URBDP 424/524 provides students with an overview of site planning as both a design activity and also as a nexus of principles and issues that are central to urban planning and its allied professions, including architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering and real estate. The course is informed by the working definition of site planning phrased by Kevin Lynch and Gary Hack: the practical, moral and aesthetic “art of arranging structures on the land and shaping the spaces between” (Site Planning, 1984, p.1).

Course lectures, readings, and discussion address the basic techniques and norms of good physical design as well as critical issues, regulations and policy, and their place in the historical evolution of approaches to site layout, from the early days of the industrial revolution through the advent of the automobile, the rise of “New” Urbanism, and current renewed concerns for ecological performance, health/well-being, and social inclusion. The assignments familiarize students with key tasks of site planning: site observation and analysis; basic topographical and hydrological analysis and manipulation; property subdivision; residential, mixed-use and shopping center layout; laying out roadways, parking, and pedestrian circulation; and finally site furnishing, lighting, planting and paving. More advanced students will also have an opportunity to apply specialized knowledge in areas of particular interest to them. Lectures and readings will also include enough historical background and cases of innovative practice to enable critical thinking about current conventions and the application of technique.

GRADING

Student performance will be graded as follows:

- **Participation** in class discussion and in-class exercises: 10%.
- **Assignment #1.** Site Analysis: 15%
- **Assignment #2/Quiz.** Subdivision Revision/Markup: 10%
- **Assignment #3.** Site and Housing Typology Study: 10%
- **Assignment #4.** Residential Cluster Plan: 15%
- **Assignment #5.** Commercial Site Layout: 15%

**Final Assignment:** 25%. URBDP 424 students must revise Assignment #1, the Site Analysis. Under special circumstances, with the instructor's approval, they may instead revise Assignment #5 or #6. URBDP 524 students who are taking the course for the Urban Design Certificate or MUP Urban Design Specialization must both revise and add further detail to either Assignment #4 or #5, e.g. revise it according to the instructor’s comments as well as design a grading and drainage layer, or include detailed site furnishings, lighting and landscape for a portion of it. Other URBDP 524 students must revise Assignment #4 or #5, and conduct a basic traffic impact (trip-generation and -distribution) analysis, a financial analysis, environmental/health/climate impact assessment, or other analysis suited to their specialization.

* If you have a disability (physical, learning, or psychological) that makes it difficult for you to carry out the coursework as outlined and/or requires accommodations, such as recruiting note-takers, readers, or extended time on assignments and exams, please contact me, or Disabled Student Services, within the first week of the quarter. DSS is available at 685-1511, or at [http://www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Disabled_Student.html](http://www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Disabled_Student.html), and will be able to provide you with information and review appropriate arrangements for reasonable accommodation.
FORMAT

Class sessions will be based on a series of lectures, with some time given to presentation and discussion of the readings and assignments. Most assignments will be take-home and will require students to visit off-campus sites on their own time, but some amount of class time will also be put aside for students to work together on assignments, with coaching from the instructor. One or two class field trips involving extra time outside of the normal class time may also be scheduled.

**Materials needed:** sketch/notebook; camera; engineering scale ruler showing 1”=20’, 1”=40’, 1”=100’, etc.; protractor; drawing pens and pencils (of your choice, but a fine and a medium felt-tip black marker, and a small selection of colored pencils is recommended); tracing paper (either 11”x17” sheets from a tablet, or cut neatly from an 11” roll of tracing paper). Tracing paper is available from the University Bookstore. Also, students are expected to obtain base maps, GIS data and aerial photographs normally available through online databases and the map library.

*Use of laptops and handhelds is not permitted in class sessions.* Students are expected to use and develop hand sketching and note-taking ability, both in-class and for field observation and incorporation in assignment submissions. Use of digital modeling and presentation tools (ArcMap, SketchUp, etc.) is encouraged for homework assignments, but is not necessary. The basic clarity of line drawing (e.g. as afforded by the use of variable line weights, etc.), is more important than being able to use sophisticated digital media.

**Readings** are listed below, and are also indicated next to each topic in the syllabus schedule to which they relate. Many are available electronically on the course Canvas website. Some further suggested readings may also be placed on the library course reserve, added to Canvas, or distributed in class. The readings are offered as a resource for you to read selectively, as an aid and reference to doing the assignments and understanding the related issues. Students should read the materials marked with an asterisk (*) before the class session for which they are listed, in order to best participate in class discussion and in class-time exercises. Other readings are mainly for reference use in doing assignments outside of class-time.

The primary required text for this course has been ordered through the University Bookstore:

2019 is the first year that the course uses this textbook, however, and students (especially undergraduates taking URBDP 424) may find it useful also to refer to the previous main text, which will continue to be the basis for some in-class discussion, and includes in Appendix L a handy list of rule-of-thumb quantitative standards that are very useful for the assignments:

Students taking the course for graduate-level credit (URBDP 524) should also refer frequently to:
Site Planning and Design Handbook (2009) is now available in the library’s reference section (does not leave the library). The Canvas online readings and reserves (both on the shelf and electronic) include chapters from the 1st edition (2002), which is similar enough for all but the most technical of purposes.

