

Syllabus

Applied Methods of Urban Planning

Spring 2025

1. General information about the instructor

Instructor's name: Bianca Radu

Contact information: bianca.radu@fspac.ro,

Office hours: by appointment

2. Course description

a. Course description:

This course deals with applied research methods for urban and regional planning analysis and it aims to provide the students with some basic techniques for analyzing the potential for redevelopment of a community or a larger area, such as a county or a region. The course is organized in three major areas: demographic analysis, public space analysis, and urban form analysis. During the semester, the students will learn to perform a socio-demographic profile of a community and to calculate population projections (using several techniques depending on the past evolution of a community). The course will assist the students to gain necessary knowledge to analyze spatial structure of the economy and society and patterns of business agglomerations within cities.

b. Course objectives

- to study some of the most important methods and techniques of analysis in urban and regional planning including population projections and urban life analyses
- to relate the use and role of techniques to the planning process
- to build knowledge and background to interpret the analytic work of professional planners
- to develop basic computer skills on data analysis

c. Skills acquired by students:

At the end of the semester, students will know how to perform population projections by using several methods, to estimate the impact of development on the land use and to analyze different types of business agglomerations. The students will learn to use Microsoft Excel in order to perform different types of graphs and to calculate population projections. In addition, the students will learn to collect and use demographic and economic data. At the end of the semester, students will be able to analyze a community by using all the techniques learnt during the semester in order to propose a strategy to develop the community.

3. Required bibliography

Several texts are required for this course; they are listed below and they are available in the FSPAC library or "Lucian Blaga" Library.

1. Alho, J.M. and Spencer, B.D., *Statistical Demography and Forecasting*, Springer, 2005.
2. Bendavid-Val, A., *Regional and Local Economic Analysis for Practitioners*, 4th edition, Westport: Praeger, 1991.
3. Gehl, J. and Svarre, B., *How to Study Urban Life*, Washington DC: Island Press, 2013, pp. 13-23
4. Klosterman, R.E., *Community Analysis and Planning Techniques*, New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1990.

5. Lundquist, J.H., Anderton, D.L. and Yaukey, D., *Demography. The Study of Human Population*, 4th edition, Long Grove, IL: Waveland Press, 2015.
6. Rotariu, T., *Demografie și Sociologia Populației. Fenomene Demografice*, Iași: Polirom, 2003.
7. Rotariu, T., *Demografie și Sociologia Populației. Structuri și Procese Demografice*, Iași: Polirom, 2009.
8. Rotariu, T., Dumăescu, L. and Hărăguș, M., *Demografia României în Perioada Postbelică (1948-2015)*, Iași: Polirom, 2017.
9. Silva, E., Healey, P. Harris, N. and Van den Broeck, P., *The Routledge Handbook of Planning Research Methods*, New York: Routledge, 2015.
10. Silverman, R.M. and Patterson, K.L., *Qualitative Research for Community Development*, New York: Rotledge, 2015.
11. White, R., Engelen, G. and Uljee, I., *Modeling Cities and Regions as Complex Systems. From Theory to Planning Applications*, Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2015.
12. Xinhao Wang and Rainer vom Hofe, *Research Methods in Urban and Regional Planning*, Beijing: Tsinghua University Press, 2007.

4. Required materials (computers, access to internet, access to specific data bases)

The students are required to have access to a computer, to have basic knowledge about Microsoft Excel, and to know how to search for demographic and economic statistics released by the Romanian National Institute of Statistics.

5. Schedule of course activities:

Week 1 – Introduction. Course overview

Demographic Analysis

Week 2 – Creating a demographic profile. Working with database from Romanian National Institute of Statistics

Bianca Radu – Course textbook (available in FSPAC library)

Week 3 – Projecting population: Trend Extrapolation Method

Klosterman, R.E., *Community Analysis and Planning Techniques*, New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1990.

Week 4 – Projecting population: Cohort Component Method (1)

Klosterman, R.E., *Community Analysis and Planning Techniques*, New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1990.

Week 5 – Projecting population: Cohort Component Method (2)

Klosterman, R.E., *Community Analysis and Planning Techniques*, New York: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 1990.

Analyzing Public Space

Week 6 – Studying Urban Life (Public space: Who, what, where?)

Gehl, J. and Svarre, B., *How to Study Urban Life*, Washington DC: Island Press, 2013, pp. 13-23

Silverman, R.M. and Patterson, K.L., *Qualitative Research for Community Development*, New York: Rotledge, 2015, pp. 41-59.

