



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Ulpan in strategic urban policy and planning - 40811

Last update 17-09-2024

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Geography

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Emily Silverman

Coordinator Email: Emily.silverman@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday 15:00 - 16:00

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Emily Silverman,
Dr. Michal Braier

Course/Module description:

This "ulpan" or studio course teaches the approach of strategic spatial planning at the neighborhood and sub-neighborhood level, and emphasizes the connection between spatial interventions and social impact. The course teaches the basics of spatial analysis, social urbanism and actor and impact analysis.

The uplan is highly interactive and fairly intensive. However, it is appropriate for students without prior experience in urban planning or architecture. Students with experience in regulatory spatial planning may appreciate the opportunity to learn the different approaches and tools of strategic planning.

Each year we investigate a single neighborhood, usually in Jerusalem. Previous neighborhoods have included Musrara, Abu Tor/A Tori, Kiryat Yuval and French Hill. For each neighborhood, we typically work together with a community planner or private sector planner working on site. Our neighborhoods are selected to investigate issues of social mix and urban management, public buildings and public spaces, housing and urban regeneration, and transport infrastructure.

Throughout the semester, students work individually and in small and changing teams to develop a proposal for site-specific intervention in this neighborhood, based on clear data, interviews with residents and stakeholders, a structured place-making analysis, and stakeholder analysis. This four-credit course usually relies on extended field work: in a typical year, students are expected to spend at least ten hours in the selected neighborhood, usually with at least two sessions taking place on site.

This ulpan is highly recommended for those interesting in participating in the 4 credit Urban Clinic flagship course: Project in Housing and Community Planning (40771) in the spring semester.

Course/Module aims:

- Develop understanding of strategic spatial planning, in contrast to statutory master-planning.*
- To inculcate appreciation for field work, cultural context and local knowledge in all planning processes.*
- To develop skills and ability to make an honest, convincing and feasible proposal for place-based intervention.*

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

-Prepare a 'current status report' at neighborhood level including demographic, historic and cultural background; built environment analysis; and spatial planning analysis comparing statutory plans and current land uses.

-Carry out a basic place-making analysis.

-Prepare, conduct and analyze resident and stakeholder interviews.

-Prepare rudimentary sketches demonstrating sections, perspective, topographical analysis, and neighborhood patterns

-Develop and present a compelling and coherent proposal for a site-based intervention, integrating vision, substantial evidence, theory of change and work plan

Attendance requirements(%):

Full attendance, and active participation in discussions, including carrying out specific assignments and tasks, and, typically, site-based analyses

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The course is highly interactive. Most sessions include a mix of frontal lectures, urban design exercises, and consultations on student assignments. The course is built around a sequence of student tasks that progress incrementally, building on one another from the beginning of the semester through the end.

Course/Module Content:

Part One: Strategic Planning and Current Status Report

1. Introducing strategic spatial planning

2. What is a Current Status Report, Introducing the Neighborhood

3. Guided site visit: collecting data: demographic, planning history and built environment.

4. Neighborhood Assessment

Part Two: Methods and tools -

5. Place-making workshop

6. Local knowledge and interviewing residents.

7. Proposing a place-based intervention, guest lecturer on strategic visions and indicators.

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8. Stakeholder analysis
 9. Theory of Change
 10. Presentation narrative and work plan, guest lecture on strategic planning.
 11. Presentation skills
 12. Presentation
 13. Reflections on strategic spatial planning and ethics in planning.

Required Reading:

This course has limited reading assignments. These include local and regional planning and policy documents, a short reading assignment on 'placemaking' (PPS) and a UN Habitat report on strategic planning (WCR 2016, UN Habitat)

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 30 %

Active Participation / Team Assignment 10 %

Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 50 %

Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 10 %

Additional information: