

SAMPLE COURSE OUTLINE

Course Code, Number, and Title:

APPL 5140: Planning Process and Law

Course Format:

[Course format may vary by instructor. The typical course format would be:]

Lecture 3 h + Seminar 1 h + Lab 0 h

Credits: 3

Transfer credit: For information, visit bctransferguide.ca

Course Description, Prerequisites, Corequisites:

While persuasion can achieve significant results, community planning requires regulatory powers to be effective. Communities receive their authority to regulate planning through Provincial legislation, and in some cases planning decisions are also guided by applicable Federal laws. That authority is both limited and prescriptive. This course introduces students to the enabling legislation that both authorizes and limits planning practice in B.C. This includes the legal requirements for plan adoption and the development approval process. The course will focus on those aspects of the planning process and law considered most relevant to planners and planning technicians practicing in B.C.

Registration in this course is restricted to students admitted to the Applied Planning program.

Prerequisites: None

Corequisites: APPL 4110

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Describe the evolution and rationale of various planning tools
- Evaluate the major tools and powers of the Local Government Act and Community Charter in relation to land use and community planning
- Explain required legislative processes
- Explain other important federal and provincial legislation
- Explain the implications of planning for property rights
- Explain how Planners and Planning Technicians might become involved in legal matters
- Apply legal planning tools to case studies
- Draft sample legal documents including covenants and bylaws

Instructor(s): TBA

Office: TBA Phone: 604 323 XXXX Email: TBA

Office Hours: TBA

Textbook and Course Materials:

[Textbook selection may vary by instructor. An example of texts and course materials for this course might be:]

Makuck, S. "Canadian Municipal and Planning Law". Canada. 2004.

Solnit, A. "The Job of the Practicing Planner". USA. 1988.

Bish, R. "Local Government in BC". Canada. 2008.

Note: This course may use an electronic (online) instructional resource that is located outside of Canada for mandatory graded class work. You may be required to enter personal information, such as your name and email address, to log in to this resource. This means that your personal information could be stored on servers located outside of Canada and may be accessed by U.S. authorities, subject to federal laws. Where possible, you may log in with an email pseudonym as long as you provide the pseudonym to me so I can identify you when reviewing your class work.

Assessments and Weighting:

Final Exam 35%

Other Assessments %

(An example of other assessments might be:) %

Midterm Exam: 25%

Project: 20%

Participation: 20%

Additional Information

Participation format: Attendance and participation in class

Proportion of group and individual work:

Individual: 75%

Group: 25%

This generic outline is for planning purposes only.

Grading System: Percentage

Specific grading schemes will be detailed in each course section outline.

Passing grade: C

Topics Covered:

[Topics covered may vary by instructor. An example of topics covered might be:]

The course is composed of three parts which will run concurrently through the thirteen weeks of the course.

- Planning Legislation Basics
 - Overview federal, provincial, regional and municipal roles, including referrals and approvals
 - Review of judicial intervention in municipal by-laws
 - Review and understand the provincial legislation that enables municipal and regional planning
 - Understand and analyse the powers that municipal and regional governments have access to
 - Explore the differences between the Vancouver Charter and the Local Government Act
 - Identify the limitations to power that are currently legislated
 - Explore other legislation which impacts on planning powers

- Planning Tools
 - Review and discuss the role of Official Community Plans as well as OCP powers and adoption procedures
 - Review and discuss the role of a Zoning By-law as a regulatory tool including by-law adoption and amendment procedures
 - Explore how zoning can be used as an incentive tool
 - Explore how changes to laws may lead to situations of non-conformity and how they can be addressed
 - Explore the development approval process including Boards of Variance, Development Permits, Development Variance Permits and Building Permits
 - Understand subdivision regulation and procedures
 - Explore heritage conservation procedures and tools
 - Explore impact of planning on meeting climate change goals
 - Discuss role of advisory bodies (planning commissions, design panels, etc.)
 - Understand relationship between municipal and regional governments, including in rural areas
 - Consider supplemental planning tools including covenants, easements, right of ways, etc.

- Applying Planning Tools
 - Working in teams, students will be asked to research a planning issue, discuss applicable legislation, and recommend planning tools that would be applied to address it

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- The approach will be presented and feedback provided as to which tools would be most effective.
- Students will be further asked to draft the relevant documents that would be required to address the issue

As a student at Langara, you are responsible for familiarizing yourself and complying with the following policies:

College Policies:

[E1003 - Student Code of Conduct](#)

[F1004 - Code of Academic Conduct](#)

[E2008 - Academic Standing - Academic Probation and Academic Suspension](#)

[E2006 - Appeal of Final Grade](#)

[F1002 - Concerns about Instruction](#)

[E2011 - Withdrawal from Courses](#)

Departmental/Course Policies:

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