

***GEOG 425/Community & Regional Development
Planning for Sustainable Communities
Fall 2007***

Dr. LaDona Knigge

T/TH 12:30 – 1:45 p.m.

Office hours: M/W 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Location: 533 Butte Hall

Location: 503 Butte Hall

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NOTE: Please put GEOG 425 in subject line of all email correspondence
Syllabus subject to change. Effective date: 9/11/2007

Much of this urban world is grey, paved with concrete and asphalt, and/or brown, polluted by industry, automobiles, and waste. The challenges of the urban present give rise to widespread trepidation and distrust in our ability to leave a legacy of healthy communities to future generations.

Course Description:

This course explores the historical roots of today's sustainability movement and examines ways that geographers and planners can engage in creating more environmentally, socially and economically sustainable communities at multiple scales, from the local community to larger regional communities. Many of our communities and cities today are made up of fragmented landscapes characterized by homogenous residential neighborhoods and single use zoning, freeways, malls, commercial strips, and office parks that are disconnected or poorly connected by congested transportation infrastructure that requires over dependence on the automobile. A lack of affordable, appropriately designed and located housing, growing poverty and inequality, and environmental degradation and damage undermine the livability and sustainability of our communities, towns and cities.

There will be several guest speakers and field trips or field activities throughout the semester, including a day trip to Village Homes Development and other sustainable sites in Davis, CA that will be guided by Dr. Mark Francis, author of the book *Village Homes: a Community by Design* (among other publications) and professor of landscape architecture at UC Davis School.

Course Requirements:

- Field trips or visits to sites within Chico and the surrounding area
- Day trip to Davis, CA to visit Village Homes Community and other sustainable sites.
- In class activities and short papers
- Final class project
- Attendance and participation are expected and not rewarded. The success of this seminar depends on regular attendance and participation. Please notify me in advance if you know you will not be in class or email if you cannot attend due to illness or hardship.

- All assignments will be completed on time. Late assignments will not be accepted unless accompanied by appropriate documentation. The pace and amount of reading for this course will be intense. Do not allow yourself to fall behind.

Required Materials:

Wheeler, S. M., and T. Beatley, eds. 2006. *The Sustainable Urban Development Reader*. Edited by R. T. LeGates and F. Stout, *The Routledge Urban Reader Series*. New York, NY: Routledge Original edition, 2004.

Wheeler, S. M. 2004. *Planning for Sustainability: Creating Livable, Equitable and Ecological Communities*. New York NY: Routledge.

Optional Book:

Corbett, Judy and Michael Corbett. 2000. *Designing Sustainable Communities: Learning from Village Homes*. Washington DC, Island Press.

NOTE: Copy on reserve at library and library has a copy of the book.

Francis, Mark. 2003. *Village Homes: A community by design*. Land and Community Design Case Study Series. Washington: Island Press.

NOTE: Above books are available at CSUC Associated Students Book Store. Reserve copies are available at the Meriam Library.

We'll also read some web-based material and readings. The materials will be available on the electronic reserve (ERes) from the limited library loan service, through VISTA or handed out in class. *Your can now use the password provided below to access Eres materials from any computer that can access <http://www.csuchico.edu/library>. The benefits of this new system:*

- 1) *You don't have to check the material out from the library*
- 2) *No fines*
- 3) *Unlimited access by students, 24 hours a day*

Course Schedule

Week 1: Aug 28 - 30 Introduction to Course: Origins of the Sustainability Concept

Readings: Wheeler & Beatley (W&B) Part I, pg 1-29

Video: The Greatest Good

Week 2: Sept 4 – 6 Origins of the Sustainability Concept (continued) & Dimensions of Urban Sustainability

Readings: W&B, Part 1, pg 30 – 66

Guest Speaker: Claudia Stuart, consultant and former senior planner with City of Chico Department of Planning

Week 3: Sept 11 – 13

Readings: Wheeler & Beatley (W&B) Unit Two, pg 67-110: Land Use and Urban Design and Transportation

Wheeler Planning for Sustainability: Creating Livable, Equitable and Ecological Communities Chapters 1 & 2, pg 1-32

Corbett & Corbett *Designing sustainable communities: Learning from Village Homes*, Chap 1, pg 1-19

Week 4: Sept 18 – 20 Sustainability planning and theory

Readings: Wheeler, Chap 3 & 4, page 34-65

Issues central to sustainability planning: Wheeler, Chapter 5, page 66-84

Corbett & Corbett, Chap 2 & 3, pages 21-60

Week 5: Sept 25 - Sept 27: Tools for sustainability planning

Wheeler, Chap 6, page 85-101

W&B, Part 3 199-232

Week 6: Oct 2 – 4:

Tuesday Field Activity and report due

Wheeler, Chap 7 - 10, 102-139: International, National and State or Provincial Planning Case studies in Urban Sustainability at the City and Regional Scale, W&B, pg 307-311

Economic Development, W&B 157-178

W&B Energy & Materials Use, page 123-140

Friday October 5: 4:00 pm: Field trip Sierra Nevada Sustainable Brewery tour

Sierra Nevada Brewing Co. is located at: 1075 East 20th Street in Chico, CA.

