

The University of Jordan	 THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN OS 	الجامعة الأردنية
Faculty of Engineering and Technology		كلية الهندسة والتكنولوجيا
Department of Architecture		قسم هندسة العمارة

Course Syllabus

Year : 2014/ 2015

Semester: 2nd Spring

Course No.	Course Title	Prerequisite	Co-requisite	Credit Hours Lectures / Lab.
0902457	URBAN DESIGN	Check	None	ARCH. LECTURE 103 11:00 12:30 M W

Instructor Name	E-mail	Office No.	Office ext.	Office Hours
Dr.Omar M N Amireh	amireh@ju.edu.jo	A309	22956	Check with Instructor

Coordinator's Name: (if applicable)	O M Amireh
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Course Description	<p>Urban Design is about working and designing on the urban scale which in itself is about redefining the limits and relation between design and planning and between internal and external built or open spaces and land uses and zoning and between architecture and landscape or space-escape, also about changes, transformations, evolutions of most cities or urbanism of the last century. It is about enduring vast and rapid changes that hit and shaped the environments whether built or open, natural or man-made, about climate, geography, culture, commerce, aesthetics and technology. It is about an emerging new discipline, practice and profession. A framework that may bring back most of the cities components, parts and disciplines (cities, architecture, landscape design and planning) together. It is about impacts assesment of developments, ventures, enterprizes and investments on environments and urbanisms. It is abouteverything.</p>
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Course Objectives

- Introduction to the latest methodologies, practices and applications of urban design
- Understanding where, why and how urban design can solve the growing problems of cities, architecture, space deterioration and decay
- Apprehending the re-concepts of urban design including, redevelopment, reconstruction, rehabilitation, restoration, conservation, preservation, etc...
- Communicating the present era of modern cities with its changing modes of communication, energy utilization and transportation requiring new design in responses to the historical precedents and humanistic considerations.
- Exploring latest theories, practices and applications in urban development's regenerations and transformations

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) and their Alignment with Program ILOs:

Upon successful completion of this course, students are expected to achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. Students will apprehend the role of urban design in solving problems generated from the changing policies, strategies, laws and codes used in the city planning, building structure and landscape.
2. Will understand the urban design process, procedures and methodologies.
3. Will refer to real concepts and problems and real environmental challenges of real local cases.
4. Be trained to handle existing cases of urban design problems and to evaluate related parameters and properties and analyze its conditions and decide level of interferences.
5. Discuss points of argument and differences between architectural design, town and city planning and landscape or space design.
6. Comprehend and relate methodologies, applications and practices on the international, regional and local levels.
7. Relate theories with hypothesis at the professional level for reaching solutions by the different practices and experiences within local and international applications.
8. Knowing and adopting certain processes of urban studies procedures including surveys, analysis and synthesis within certain urban tissues or spaces.
9. Dealing with heritage, history, culture, values, precepts, and concepts of local communities, societies and congregations.

Course Schedule:

Week	Topics	Topic Details	Reference	
1	Introduction and Understanding	Course Syllabus, ethics academic and professional, methodology, content and context, discussion proposals and suggestions		
2	Definitions Limitations	“for places to be well-used and well-loved, they must be safe, comfortable, varied and attractive. They also need to be distinctive, and offer variety, choice and fun. Vibrant places offer opportunities for meeting people, playing in the street and watching the world go by.”		
3	Fields and Disciplines			
4				
5	Opportunities and Constraints			
6				
7	Theories and Applications	Variables, Diversities, Formation, Transformations, Frameworks, Sustainable, Green, Capacities etc...		
8				
9				20%
10				
11	Midterm Exam			
12	Seminars	Ideas, Expressions,	20%	
13	Seminars	Visions and Concepts		
14	Seminars	Reports		
15	Wrap Conclusions Final Exam		50%	
16	Participation		10%	

Assessment Methods:

Assessment method	Grade	Comments
<u>Midterm Exam</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>9th week</u>
<u>Seminar</u>	<u>20%</u>	<u>Three Parts, final presentation</u>
<u>Final Exam</u>	<u>50%</u>	
<u>Participation</u>	<u>10%</u>	
<u>Total</u>	<u>100</u>	

Alignment of Teaching and Learning Methods, Assessment and Course ILOs:

Teaching method	Contact Hours	Assessed through	ILOs numbers
<u>Lectures</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>60%</u>
<u>Seminar</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Critic</u>	<u>20%</u>
<u>Site Visits</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>Analysis</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Merits</u>	<u>open</u>		<u>10%</u>

Textbooks and Reading

- Shirvani, Hamid. (1985), The Urban Design Process, NY. Van Nostrand Reinhold Company.
- Bentley, Ian, (ed). (1985). Responsive Environments, Oxford, Architectural Press.

References

- Alexander, Christopher. (1965). "The City is not a Tree", Architectural Forum, 122: 1, 2, 58-62.
- Alexander, Christopher. (1968). "The City as a Mechanism for Sustaining Human contact". Environment for Man: The Next 50 Years, Bloomington, Indiana, Indiana University Press.
- Appleyard, Donald. (1969). "Why Buildings are known: A predictive Tool for Architects and Planners". Environment and Behavior. I: 131-. 156.
- Barnett, Jonathan. (1974). Urban Design as Public Policy- Practical Methods of Improving Cities. NY, Mc Graw Hill Architectural Record Books.
- Passini, Romedi. (1984). Wayfinding in Architecture. N Y. Van Nostrand Rienhold.