Also, for useful technical definitions, see Appendix A in James LaGro’s Site Analysis: Informing Context-Sensitive and Sustainable Site Planning and Design (2013), available as an e-book through UW Libraries.

Finally, two other classic (i.e. “old”) but extremely useful design references edited by Joseph De Chiara, Time-Saver Standards for Housing and Residential Development and Time-Saver Standards for Site Planning, are in the Built Environments Library reference section. An older and less complete (but still very useful) book by De Chiara, Site Planning Standards (1978 and 1984), is under the reserve readings for this course. Students are expected to refer to these books for help in completing the assignments for the course.

**RESOURCES**

**Materials on reserve in the Built Environments Library, Gould Hall** (not including materials in Canvas, some of which are also on reserve, see next page)


Alternative Development Standards for Sustainable Communities: Design Workbook. AURES PC


Burden, Dan. Street design guidelines for healthy neighborhoods (Sacramento, CA: Center for Livable Communities, [1999]). TE279.B87 1999


Davis, Sam, ed. The Form of housing (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, [1977]). HD7293.F63


Jarvis, Frederick D. Site planning and community design for great neighborhoods. HD259.J37 1993


Marcus, Clare Cooper and Wendy Sarkissian. *Housing as if people mattered: site design guidelines for medium-density family housing* (Berkeley: Univ. of California Press, 1986).


Pyatok, M. *Designing for density: ideas for more compact housing and communities*. NA9051.4.D48 1992


Schwanke, Dean et al. *Remaking the Shopping Center*. HF5430.3.S32 1994


Greenwood Avenue Cottages and permitting materials, and Cottage Housing Ordinance Preliminary Proposal (2 April 2002)


Russ, Thomas. H. *Site planning and design handbook* (New York, McGraw-Hill, 2002), Chapters 6, 8 and 9, “Infrastructure,” “Site Layout,” and “Vegetation in the Site Plan.” [NA2540.5 .R87 2002] (Reference Section)


Miscellaneous outdoor lighting specifications samples.

**Also, online:**

Lincoln Institute project on density: [http://www.lincolninst.edu/subcenters/visualizing-ccdensity/](http://www.lincolninst.edu/subcenters/visualizing-ccdensity/)


Housing diversification: [http://www.psrc.org/about/pubs#housing](http://www.psrc.org/about/pubs#housing)

# SCHEDULE

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<th>Week</th>
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| 1    | T1/8| INTRODUCTION  
- instructor and student interests and background  
- overview of course and syllabus  
- handout and discuss Assignment #1 | *Hack, Parts 1 and 2  
*Lynch & Hack, chaps.1,2,3  
Russ, pp.1-34  
*LaGro, Section 1.5, and all of Part II  
Listoken & Walker, pp.189-195  
*Untermann (in reader), pp.2-12  
Untermann & Small, pp.21-35, 183-200  
NAHB, *Land..., chap.2  
White Rubenstein, chaps.2,6 |
|      | Th1/10| SITE ANALYSIS AND MAPPING  
- site inventory and evaluation  
- range and process of different types of site development and design  
- regulatory considerations  
- relation of program to design  
- importance of slope  
- learn to read a topographical map and relate it to natural systems | *Hack, Part 3  
*Lynch & Hack, chaps.4,5,6 |
|      | Th1/17| Site planning walking tour of UW campus |  |
|      | Due online 11:59pm: Assignment #1a - Site Analysis (Part I) |  |
| 2    | T1/15| SITE ANALYSIS CONTINUED  
- on-site reconnaissance and note-taking for site analysis | *Hack, Part 3  
*Lynch & Hack, chaps.4,5,6 |
|      | Th1/17| Site planning walking tour of UW campus |  |
|      | Due online 11:59pm: Assignment #1b - Site Analysis (Part II) |  |
| 3    | T1/22| DRAINAGE AND GRADING  
- moving earth and water given different slopes, soil types and ground cover  
- strategies for minimizing runoff and preserving natural vegetation and habitat  
- wastewater systems | *Hack, chaps. 25, 27, 32  
*Lynch & Hack, chap.8, Appendix K  
Russ, chap. 6 (in reader)  
*Untermann (in reader), p.13ff  
Jones, et al Rubenstein, chaps.7,8  
Schueler Untermann, “Principles…” |
|      | Th1/24| PROPERTY SUBDIVISION AND ACCESS: ROAD AND INFRASTRUCTURE LAYOUT  
- basics of conventional subdivision layout  
- road intersection standards and horizontal and vertical alignment principles | *Lynch & Hack, chap.7 (pp.193-221), Appendix J  
Russ, Chap.8  
*Listoken & Walker, pp.293-342  
Rowe (in reader)  
Southworth & Ben-Joseph, chaps.1,2,3  
Kulash, chaps.1,2,3,4  
Rubenstein, chap.9 |
| 4    | S1/27| Due online 11:59pm: Assignment #1b - Site Analysis (Part II) |  |
|      | T1/29| PROPERTY SUBDIVISION AND ACCESS: ECOLOGICAL AND PEDESTRIAN-FRIENDLY DESIGN  
- shared/controlled access  
- green infrastructure | *Hack, chap. 16  
Burden  
*Girling and Kellett Arendt  
Alternative Development Standards |
### Site Planning: Issues and Techniques - Syllabus