<http://www.sierranevada.com/environment.html>

Meet at north rear parking lot near fuel cells at 4:00 or meet at 3:30 to ride bicycles to Sierra Nevada

Week 7: Oct 9 – 11 Site planning and architecture

Wheeler Chapter 13, page 216 – 234

W&B Green architecture and building, page 179-198

Case Studies in Urban sustainability at the building and site scale, W&B, pg 299-300

Speaker about LEED Building on campus.

Corbett & Corbett, Chap 6, pg 99-115

Week 8: Oct 16 - Oct 18 Neighborhood Planning

Wheeler Chapter 12, page 181-215

Case studies of urban sustainability at the neighborhood or district scale, W&B, pg. 303-306

Corbett & Corbett: Chap 8, pg 135-174
Guest Speaker: Tom Di Giovanni, New Urban Builders
Assignment: Identify topic/role for sustainable bicycle tour

**REGISTER FOR SUSTAINABILITY III CONFERENCE BY OCTOBER 19, 2007:
ALL Students with valid student id card are FREE IF registered by the deadline
October 19, 2007 (excludes meals)**

Week 9: Oct 23 – 24 Environmental Justice & Social Equity
Environmental justice and social equity, W&B pg 141-156

Corbett & Corbett, Chap 4 & 5, pg 61-98 and Chap 9, pg 175-192

Friday Oct. 25 - 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Field Trip: Davis, CA lead by Dr. Mark Francis, Professor Landscape Architecture
at University of California, Davis. Village Homes Community and other sites in
Davis.**

Meet at 8:00 a.m. Location to be announced

Week 10: Oct 30 - Nov 1

Wheeler Chap 11, pg 152-180: Local government planning

W&B, 311-316

Corbett & Corbett, Chap 7, pg 117-134

Sustainability III Conference

November 1 – 4, 2007

http://www.csuchico.edu/sustainablefuture/events/2007conference/presentation_call.shtml

Week 11: Nov 6 - Nov 8

W&B Urban ecology & restoration, page 111-120

Mark Stemen, guest speaker

Week 12: Nov 13 – 15 Urban ecology & restoration (cont)

Wolch “Urban Green Worlds” ERes or Vista

Video: Edens Lost and Found LA

Week 13: Thanksgiving Vacation – No Class

Week 14: Nov 27 - Nov 29

Public participation: Who is the public?

Child Friendly Streets, Walkable Communities

Week 15: Dec 4 - 6

Visions of sustainable community. How do we get there from here?

W&B, Part 5, page 275-292

Wheeler, Chap 10, page 193 - end
Wheeler, Chap 14, 235-end

Week 16: Dec 11 – 13
Final projects

Week 17:

Final Exam Week

Assignments:

Field Activity and report: Sierra Nevada Brewery or Sustainability III Conference paper	15 points 15 points
Paper (Village Homes Field Trip or approved topic)	15 points
Final Project	40 points
Discussion Leader and class participation	10 points
TOTAL POINTS	100 points

Other Information

The classroom should be a safe place where all ideas, as long as they do not include bigotry, intolerance or hatred, can be expressed freely and openly. Please listen to me and to other students, and frame your commentaries in the spirit of supportive and constructive criticism. Use non-sexist language when speaking and writing.

If there is evidence that you have been involved in any form of academic dishonesty, you may receive an “F” grade for the assignment or for the entire course, and a report will be provided to Student Judicial Affairs for further action. Please read the university’s guidelines on academic dishonesty below and see:

<http://www.csuchico.edu/catalog/cat05/2StudentServices/01sjd.html>

If you have a documented disability that may require reasonable accommodations, please contact Disability Support Services (DSS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The DSS phone number is 898-5959 V/TTY or FAX 898-4411. Visit the DSS website at <http://www.csuchico.edu/dss/>.

Add/Drop information: Students are responsible for handling the paperwork for adding or dropping this class. After **September 7, 2007**, you will need special permission of instructor to add or drop classes. After **September 21, 2007**, you will need a compelling reason to add or drop any courses.

Academic Honesty

Faculty expects students to maintain a high standard of academic integrity. If you are unclear about a specific situation, ask your instructors. They will explain what is and is not acceptable in their classes.

If a student is thought to be cheating and charges are brought, a process is set in motion which can result in severe consequences, ranging from failure in an individual course to long-term suspension from the university and denial of a degree.

The examples below do not include all possible violations of the university's expectations, but they do give a good idea of behavior which will result in grade reduction, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion from the university.

Plagiarism: Copying homework answers from your text to hand in for a grade; failing to give credit for ideas, statement of facts, or conclusions derived from another source; submitting a paper downloaded from the Internet or submitting a friend's paper as your own; claiming credit for artistic work (such as a music composition, photo, painting, drawing, sculpture, or design) done by someone else.
