

UP 456: Sustainable Planning Workshop

Focused on Alternative Transportation Planning

Fall 2023 Workshop

Department of Urban and Regional Planning

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Adjunct Instructor: Kathie Brown, Director of Rural Outreach and Development Greater Peoria EDC

Contact Information: brownlk@illinois.edu

Days and Location: Friday, 9 a.m. - Noon, TBH Room 227

Office Hours: Friday 30 minutes after class in TBH Office 230 and other times by appointment via Zoom.

Course Description

Environmental justice, smart growth, and equitable development goals and principles have fundamental areas of overlap. They all aim to create communities that are healthy, environmentally sustainable, and economically vibrant. Peoria County communities are joining a growing network of communities who are actively engaged in developing alternative transportation projects seeking safe, reliable, and economical transportation options. This workshop will focus on policy, planning and practices that are available to communities seeking alternative transportation projects. Students will collaborate to build essential planning skills through real world applications of alternative transportation planning and create professional, resume-building products. Peoria County Communities will be the main client of the course, with an introduction to other local organizations and guest lectures from planners in the field.

Together we will explore how communities are finding that environmental justice, smart growth, and equitable development can be an effective combination for promoting a clean and safe environment, a strong economy, and good quality of life for all residents. This course will challenge you to analyze and design alternative transportation options that respond to community needs and values. You will be encouraged to look towards alternative transportation options as a tool for creating equitable, healthy and sustainable communities. Our planning will provide community engagement opportunities, grant development and creation of a long range vision that community based organizations to use to shape future development.

Strategies are grouped under common elements that connect environmental justice, smart growth, and equitable development:

- Facilitate Meaningful Community Engagement in Planning and Land Use Decisions
- Promote Public Health and a Clean and Safe Environment
- Strengthen Existing Communities
- Provide Transportation Options
- Improve Access to Opportunities and Daily Necessities
- Preserve and Build on the Features That Make a Community Distinctive

Course Objectives:

- Understand the ways in which alternative transportation provides important infrastructure for communities.
- Expand the realm of community engagement tools available to students.
- Learn from and engage with a variety of planners and professionals in allied fields.
- Use a variety of programs and tools to create professional products and enhance portfolios.
- Increase skills needed as a planning practitioner, including communication, organization, project management, collaboration, and presentation abilities
- Gain knowledge on professional planning and programs/organizations that support alternative transportation programming.
- Apply knowledge developed over your academic career in the BAUSP program to a client-based project.

Grading & Attendance**Attendance Policy**

Attendance is necessary for adequate performance in this workshop. Each class period you miss is three hours of informational lecture, guest planner presentation, course work time, or group collaboration. You will be allowed only one unexcused absence. Please notify me via email before any absences at brownlk@illinois.edu. After more than two absences, students' participation grade will be reduced by 1% per unexcused absence.

Course Grading & Assignment Breakdown

Percent of Grade	Assignment	Due
5%	1. Review of Alternative Transportation Policy	Sept. 1
10%	2. Design and Facilitate a Community Engagement Strategy	Sept. 29
5%	3. Create an ArcGis Online Interactive Web Mapping Application based on community observations	Oct. 27
10%	4. Review and APA-IL Conference Session or Alternative Transportation Webinar or Planning Document from Community	Nov. 3
35%	5. Engage in an Alternative Transportation Planning Process	Dec. 8
10%	6. Develop a proposal for funding	Nov. 17
15%	7. Final Project and Presentation	Dec. 8
15%	8. Class Attendance and Participation	

Grading Rubric

The general grading rubric for assignments and projects is as follows:

- A: Demonstrates original thought and synthesis of ideas and cogent analysis and is clearly written and presented. Outstanding work.
- B: Presents above average analysis with appropriate evidence to support ideas and is clearly written or presented. Good work.
- C: Shows a basic level of understanding, with analysis limited to obvious arguments. Writing is competent. Adequate work.
- D: Misunderstands or misrepresents the material or is so poorly written or presented as to obscure the analysis. Inadequate work.

