lucia Whalen*</i> |
| Week 3 | Topic/Lecture |
| 01/29 | IN CLASS WORK DAY – Final Paper & Projects <i>*Final Project Selection Day, Readings Discussion Day</i> |
| 01/31 | Lecture: Introduction to Urban Sustainability |
| 02/02 | Lecture: Part 1 - Resources for Researching & Citing Data from Books, Articles, Reports <i>Guest Lecturer – David Dror*</i> |
| Week 4 | Topic/Lecture |
| 02/05 | Lecture: Part 2 - Resources for Researching & Citing Images, Videos, Graphics, Music <i>Guest Lecturer – David Dror*</i> |
| 02/07 | Lecture: Humans, Nature and Ecology in Cities |
| 02/09 | Readings Discussion Day |
| Week 5 | Topic/Lecture |
| 02/12 | Lecture: Energy & the Carbon Emission Challenge |
| 02/14 | Lecture: Implementing Sustainability in Legacy Cities <i>Guest Lecturer – Eric Boria*</i> |
| 02/16 | Readings Discussion Day |
| Week 6 | Topic/Lecture |
| 02/19 | Lecture: Buildings, Energy & Sustainability Reporting <i>Guest Lecture – Dhruti Patel*</i> |

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| 02/21 | IN CLASS WORK DAY - Final Projects <i>*Final Project Work Day</i> |
| 02/23 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 7</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 02/26 | Group 1 - Environment & Climate Justice - <i>Latino Cultural Center (Lecture Center B2- LCB2)</i> Groups 2, 3 & 4 – Discussion Day (TBH 180G) |
| 02/28 | Group 2 - Environment & Climate Justice - <i>Latino Cultural Center (Lecture Center B2- LCB2)</i> Groups 1, 3 & 4 – Discussion Day (TBH 180G) |
| 03/02 | Group 3 - Environment & Climate Justice – <i>Latino Cultural Center (Lecture Center B2- LCB2)</i> Groups 1, 2 & 4 – Discussion Day (TBH 180G) |
| <u>Week 8</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 03/05 | Group 4 - Environment & Climate Justice – <i>Latino Cultural Center (Lecture Center B2- LCB2)</i> Groups 1, 2 & 3 – Discussion Day (TBH 180G) |
| 03/07 | Lecture: Food & Sustainable Development <i>Guest Lecture – Tim Benedict*</i> |
| 03/09 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 9</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 03/12 | Lecture: Public Health & Urban Sustainability <i>Guest Lecture – Elena Grossman</i> |
| 03/14 | IN CLASS WORK DAY - Final Projects <i>*Final Project Work Day</i> |
| 03/16 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 10</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 03/19 | Lecture: Policies & Regulations |
| 03/21 | Lecture: Data Analysis & Urban Planning <i>Guest Lecturer – Amanda LaBrier</i> |
| 03/23 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 11</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 04/02 | Lecture: Integrated Perspectives & Approaches to Urban Sustainable Development Lecture: Best Practices in Urban Sustainability |
| 04/04 | IN CLASS WORK DAY - Final Projects <i>*Final Project Work Day</i> |
| 04/06 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 12</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 04/09 | Lecture: Climate Resilience and Adaptation in Cities - Lecture <i>Guest Lecturer – Jo Pena*</i> |

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| 04/11 | IN CLASS WORK DAY - Final Projects <i>*Final Project Work Day</i> |
| 04/13 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 13</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 04/16 | Lecture: Biomimicry and Bioremediation <i>Guest Lecturer – Tim Benedict*</i> |
| 04/18 | Lecture: Technology & Urban Sustainability <i>Guest Lecturer – Brooke Ousterhout*</i> |
| 04/20 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 14</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 04/23 | Lecture: Future of Urban Sustainability Lecture: Sustainable Development in the Digital Age |
| 04/25 | IN CLASS WORK DAY - Final Projects <i>*Final Project Work Day</i> |
| 04/27 | Readings Discussion Day |
| <u>Week 15</u> | Topic/Lecture |
| 04/30 | Final Presentation |
| 05/02 | Final Presentation |
| 05/04 | Reflection Day |