Week 7 – Studying Urban Life (Counting, mapping, tracking and other tools)

Gehl, J. and Svarre, B., *How to Study Urban Life*, Washington DC: Island Press, 2013, pp. 24-35

Silverman, R.M. and Patterson, K.L., *Qualitative Research for Community Development*, New York: Routledge, 2015, pp. 60-74.

Week 8 – Ethnographic Research

Lee Pinel, Sandra, “Planning for the Place. Ethnographic Research and Planning Practice”, in Silva, E., Healey, P. Harris, N. and Van den Broeck, P., *The Routledge Handbook of Planning Research Methods*, New York: Routledge, 2015, pp. 169-181.

Week 9 – Land suitability analysis

Rich, M.J. and Stoker, R.P, *Collaborative Governance for Urban Revitalization. Lessons from Empowerment Zones*, Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2014, Chapter 7, pp. 164-197.

Analyzing Urban Form

Week 10 – Analyzing Business Patterns within Cities and Regions

Please watch the videos available on the Cluster European Observatory under the ‘classroom’ section <http://www.clusterobservatory.eu/index.html>

Smith, H. and Hay, D., ‘Streets, Malls, and Supermarkets’, 2005, *Journal of Economics and Management Strategies*, vol. 14, no. 1, pp. 29-59.

Maskell, P., Bathelt, H. and Malmberg, A., ‘Temporary Clusters and Knowledge Creation: The Effects of International Trade Fairs, Conventions and Other Professional Gatherings’, Spatial Aspects Concerning Economic Structures (SPACES), working paper, 2004, [Online] available at <http://www.spaces-online.uni-hd.de/include/SPACES%202004-04%20Maskell-Bathelt-Malmberg.pdf>, accessed on October 20, 2015.

Malmberg, A. and Maskell, P., ‘The Elusive Concept of Localization Economies: Towards a Knowledge-based Theory of Spatial Clustering’, 2002, *Environment and Planning A*, vol. 34, no. 3, pp. 429-449.

Week 11 – Industrial cluster policies

White, R., Engelen, G. and Uljee, I., *Modeling Cities and Regions as Complex Systems. From Theory to Planning Applications*, Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2015, chapter 3 (Approaches to Modeling Cities and Regions), pp. 43-64.

Week 12 – Modeling in Support of Spatial Planning and Policy Making

White, R., Engelen, G. and Uljee, I., *Modeling Cities and Regions as Complex Systems. From Theory to Planning Applications*, Cambridge: The MIT Press, 2015, chapter 11, pp. 251-293.

6. Evaluation

- **Assignment 1:** Creating a socio-demographic profile of a community (1p); Students can choose to analyze a community from Romania or abroad.
- **Assignment 2:** Projecting population by using two techniques (2p);
- **Assignment 3:** Observing a public space (2p) – Students are expected to prepare a PowerPoint presentation and to present it during the course. This will be an individual assignment.
- **Final paper (50%)** The main goal of this paper is to propose and/or critically analyze possible redevelopment projects from the City of Cluj Napoca and the neighboring communities, with a focus on

culture and cultural events, riverfront redevelopment, preservation of the built environment and of traditions etc. – This will be a group project.

7. Organizational details and rules for exceptional circumstances. Plagiarism

- If your assignments and/or group paper are late, late points will be subtracted (half of the points allocated for the paper).
- While cooperative work in homework assignments may be beneficial to the learning process of some students, every student is still required to turn in individual work.
- For the group project, each student is expected to contribute to the final paper, to collaborate with his/her colleagues, and to provide the groups with original work.

8. Optional bibliography

1. Barron, M. and Targett, D., *The Manager's Guide to Business Forecasting*, Oxford, England: Basil Blackwell, Ltd, 1985.
2. Blair, J.P. and Carroll, M.C., *Local Economic Development. Analysis, Practices and Globalization*, 2nd edition, London: Sage Publications, 2009.
3. Koop, G., *Analysis of Economic Data*, 2nd edition, Chichester, West Sussex: John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., 2005.
4. Krueckeberg, D.A. and Silvers, A.L., *Urban Planning Analysis: Methods and Models*, New York: Wiley, 1974.
5. Meyers, D., *Analysis with Local Census Data*, Boston: Academic Press, 1992.
6. Shaffer, R., Deller, S. and Marcouiller, D., *Community Economics. Linking Theory and Practice*, 2nd edition, Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2004.