Transformation of numerical grade to letter grade will be according to the schedule below:

- A+ 97-100
- A 93-96.9 C+ 77-79.9
- A- 90-92.9 C 73-76.9
- B+ 87-89.9 C- 70-72.9
- B 83-86.9 D+ 67-69.9
- B- 80-82.9 D 60-66.9

Course Schedule

Week	Class Date	Topic(s)	Assignment
1	Friday, August 25	Syllabus and introduction to the course – Review of Sustainable Community Planning Resources	Assignment: Review of one state or federal agency program and supporting policy to support sustainable community planning <i>Due September 1</i>
2	Monday, August 28	Peoria County Infrastructure Committee Meeting	Assignment: Attend online meeting to observe local government in action.
	Friday, September 1	Guest speaker: Lily Wilcock, Associate Planner Planning & Development Department City of Champaign Champaign Sustainability Plan BETSY LIGGETT RICHARDSON, Coordinator, Special Programs University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Assignment: Design a Community Engagement Strategy <i>Due September 29</i>
3	Friday, September 8	Field Trip: Boneyard Creek planning and assessment of how the area meets community needs.	Assignment: Review of the Boneyard Creek’s alignment with social, environmental and economic community development.
4	Friday, September 15	Field Trip: Peoria County	Depart from UIUC @ 8 a.m. return @ 5 p.m.
5	Friday, September 22	Presentation: Community Engagement Techniques & Active Transportation Planning Discussion of Field Trip and Finalize Community Engagement Strategy	Assignment: Review Peoria County Alternative Transportation Project Portfolio Write a review:
		Attend remotely one meeting of the Transportation and Mobility Subcommittee – to understand planning and strategy under development for Equity and Social Justice in Peoria City/County Planning and Policy	Assignment Write a review based on observations of work https://www.peoriacounty.gov/1252/Transportation-and-Mobility
6	Friday, September 29	No class	Assignment due : Design a Community Engagement Strategy
7	Friday, October 6	Guest speaker: Tri County Regional Planning Commission Discussion regarding Peoria County Planning Project – Review similar plans from other mid-sized cities	

8	Friday, October 13	Field Trip: Peoria County – facilitate community engagement	Depart from UIUC @ 8 a.m. return @ 5 p.m. Assignment Due : Facilitate a Community Engagement Strategy
9	Friday, October 20	No Class	
10	Friday, October 27	Work on summaries from community engagement exercises and begin mapping routes that connect community assets	Assignment Due: Create an ArcGis Online Interactive Web Mapping Application based on community observations
11	Friday, November 3	Guest speaker: Fundamentals of grant writing - Discussion review of Notice of Funding Opportunities	Assignment Due: Review and APA-IL Conference Session or Alternative Transportation Webinar or Planning Document from Community
12	Friday, November 10	Guest speaker: Farnsworth Group or other engineering firm to share alternative transportation planning work	
13	Friday, November 17	Guest speaker: Illinois Department of Transportation and EPA	Assignment Due: Develop a proposal for funding
14	Friday, November 24	No Class – Fall Break	
15	Friday, December 1	Final project work session	
16	Friday, December 8	Final presentation	
December 8–15 Weekdays only – Final Exams			

Required Resources for Review

Review of the following resources is required for building a strong park planning knowledge base and creation of your park planning toolkit. Resources consist of readings, podcasts, and webinars to supplement in class lectures, guest speakers, field trips, and in class exercises. In most instances the length of a document or duration of a podcast or webinar is included to help you better budget time.

Week 1 (August 25)

1. [City of Champaign - Champaign Growing Greener 4 16 15.pdf - Images \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
2. [THE 17 GOALS | Sustainable Development \(un.org\)](#)
3. Safe Routes to Schools: [2023-funding-guidelines.pdf \(illinois.gov\)](#)
3. [\(79\) Safe Routes to School Webinar 1 - 7/12/23 - YouTube](#)
5. The Active Transportation Alliance and Illinois Public Health Institute are partnering with IDOT to host a 3-part webinar series to help communities apply for funding. Webinar Part 2 – Q&A with IDOT Staff | **Wednesday, August 23, 11:30am – 1pm** Register at : https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_spFA0MjARiqMatdB5oND9g

Week 2 (August 28 & September 1)

