

University of British Columbia
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE Fall 2009

LARC 581B
Th 9:00 to 12:00

Sustainable Urban Design Seminar (3)
McMillan Room 358

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COURSE DESCRIPTION AND REQUIREMENTS

DESCRIPTION

The course will consider the design and retrofit of communities for sustainability, with a special emphasis on greenhouse gas (GHG) production as it relates to community and regional design.

COURSE STRUCTURE.

This course is organized around seven rules for sustainability as contained in my book (in press) *The Seven Rules for Sustainable Communities: Design Strategies for a Low Carbon Future*.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES

By the end of this course students will:

- Understand a way of thinking of the various systems that make up a sustainable community, and how they work together.
- Work in seminar sessions with other students interactively to debate these issues and arrive at alternative models, and/or ways of re-enforcing this model.
- Integrate the most basic elements of the theories presented, and the facts on the ground that support these theories.
- Apply these strategies to a case study site.
- Know how to write coherently on the broad issue of sustainable community design.

ASSIGNMENTS AND FINAL PROJECT FORMAT

Assignments are three:

- 1) Readings questions prepared every week for seminar.
- 2) A 10-page paper (5,000 words) on a related topic of your choosing or topics supplied by the instructor.
- 3) An illustrated site plan for a one square mile area applying sustainable principles.

EVALUATION

Grades will be assigned on:

- 15% Seminar questions.
- 30% 10 page "issues" paper
- 30% Sustainable Community Design Exercise.
- 20% Final exam or second 10 page research paper.
- 5% Participation and attendance.

All grades will be individual grades.