Regional Planning and Metropolitan Growth Management

SYLLABUS

Description

The course covers urban-regional issues to be considered for the planning of cities that are integrated with their respective regions. It deals with the metropolitan region and problems of major agglomerations, migration and suburban development; emerging social and economic characteristics of the central city and the suburbs; impact on government systems and public services. It also introduces theories and techniques of regional planning (regionalization and understanding of the spatial structure of city-region). It also gives an overview of spatial patterns of towns/cities, identification of the location of economic, environmental areas and infrastructures, regulating the development of urban and regional areas. It also includes study and perspective of social and economic forecasting with more concrete activities such as infrastructure programming, land preservation and land use regulation. The course also includes the study on the causes, consequences and costs of sprawl (informality); study of growth management and smart growth programs at the various levels including the urban-regional level, as well as the rationale, techniques, and economic, political, and organizational implications.

Course objectives & structure

The course is designed to

- □ Introduce students to theories, techniques and practices of regional planning in the urban-regional framework; and
- □ Enable students to understand growth drivers, impacts and management strategies in the urban and regional contexts

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the course/module, students will

- □ be able to synthesis issues related to the growth of urban areas and their regions by considering social, economic, environmental, political factors as well as dimensions; and
- □ be able to understand and apply regional planning methods, inclusive processes and smart growth approaches for cities and their regions; and
- □ have an in-depth understanding of the notion and character of informal development in developing cities; and
- □ be able to understand and apply various (Spatio-temporal, socio-cultural …) data capturing &analysis methods through participatory processes

Student Workload

Credit / ECTS – 3/6

Course Structure

The overall duration of the course is 12-16 weeks (full semester), to be delivered once a week for three hours

NB. There will be three sessions that are directly related to informality and related impacts on overall urban and regional planning and development

Prerequisites

Before enrolment to this course, 'History, Philosophy and Theory of Planning Processes and Practices' - course No *6111*, should be completed.

Assignments

Classroom presentations and participation, reading assignments, case study analysis, exercises, term paper and final exam

Grading

NB. Only 45% of the assessment is covered based on the sessions that are concerned with informality

Details	Evaluation weights (%)
1. Presentation and discussion on definitions and concepts of informality based on provided reading materials	10%
2. Growth analysis, drivers and impacts of city growth taking Addis Ababa as an example	15%
3. Analysis of socio-spatial disparity within informal settlements	15 %
4. Final Exam (partly)	5%
Total	**45%**

Course evaluation

Peer and student evaluation of the course will be conducted by the office for Quality Assurance within EiABC. The forms are prepared, distributed and analyzed by the office.

Session 1

Description of content:

This session introduces theoretical and conceptual frameworks concerning informality. It will start with the broad and various definitions of informality from different perspectives. Contextual definitions will also be discussed with reflections on the complexity of the issue to come up with a universal definition. Taking 'kebele houses' the unplanned old inner-city settlements, inner-city squatter settlements with no tenure security, and the 'chereqa bet' informal peripheral squatter settlements as predominant categories of informality in the local context, an in-depth discussion will be conducted on related notions of informality. Furthermore, both traditional and recent discourse and conceptualization of informality will be discussed.

Assignment:

Reading and presentation

Reading materials:

1. Mamaru, T.L. (2019). Case Study_The New Face of Addis Ababa: Towards narrowing the gap between the persistence of informality and emerging prosperity. SES_Erasmus+
2. Alden, J, & Morgan R. (1974). Regional Planning: A comprehensive Overview. Pitman Press.
3. Frank, S.S., Hand, I. & McDowell, B.D. (1986). The practice of state and regional planning. Library of Congress, USA
4. Hall, P. (2014). Urban and regional planning (4th Ed.).
5. Levy, J.M. (2009). Contemporary urban planning (8th Ed.)

Session 2

Description of content:

Follow-up presentations and discussions will be conducted on definitions, notions and concepts of informality from different perspectives will be discussed.

The main focus of this session is unprecedented city growth both spatially and demographically taking Addis Ababa as an example. The main drivers of such unprecedented city growth and informality will be discussed in detail. Among others, non-inclusive urban planning and design practices, as well as unmanaged urbanization, will be dealt with as some of the major drivers for the persistent proliferation of informal settlements and unblended city growth. In line with this, in this session, intra and inter case settlements' morphological features will be discussed so that students can understand the spatial variability in different spatial scales as well as a continuum of informality. The other point of discussion in this session will be the current unblended formal/informal morphology at settlement level in Addis

Ababa as this is used to be strongly hybridized reflecting the close economic & social ties of the city residents with no significant distinction between the rich and the poor.

Assignment:

Students are required to undertake an assignment that studies the growth of Addis Ababa in the last three decades based on interactive supervised image classification and analyze disparity between settlements using visual image interpretation.

- Students will be introduced to the tools in a GIS environment.
- The four case study areas will be introduced.

Reading materials:

1. Mamaru, T.L. (2019). Case Study_The New Face of Addis Ababa: Towards narrowing the gap between the persistence of informality and emerging prosperity. SES_Erasmus+
2. Carter, H (1972): The Study of Urban Geography, Edward Arnold.
3. Frank, S.S., Hand, I. & McDowell, B.D. (1986). The practice of state and regional planning. Library of Congress, USA
4. Johnson, J.H. (1977). Urban Geography: An introductory analysis. Pergamon Press, USA.
5. Glasson, J. (1992). An Introduction to Regional Planning (2nd Edition). UCL Press limited.
6. Quigley, J. M. (2013). Agglomeration, Regional Growth, and Economic Development.

Session 3

Description of content:

In the last two sessions, students could able to see the existing and emerging trends in the growth and development of Addis Ababa within the last three decades. In this regard, follow-up presentations and discussions will be conducted, in the first part of this session.

In this & next session, issues related to social inclusion will be discussed taking the four case study areas as examples (*see reading material No 1*). Settlement level deprivation will be analyzed in terms of variables that explain physical accessibility, access to infrastructure, tenure insecurity, as well as insecurity in-terms of eviction and redevelopment. Here also along with various dimensions of deprivation and spatial variability, the aspect of legality will be a point of discussion in terms of the range of legality status (informality in a continuum) within each settlement.

Assignment:

Students will be provided with raw data (SPSS) on two-four variables. They will be expected to analyze and map disparity within the informal settlements

Reading materials:

1. Mamaru, T.L. (2019). Case Study_The New Face of Addis Ababa: Towards narrowing the gap between the persistence of informality and emerging prosperity. SES_Erasmus+
2. Alden, J, & Morgan R. (1974). Regional Planning: A comprehensive Overview. Pitman Press.
3. Johnson, J.H. (1977). Urban Geography: An introductory analysis. Pergamon Press, USA.

4. Hall, P. (2014). Urban and regional planning (4th Ed.).
5. Quigley, J. M. (2013). Agglomeration, Regional Growth, and Economic Development.
6. Berhanu Woldetensae (2016). Teaching material in urban and regional planning. EiABC, AAU.

Session 4

Description of content:

Social inclusion, socio-spatial variability, unblended & unprecedented city growth will be discussed based on follow-up assignments. Particularly, persistent of informality given successive master plans prepared for the city and various policies that have a direct implication on this will be discussed based on the case study document. Finally, the need for integrated, inclusive and holistic planning and design strategy and practice will be highlighted.

Follow-up presentations and discussions on the results will be conducted.

There will be course evaluation by students & staff members by the end of the course.