1. Peoria County County's Infrastructure Committee meetings will be **Monday, August 28** at 2:30 p.m. online –<https://www.peoriacounty.gov/agendacenter>
2. PDF document: APA Planning Advisory Service (PAS) QuickNotes 82 Inclusive Planning Processes (2 pages) [Inclusive Planning Processes \(planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://www.planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com)
3. PDF document: APA PAS QuickNotes 51 Using Online Tools for Public Engagement (2 pages) [PASQuickNotes51.pdf \(planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://www.planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com)
4. [APA Planning for Equity Policy Guide \(planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://www.planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com)

Week 3 (September 8)

1. Webinar: Boneyard Creek: How a flood mitigation project became an economic development showcase for Champaign. <https://www.ilapa.org/2022-apa-iss-conference> (password: Shawnee289000) (1 hour)
2. [4 Tools to Empower Data-driven Planning for Climate and Transportation Equity](https://www.planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com)
3. PDF document: APA PAS QuickNotes 87 Biophilia (2 pages) [Biophilia \(planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://www.planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com)
4. PDF document: APA PAS QuickNotes 79 Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Planning (2 pages) [Unmanned Aircraft Systems and Planning \(planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com\)](https://www.planning-org-uploaded-media.s3.amazonaws.com)
5. Article link: Air Support for Transportation Planning <https://www.planning.org/planning/2020/nov/air-support-for-transportation-planning/>

Week 4 (September 15)

1. [FINAL_Tri-County-Emerging-Mobility-Strategy.pdf \(tricountyrpc.org\)](https://www.tricountyrpc.org)
2. [BikeConnect-HOI-Web.pdf \(tricountyrpc.org\)](https://www.tricountyrpc.org)
3. Active Transportation Plan: Kick-Off Event <https://www.tricountyrpc.org/transportation/bike-ped/>

Week 5 (September 22)

1. The Active Transportation Alliance and Illinois Public Health Institute are partnering with IDOT to host a 3-part webinar series to help communities apply for funding. SRTS Webinar 3 – Q&A with IDOT | **Wednesday, September 20, 11:30am – 1pm** Register here: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mfloVU7kSuG8vSgCi14low
2. PDF document: FEMA Building Community Resilience with Nature-Based Solutions (31 pages)

Week 6 (29)

No resources to review this week. No Class.

Week 7 (October 7)

1. PDF document: PAS QuickNotes 86 Managing Shared-Use Micromobility (2 pages)
2. Podcast: American Planning Association- Critical Conversations in Transportation Planning (29 min) <https://www.planning.org/podcast/critical-conversations-in-transportation-planning-olatunji-obo-reed/>

Week 8 (October 13)

1. Podcast: American Planning Association- The Intersection of Hip Hop and Planning with Michael Ford (31 min) <https://planning.org/podcast/the-intersection-of-hip-hop-and-architecture-with-michael-ford/>

Week 9 (October 20)

1. Podcast: NRPA Open Space Radio- Leaving a Lasting Legacy in The Big Apple Through a Culture of Care — Episode 098 (33 min) <https://www.nrpa.org/blog/leaving-a-lasting-legacy-in-the-big-apple-through-a-culture-of-care-episode-098/>
2. PDF document: APA PAS QuickNotes 77 Public Art and Planning (2 pages)
3. PDF document: NRPA The Economic Impact of Local Parks 2022 (12 pages)
4. PDF document: The Urban Institute-The Health Benefits of Parks and their Economic Impacts (document pages 20-23)

Week 10 (October 27)

1. Podcast: NRPA Open Space Radio- Park and Rec Planning in a New Era with David Barth (31 min) <https://www.nrpa.org/blog/park-and-rec-planning-in-a-new-era-with-david-barth-november-bonus-episode/>

Weeks 11-16

Work sessions for final project. While a few additional resources may be added during this week, the majority of resource review is complete.

Policies

Policies

Special Accommodations

Students with Disabilities: To obtain disability-related academic adjustments and/or auxiliary aids, students with disabilities must contact the course instructor as soon as possible. To ensure that disability-related concerns are properly addressed from the beginning, students with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this class should contact Disability Resources and Educational Services (DRES). If you need accommodations for any sort of disability, please speak to me after class, or make an appointment to see me or see me during my office hours. DRES provides students with academic accommodations, access, and support services. To contact DRES you may visit 1207 S. Oak St., Champaign, call 333-4603 (V/TDD), or e-mail disability@illinois.edu.

