

Fall 2026
Community & Regional Planning
Department of Earth, Environment, and Planning, East Carolina University

Course Name: Sustainable Cities

Course Prefix and Number: PLAN 1900

Course Section Number: 001

Course Description:

Overview of planning concepts applied to critical issues impacting urban environments at a variety of scales, from local to global. Introduces the role of urban planning in managing and building sustainable urban environments.

Required Course Materials for Purchase:

There is no required textbook. All reading materials will be available via Canvas.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- **Explain** fundamental planning concepts and sustainable urbanism at local, regional, and global scales.
- **Analyze** how local governments manage planning and development.
- **Evaluate** land use decision-making processes and **assess** how these decisions affect community quality of life.
- **Diagnose** key sustainability challenges facing communities.
- **Demonstrate** collaborative skills by **engaging** constructively as proxy stakeholders in planning discussions and decision-making.
- **Construct and defend** evidence-based **arguments** on urban planning issues by incorporating diverse perspectives.

Assessment of Student Performance – Grading Scale:

Your grade will be determined based on a 100-point system.

Letter Grade	Points	Letter Grade	Points
A	93-100	C	73-76.99
A-	90-92.99	C-	70-72.99
B+	87-89.99	D+	67-69.99
B	83-86.99	D	63-66.99
B-	80-82.99	D-	60-62.99
C+	77-79.99	F	0-59.99

Assessment of Student Performance - Major Assignments and percentage of final grade:

- Peer assessments (15%): This course incorporates frequent small-group activities, with peer assessments conducted throughout the semester.
- Assignments (60% in total): There will be weekly group and individual assignments. The scores of each project vary (based on the difficulty and amount of work).
- Final Project (15%): A semester-long project.

Assessment of Student Performance – Attendance/participation

- Attendance (10%): This is a face-to-face course. Regular, in-person attendance is expected. Students are responsible for all material covered in class, including any missed due to absence. Absences must be communicated to the instructor in advance whenever possible, or as soon as feasible in the case of emergencies. Documentation will be required for an absence to be considered excused. Absences are counted beginning with a student's official enrollment in the course.

Statement of Engagement with Diverse Scholarly Perspectives

PLAN1900 engages in diverse scholarly perspectives to develop critical thinking, analysis, and debate and inclusion of a reading does not imply endorsement.