

Simon Fraser University
School of Resource and Environmental Management
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REM 642-5
Fall 2013

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY PLANNING AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

This course addresses the history, central problems, theory, practice and methods of community and regional planning and development. This course is designed to meet the expectations of the Canadian Institute of Planners and the Planning Institute of BC with respect to human settlements planning. Topic areas include community and regional planning concepts, theory, history, context, methods, and processes. These issues are explored through readings, classroom discussions, seminar presentations, guest lectures, reflections on readings, and a term project.

Course Organization

This is primarily a seminar course. Since citizen participation is a central element of sustainable development, it is important that each student bring her or his ideas and experiences to bear in the classroom. Each student will lead at least one seminar session (usually in pairs or groups), taking responsibility for deciding upon an approach, key points to address, reporting on additional reading, etc. (details to follow).

Required Readings

There are two required texts...

Markey, S., Halseth, G., Manson, D. (2012). *Investing in Place: Economic Renewal in Northern British Columbia*. Vancouver: UBC Press.

M. Roseland, *Toward Sustainable Communities*, 4th edition (New Society, 2012).

...and one recommended text:

J. Grant, Ed., *A Reader in Canadian Planning* (Thomson Nelson, 2008).

Additional readings will be distributed digitally.

Course Format

Two two-hour class meetings each week (Thursday and Friday, 12:30-2:20), divided into various components (e.g., discussion of assigned readings, project discussions, guest lectures, etc.)

ASSIGNMENTS AND EVALUATION

Readings and class participation, including seminar presentation(s) ⁱ	25%
4 short papers relating term content to readings ¹	25%
Term Project ²	
Prospectus	10%
Progress Report	0%
Oral Presentation	20%
<u>Final Paper</u>	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

Please be aware that this syllabus is subject – and likely – to change.

¹ These short reflections simulate the Planning Institute of British Columbia’s written membership exam, “a multi-part, multiple question, essay-style written exam which examines an applicant’s knowledge and understanding of broad planning theory, history, processes and concepts. Applicants draw on their own professional experience, and understanding of planning theory, history, processes and concepts to illustrate their written responses to the Exam questions – supplemented by references to key preparatory materials and resources as appropriate.”

² I have coordinated projects with community partners that will form the basis of small group term projects. I will present details during class.