Academic Integrity

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Student Code should also be considered as a part of this syllabus. Students should pay particular attention to Article 1, Part 4: Academic Integrity. Read the Code at the following URL: <http://studentcode.illinois.edu/>.

Academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade. Every student is expected to review and abide by the Academic Integrity Policy: http://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1_part4_1-401.html. Ignorance is not an excuse for any academic dishonesty. It is your responsibility to read this policy to avoid any misunderstanding. Do not hesitate to ask the instructor if you are ever in doubt about what constitutes plagiarism, cheating, or any other breach of academic integrity.

Plagiarism

No student shall represent the words, work, or ideas of another as their own in any academic endeavor. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to copying, direct quotation, paraphrase, and borrowed facts or information. See the guidelines on the student code to avoid plagiarism: <https://studentcode.illinois.edu/article1/part4/1-402/>.

Class Climate

The Department of Urban and Regional Planning (DURP) is committed to creating an environment of inclusion and opportunity that is rooted in the very goals and responsibilities of practicing planners. Conduct that interferes with the rights of another or creates an atmosphere of intimidation or disrespect is inconsistent with the environment of learning and cooperation that the program requires. By enrolling in a course in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, students agree to be responsible for maintaining a respectful environment in all DURP activities, including lectures, discussions, labs, projects, and extracurricular programs. We will be governed by the University Student Code. See Student Code Article 1—Student Rights and Responsibilities, Part 1. Student Rights: §1-102 In the Classroom.

Sexual Misconduct Reporting Obligation

The University of Illinois is committed to combating sexual misconduct. Faculty and staff members are required to report any instances of sexual misconduct to the University's Title IX and Disability Office. In turn, an individual with the Title IX and Disability Office will provide information about rights and options, including accommodations, support services, the campus disciplinary process, and law enforcement options.

A list of the designated University employees who, as counselors, confidential advisors, and medical professionals, do not have this reporting responsibility and can maintain confidentiality, can be found here: <https://wecare.illinois.edu/resources/students/#confidential>. Other information about resources and reporting is available here: <https://wecare.illinois.edu>.

Emergency Response Recommendations

The Department of Homeland Security and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Office of Campus Emergency Planning recommend the following three responses to any emergency on campus: RUN > HIDE > FIGHT. For more information, <https://police.illinois.edu/emergency-preparedness/>.

Mental Health

Significant stress, mood changes, excessive worry, substance/alcohol misuse or interferences in eating or sleep can have an impact on academic performance, social development, and emotional wellbeing. The University of Illinois offers a variety of confidential services including individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, psychiatric services, and specialized screenings which are covered through the Student Health Fee. If you or someone you know experiences any of the above mental health concerns, it is strongly encouraged to contact or visit any of the University's resources provided below. Getting help is a smart and courageous thing to do for yourself and for those who care about you.

- Counseling Center (217) 333-3704 <https://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/>
 - McKinley Health Center (217) 333-2700
 - National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800) 273-8255
 - Rosecrance Crisis Line (217) 359-4141 (available 24/7, 365 days a year)
- If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Community of Care

As members of the Illinois community, we each have a responsibility to express care and concern for one another. If you come across a classmate whose behavior concerns you, whether in regards to their well-being or yours, we encourage you to refer this behavior to the Student Assistance Center (217-333-0050 or <http://odos.illinois.edu/community-of-care/referral/>). Based on your report, the staff in the Student Assistance Center reaches out to students to make sure they have the support they need to be healthy and safe.

Further, we understand the impact that struggles with mental health can have on your experience at Illinois. Significant stress, strained relationships, anxiety, excessive worry, alcohol/drug problems, a loss of motivation, or problems with eating and/or sleeping can all interfere with optimal academic performance. We encourage all students to reach out to talk with someone, and we want to make sure you are aware that you can access mental health support at McKinley Health Center (<https://mckinley.illinois.edu/>). Or the Counseling Center (<https://counselingcenter.illinois.edu/>). For urgent matters during business hours, no appointment is needed to contact the Counseling Center. For mental health emergencies, you can call 911.

Religious Observances

Students should complete the Request for Accommodation for Religious Observances form should any instructors require an absence letter in order to manage the absence. In order to best facilitate planning and communication between students and faculty, we request that students make requests for absence letters as early as possible in the semester in which the request applies.