

**University Of Toronto
Centre for the Environment - Winter 2010
ENV307 Urban Sustainability**

Revised January 20, 2010

Instructor: Chuck Hostovsky, PhD, MCIP, RPP
Sessional Lecturer 2

Fairness for Contract Academics <http://www.caut.ca/pages.asp?page=212>

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Timetable: Thursdays 1 to 3 pm, in RW143

Office hours: Thursdays 12 to 12:30, 4 to 5 pm, Fridays 12 to 1 pm @ INI305 or by appointment
(note: the instructor is a part-time contract lecturer and is only on campus Thursdays and Fridays this term)

TA: Stefan Cermak, M.Sc.Pl. candidate stefan.cermak@utoronto.ca

Prerequisite: One of the following: [ENV222Y1](#)/[GGR222Y1](#)/[JGE221Y1](#) and enrolment in a Centre program OR [INI235Y1](#) OR permission of the instructor (particularly for students who have completed [ENV222Y1](#)/[GGR222Y1](#)/[JGE221Y1](#)/[GGR233Y1](#)/[POL209Y1](#)/[SOC205Y1](#)/[SOC260Y1](#))

Exclusion: [INI307Y1](#)/[JIE307Y1](#)

Required text and readings:

- Bunting, Trudi and Filion, Pierre (eds.).2006. *Canadian Cities in Transition: Local Through Global Perspectives*. Toronto: Oxford University Press.
- Individual papers to be posted online.

Recommended text:

- Hodge, Gerald and David Gordon. 2008. *Planning Canadian Communities, Fifth Canadian Edition*, ISBN/ISSN: 0176252428, Nelson Education Ltd.

Official Course web site:

Blackboard portal

Course email listserv and adjunct web site:

A yahoo web site and email discussion group has been set up at Yahoo Canada in order to facilitate communication among the professor and students. Items to be posted include assignment questions, current events relevant to the course, newspaper stories, job opportunities in the field, etc. Students are free to post to the group. Questions can be posed to the group and will be answered by the Instructor or TA for everyone's benefit.

- Go to <http://ca.groups.yahoo.com/group/env307> and click on "Join This Group"
- The web site contains the discussion group archives, Prof. Chuck's class participation online response area, and other course reading and multi-media material

Note – the instructor is using the course web sites as a courtesy and has no contractual obligation to maintain a web site under the unit 3 CUPE3902 agreement. Email messages should be short and to the point. Email may not be responded to by the instructor and TA on weekends, holidays and evening hours. The email list does not replace office hours.

Tentative Grading & Assignments:

Class and online participation, attendance	15%	ongoing
Assignment 1 - Reflection paper – review of urban sustainability projects (e.g. sewage treatment, potable water, waste management, transportation systems, etc.) in the developing world	20%	Feb 4
Assignment 2 – various field investigations	20%	To be announced
Assignment 3 - Major Term Paper – Sustainability Planning in Canada	25%	March 18
Exam	20%	Exam week

- Assignment late penalty 3% per day
- Requests for re-grading must be in memo format, in writing, containing rationale based on adjustments to the assignment marking key, as follows:

Assignment evaluation criteria- written work:

- 1) Mechanics: Defined as freedom from spelling and grammatical errors. Students are expected to include thorough, accurate and consistent references in any *bona fide* academic referencing style that includes page numbering.
- 2) Writing style: Defined as clarity, succinctness, appropriate diction and tone.
- 3) Structure: Defined as coherence of the organization of the paper. The logic of the structure is determined by the purpose, which is to test an hypothesis, answer a research question or defend a thesis statement.
- 4) Precision and accuracy. Precision means saying exactly and specifically what you mean, avoiding vague generalities. Accuracy refers to absence of major factual errors.
- 5) Analysis: Student essays are expected to include critical distance, reflection and originality of thought. The proposal and term paper will be evaluated on the defensibility of their analysis in terms of their use of evidence and logical coherence.

Accessibility Needs: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: disability.services@utoronto.ca or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

Typical Marking Key

Points: 0 - no effort, 1-poor, 2-needs work, 3-adequate, 4-good, 5-excellent

CRITERIA	MARK (0 - 5)
Introduction - problem statement	5
Understanding of subject issues	5
Critical thought and analysis	5
Conclusions	5
Grammar/spelling	5
Referencing using APA style	5
Effective use of supplied course reading materials	5
Effective use of original research (field trip, interviews, journal articles, books, etc) not in course readings or text book	5
TOTAL (maximum 40)	40

HANDING IN LATE ASSIGNMENTS – Accepting late papers is solely at the discretion of the instructor. Being too busy will not be accepted for extensions. Requests for extensions must be in writing or via email with your rationale explained. All assignments should be handed in at or before the beginning of the class on the due date specified. Assignments should be given directly to the professor. If this is not possible, the assignment should be presented at the departmental office,

during business hours. The instructor is not responsible for assignments put under the office door and those assignments will be given a late penalty based on the date the instructor finds it under the door.

