



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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Seminar on urban and regional issues in Ethiopia

SYLLABUS

Course Description

This course is given as part of masters of art (MA) degree in **Urban and Regional Development Planning (URDP)** in the department of Geography and Environmental Studies. The course discusses about the contemporary issues in urban and regional planning. It deals with urban sectoral policies, understanding of low-income housing and informal housing development issues. These issues include urban environment, urban informal settlement and their challenges like provision of services. The course also deals with urban green infrastructure, climate change, urban expansion and its effect on the suburban areas, pollution of urban environment and urban informal settlement problems. This course tries to highlight urban planning issues that are crucial for sustainable development. It engages students to review published materials related to contemporary issues in urban development and planning, share their ideas with their peers.

Learning Outcomes

After the end of this course students will

- have an understanding of current issues in urban and regional planning
- identify major current problems in urban areas of Ethiopia
- understand the effects of urban expansion on suburban areas
- understand how sectoral policies influence low-income housing and informal settlement areas
- identify major challenges of informal settlement areas in terms of service provision
- develop critiques and synthesize skills by reviewing published articles and book chapters related to urban developmental problems.

Student Workload

Students will be expected to engage themselves two hours per week for one semester/four months.

Course Structure

This course is structured in sessions to achieve the learning outcomes. Students will be provided reading materials related to the course for pre-reading and try to discuss with their peers on major concepts of urban and regional planning issues in Ethiopia. Various articles and book chapters will be given for review related to the course. Students will be also engaged to observe current urban problems in the city of Gondar to prepare themselves for future research. They will undertake one case study in informal urban settlement problems in group and share the results to their comrades.

Prerequisites -This course has no prerequisite so that students can take anytime when the course is delivered.

Assignments- Article review, group assignment and discussion results, observation analysis, midterm exam, seminar paper presentation

Grading

Stages & details	evaluation weights (%)
1. Test	10%
2. Quiz	5%
3. Critical review on informal urban settlements	15%
4. Observational analysis on urban problems	15%
5. Seminar paper on current urban issues	15%
6. Book chapter review assessment	10%
7. Case study assessment	15%
8. Final portfolio assessments	15%
Total	100%

Course evaluation. Our quality assurance and audit directorate prepared a check list for course evaluation purpose. Students have been given this checklist at the end of each semester to fill it

Course Sessions

Session 1

Pre-reading 1hr

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwicjrWAXtvrAhUJdBQKHd2zAu0QFjAMegQIBhAB&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.special-eu.org%2Fassets%2Fuploads%2FM1Sustainable-Concepts.pdf&usg=AOvVaw24Nooux-MgoRnZpkLnHvMq>

<https://www.pinterest.com/donatasbaltrusa/urban-planning-concepts/>

Session 1.5hrs

Group discussions and summary 2hrs

Total 4.5hrs

Session 2

Critical review of articles 3hrs

Students will review case studies done in Ethiopia by SES project related to urban informal settlement

<https://mdl.donau-uni.ac.at/ses/mod/page/view.php?id=188>

Presentation session 1.5hrs

Total 4.5hrs

Session 3

pre-reading 1

Book chapter review 4

The nexus of the UN sustainable development goals and their link to quality of life: a case of urbanization in Ethiopia and India

Total 7hrs

Session 4

Pre-reading 1

Observation of current problems 2hrs

Field excursion in the city of Gondar to identify major challenges of urbanization mainly on informal settlement areas

Presentation session of main findings and Discussion 1.5hrs

Total 4.5hrs

Session 5

Pre- reading----1

Concept of case study . <https://www.scribbr.com/methodology/case-study/>,

Case studies ----4hrs

Identified case/challenges will be given for detail study from session 4

Presentation Session and Discussion ---1.5hrs

Total 6.5hrs

Session 6

Pre-reading 1hr - urban and regional policies in Ethiopia

Developing strategies to solve the problems----3hrs

Discussion Session 1hr

Total 5hrs