

CRP 532 Theory of Urban Form & Design

Course Syllabus

Instructor: Dr. Ali S. Al-Naser

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Office Hours: Sun. & Tues. 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM & by appointment

Introduction:

Discussion of the interrelationship of man and space, the basic elements of urban site appearance and composition, urban design concepts and patterns. There will be some emphasis on site analysis techniques and methods, analysis of proportions of open spaces to buildings, relationships of buildings densities, heights and urban appearance. There will also be emphasis on specific Arabic and Islamic urban settings

Course Objectives:

To teach graduate students the different theories and elements of urban form and design. Application of these theories and elements is essential part of this course. Integrating theories with the practical world through the different elements and forms will allow the students to understand urban form and design and its difference from architecture and urban planning.

Textbook:

A bulk of prepared reading list of articles will be the core text support for this course. Any extra readings will be announced during the course.

Evaluation:

Final project	40%
Final Exam	40%
Attendance	10%
Class participation	10%

Final Project:

Students will select any urban form and design problem and will develop a research or project to solve it. The scale of this problem should be within the scope of being solved during this semester. The use of computing to help in solving such problems will be highly encouraged. Project work is expected to start from the second or third week of the semester and will progress parallel to the lecture sessions.

Course Outline:

Week 1: Introduction to Urban Form & Design

Ann Ferebee "Education for Urban Design" a selection of papers presented at the Urban Design Educators' Retreat, April 30 – May 2, 1981, El Convento Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico, pp 20 – 58.

Week 2: Contemporary Urban Form & Design

R. Varkki George "A Procedural Explanation for Contemporary Urban Design" University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Koray Velibeyoglu "Urban Design in the Postmodern Context", 1999.

Week 3: Urban Form & Design Project

Joseph DeChiara & Lee Koppelman "Urban Planning and Design Criteria" Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1982.

Week 4: Survey of Urban Form & Design Elements

Kevin Lynch "The Image of the City" The M.I.T. Press, 1977, pp. 46-90.

Week 5: Further Analyses of Urban Form

Paul D. Spreiregen "Urban Design: The Architecture of Towns and Cities, McGraw-Hill Book, 1965, pp. 49-66.

Week 6: Urban Form and Space

Edmund N. Bacon " Design of Cities" Thames & Hudson, 1974, pp. 13-31.

Week 7: Mid-term Review of Projects

Week 8: The Socio-economic and Ecological Values Related to Urban Form& Design

David Gosling & Barry Maitland " Concepts of Urban Design" St. Martin's Press, 1984, pp. 9-22.

Week 9: Sources of Urban Form & Design Theories

David Gosling, ...etc. pp. 25-52

Week 10: Urban Characteristics

G. B. Urhahn & M. Bobic "A Pattern Image: A Typological Tool For Quality in Urban Planning" Thoth Publishers, 1994, pp. 10-27.

Week 11: Solid & Void in Urban Structure

Week 12: Streets & Accessibility in Urban Spaces

Week 13: Emerging Theories on Urban Form & Design

Week 14: Final projects review and presentation

Week 15: Review