Description:

Note: the instructor is a part-time sessional lecturer, not a full-time professor, hence he teaches many different courses in several departments at the University of Toronto filling in for professors on sabbatical or research leave (most full-time professors teach 4 regular courses). As a result students who have taken Dr. Hostovsky's courses may find some overlap with this course material.

This course critically examines the concept of urban sustainability in theory and application. Case studies of ongoing urban sustainability programs in the developed and developing world help students assess the successes and failures of these programs. The course also examines the current state of research and implementation efforts toward urban sustainability.

Course Objectives

- introduce students to the process of urbanization and its implications for the larger question of sustainability
- to explore the theories and models used in conceptualizing and managing the relationship between human activity and ecological processes in urban areas;
- assess the major economic, social, environmental and financial challenges to urban sustainability
- to identify and examine, through case studies of ongoing urban sustainability initiatives, the barriers to and alternative strategies for dealing with these challenges
- to equip students with the knowledge and the ability to use case studies, writing and presentation skills to develop and offer solutions that advance urban sustainability

Tentative class lectures and readings:

Jan 7	Introduction, course overview, assignment discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 7 - "Urban Infrastructures", Igor Vojnovic
Jan 14	Urban sprawl in North America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Film - The end of suburbia oil depletion and the collapse of the American dream, the Electric Wallpaper Co., 2004. Media Commons DVD 751265
Jan 21	A primer on Urban Sprawl 101 - What is Sprawl? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 3 - "The Canadian Urban System: Growth and Transition", Jim Simmons and Larry McCann • Bunting and Fillion ch. 18 - "Shaped by Planning: The Canadian City Through Time", Jill Grant
Jan 28	A primer on Urban Sprawl 102 - Environmental and Public Health Impacts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 21 - Metropolitan Form and the Environment, Hugh Millward
Feb 4	Urban Land Use Planning in Ontario <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 19 - Contemporary Planning, Fischler and Wolfe • Hodge & Gordon ch. 8 - The Urban Community Plan
Feb 11	Curbing sprawl? Greenway Planning Case Studies: The Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, the City of Hamilton Open Spaces and Natural Environment System

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 21 – Metropolitan Form and the Environment, Hugh Millward • Hostovsky, C., Miller, D. and Keddy, C. Nov. 1995. "The Natural Environment Systems Strategy: Protecting Ottawa-Carleton's Ecological Areas", Plan Canada, pp. 26-29.
Feb 18	Reading week, no class
Feb 25	<p>Sustainable Transportation 1: Popularity of Hybrid Vehicles: Implications to Urban Environmental Planning and Smart Growth</p> <p>Film – “Taken for a Ride” by Jim Klein and Martha Olson ; New Day Films ; 1996. Media Commons Audio Visual Videocass 005922</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 6 – Transportation and Communication, Eric Miller
March 4	<p>Sustainable Transportation 2: Transit Oriented Development and Travel Demand Management</p> <p>Transit Oriented Design Case Study – City of Mississauga and City of Brampton Hurontario/Main Street Higher Order Transit System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Even-Har, Meirav and Hostovsky, C. 2006. “The Montreal Car Free Day: A Catalyst for Multimodal Transportation Planning”. <i>Plan Canada</i>. Vol. 46, No. 2, pp. 17-20. • Bunting and Filion ch. 6 – Transportation and Communication, Eric Miller
March 11	<p>Sustainable waste management 1: The Toronto Waste Crisis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hostovsky, Charles. 2006. “The Paradox of the Rational Comprehensive Model of Planning: Tales From Waste Management Planning in Ontario, Canada. ” <i>Journal of Planning Education and Research</i>. Vol. 25 No. 4, pp. 382-395. • Bunting and Filion ch. 20 – Canadian Cities and the Sustainability Imperative, Kevin Hanna
March 18	<p>Sustainable waste management 2: The 4Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bunting and Filion ch. 20 – Canadian Cities and the Sustainability Imperative, Kevin Hanna
March 25	Floater for guest speaker – Toronto Green Roof By-law and/or Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for green buildings
April 1	Exam overview

Academic Integrity:

"Students agree that by taking this course all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to Turnitin.com for the detection of plagiarism. All submitted papers will be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of such papers. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com web site." Students are asked to upload their assignment to www.turnitin.com and submit papers in hard copy to the instructor. Plagiarism will not be tolerated and will result in a mark of zero and academic discipline.

Examples of offences for which you can be penalized include (but are not limited to):

- using any unauthorized aids on an exam or test (e.g., "cheat sheets", etc.)
- plagiarism – representing someone else's work as your own (including cutting and pasting from internet sources)
- falsifying documents or grades
- purchasing an essay online or from others
- submitting someone else's work as your own
- submitting the same essay or report in more than one course (without permission)
- looking at someone else's answers during an exam or test
- impersonating another person at an exam or test or having someone else impersonate you
- making up sources or facts for an essay or report.

For a fuller description please see Faculty of Arts and Science, 2008-2009 Calendar, pp. 505 or online at: <http://www.artsandscience.utoronto.ca/ofr/calendar/rules.htm#behaviour>

For more information see How Not to Plagiarize:

<http://www.utoronto.ca/writing/plagsep.html>