Important University Policies

Disability Accommodation

The University of Illinois at Chicago is committed to maintaining a barrier-free environment so that students with disabilities can fully access programs, courses, services, and activities at UIC. Students with disabilities who require accommodations for access to and/or participation in this course are welcome, but must be registered with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). You may contact DRC at 312-413-2183 (v) or 312-413-0123 (TTY) and consult the following:

http://www.uic.edu/depts/oa/disability_resources/faq/accommodations.html

Academic Integrity

As an academic community, UIC is committed to providing an environment in which research, learning, and scholarship can flourish and in which all endeavors are guided by academic and professional integrity. All members of the campus community—students, staff, faculty, and administrators—share the responsibility of insuring that these standards are upheld so that such an environment exists. Instances of academic misconduct by students will be handled pursuant to the Student Disciplinary Policy: <https://dos.uic.edu/studentconductprocess.shtml>

Religious Holidays and Observance

Students who wish to observe their religious holidays shall notify the faculty member by the tenth day of the semester of the date when they will be absent unless the religious holiday is observed on or before the tenth day of the semester. In such cases, the student shall notify the faculty member at least five days in advance of the date when he/she will be absent. The faculty member shall make every reasonable effort to honor the request, not penalize the student for missing the class, and if an examination or project is due during the absence, give the student an exam or assignment equivalent to the one completed by those students in attendance. If the student feels aggrieved, he/she may request remedy through the campus grievance procedure.

<http://oae.uic.edu/policies-statements-guidelines/>

Grievance Procedures

UIC is committed to the most fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity, and human dignity involving students and employees. Freedom from discrimination is a foundation for all decision making at UIC. Students are encouraged to study the University's "Nondiscrimination Statement". Students are also urged to read the document "Public Formal Grievance Procedures". Information on these policies and procedures is available on the University web pages of the Office of Access and Equity: <http://oae.uic.edu/resources/grievance-procedures/>

Academic Calendar

<http://catalog.uic.edu/ucat/academic-calendar/>

UIC Resources

If you find yourself having difficulty with the course material or any other difficulties in your student life, don't hesitate to ask for help! Come to one of us, or if it is about an issue beyond this class, please contact your college advisors, or get help from any number of other support services on campus. You can get a referral to the right place.

Public Computer Labs are available throughout campus where you may write and/or print out your work. For a list of labs and the hours they're open, go to (www.accc.uic.edu/pclabs). NOTE: Do not wait until the last minute to print out papers. Sometimes labs have long lines of students waiting for access.

The Academic Center for Excellence can help if you feel you need more individualized instruction in reading and/or writing, study skills, time management, etc. Phone: (312) 413-0031.

Counseling Services are available for all UIC students. You may seek free and confidential services from the Counseling Center (www.counseling.uic.edu). The Counseling Center is located in the Student Services Building; you may contact them at (312) 996-3490.

In addition to offering counseling services, the Counseling Center also operates the InTouch Crisis Hotline from 6:00 p.m.-10:30 p.m. They offer support and referrals to callers, as well as telephone crisis interventions; please call (312) 996-5535.

Campus Security

As a UIC student, you've chosen to live in one of the nation's largest cities. But, as at any university, crime is a reality. At UIC, we are strongly committed to our public safety programs, and we encourage students to be proactive in learning what programs and services are available in case of an emergency. You are DISCOURAGED from staying in university buildings alone, including lab rooms, after hours and are ENCOURAGED to use the POLICE/STUDENT patrol escort if you are uncomfortable traveling anywhere on campus. You may request an escort to accompany you to your campus destination on foot by calling 312-996-2830, and between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am you can dial the Red Car service (312-996-6800) if you are alone and need to leave the building. Through Red Car, the university has established a safe evening transportation service for university employees, students, visitors, and other authorized individuals. The car travels between university facilities within the following general boundaries: Clinton Street on the east; Western Avenue on the west; Jackson Boulevard on the north; and, 16th on the south. This service is available only to individuals possessing a valid UIC i-card. The i-card is required to ensure the safety of the driver and other passengers.

Consult the following for more information: <http://www.uic.edu/uic/studentlife/campus/safety.shtml>

Also you can subscribe your cell phone to receive text message alerts. An immediate SMS text alert will be sent in case of a serious crime in progress, a weather emergency, or other urgent situation. (<http://sms.accc.uic.edu>).

Finally, by dialing 5-5555 from a campus phone, you can summon Police or

Fire for any on-campus emergency. You may also set up the complete number, 1-312-355-5555, on speed-dial on your cell phone. For more information contact: <http://www.uic.edu/uic/studentlife/campus/emergency-information.shtml>