**Urban Planning** implies a wide range of meanings, from establishing policy to the design of cities. It can be applied in uptown districts, suburban cul-de-sacs, and rural communities, each setting inferring a unique set of planning needs and applications.

This class is organized into several subtopics that inform the broadly defined subject of urban planning, including the history of urban planning, urban design, zoning, real estate development, economic development, transit-oriented development, housing, public participation, and suburbanization. It explores how urban planning has evolved from its early iteration, when towns could shape the pattern of development to today’s more commonly accepted limited municipal role, recognizing private property rights and individualism. The class also explores the implications of technology and policy (e.g. National Defense Highway Act, Urban Renewal) on settlement patterns, including suburbanization and, more recently, transit-oriented development.

The course is taught through a combination of lectures, case studies, in-class exercises, and group projects. The course highlights real world examples, allowing students to understand the implications of urban policy, politics and design.

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