**Urban Design and Planning 424/524 (3.0)**  
Winter 2019  
TTh 8:30-9:50  
Gould 100

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<th>Week</th>
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| 4 | Th 1/31 | HOUSING, HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES: DENSITY AND DIVERSITY  
- residential area design, given increased diversity of housing types; enhanced pedestrian and transit access | *Hack, chap. 33  
*Lynch & Hack, chap.9, App. E  
Alexander & Reed  
Bookout, pp.3-25; case studies  
*Campoli & MacLean  
*Davis, chaps.1,2  
Fader  
*Lennertz & Qamar (in reader)  
NAHB, *Land..., chap.5  
Moudon (in reader)  
Southworth & Ben-Joseph, chap.5 (pp.109-120) |
| 5 | T 2/5 | Handout and discuss Assignment #4, Residential Cluster Plan  
Review Assignment #1 Site Analyses  
Due online 11:59pm: “Assignment” #2 – Subdivision Quiz | |
| | Th 2/7 | **Due in class:** Assignment #3 – Site & housing typology measurement study |
| | | HOUSING, HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES: PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SPACES  
- residential area design, given increased public/collective responsibility for on-site environmental conservation and public amenities  
- sun angles and shadow studies | *Hack, chap. 40  
Corbett  
Greenwood Avenue Cottages (in reader)  
Jarvis  
Listoken & Walker, pp.200-205  
*Newman (in reader)  
Newman (on reserve)  
Pyatok |
| 6 | T 2/12 | HOUSING, HOUSES AND COMMUNITIES: THE “NEW” URBANISM  
- recent trends in residential site planning from an historical perspective | *Calthorpe (in reader)  
*Southworth & Ben-Joseph, chap.5 (pp.97-109; 120-129), chap.6 |
| | Th 2/14 | SITE VISIT: THE “ECOLOGICAL NEW URBANIST” NEIGHBORHOOD  
*(exact time and location to be announced)*  
To read in advance: [http://www.svrdesign.com/high-point-redevelopment/](http://www.svrdesign.com/high-point-redevelopment/) |
| 7 | T 2/19 | **Due for IN-CLASS REVIEW:** Assignment #4 - Residential cluster plan |
| | Th 2/21 | Handout and discuss Assignment #5, Commercial Site Layout  
MIXED USE AND COMMERCIAL SITES: LAYOUT AND ACCESS  
- densification/diversification of suburban malls | *Hack, chaps. 34, 35, 39  
*Lynch & Hack, chap.10  
*Clausen; Gladwell; Valente & Oringer; and other articles on malls  
Schwanke
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>T 2/26</td>
<td>MIXED USE AND COMMERCIAL SITES: PARKING DEMAND</td>
<td>*Hack, Chaps. 21-24</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>- access and parking</td>
<td>Barton-Aschman (in reader)</td>
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<td>- trip generation and distribution</td>
<td>Chrest (in reader)</td>
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<td>Robinette (in reader)</td>
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<td>*Urban Land Institute (in reader)</td>
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<td>Walker Parking Consultants (in reader)</td>
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<td>Th 2/28</td>
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<td>SITE VISIT: THE NEW URBANIST SHOPPING CENTER</td>
<td>(exact meeting time and location to be announced)</td>
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<td>T 3/5</td>
<td>Due for IN-CLASS REVIEW: Assignment #5 - Commercial site layout</td>
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<td>Handout and discuss Final Assignment</td>
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<td>Th 3/7</td>
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<td>SITE DETAILS: MICROCLIMATE, PLANTING, FURNISHING AND LIGHTING</td>
<td>*Lynch &amp; Hack, review Chaps.3, 6, 7 (pp.203-205), and 8 (pp.246-247)</td>
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<td>*Russ, Chap.9 (in reader)</td>
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<td>Listoken &amp; Walker, pp.235-282</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous outdoor lighting specifications samples</td>
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<td><strong>Due online 11:59pm:</strong> Final Assignment Topic (URBDP 524)</td>
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<td>Th 3/14</td>
<td>Wrap-up; course evaluations</td>
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<td><em>This week schedule out-of-class consultations on final assignments</em></td>
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<td>Due 11:59pm: Final Assignment</td>
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