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| Course Title: | Transfer of Urban Environmental Policies to the U.S. |
| Course Number: | UAP 5424 |
| Term: | Summer II 2008 |
| Credit Hours: | 1 |

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| Class Time: | Friday, August 1 (5pm-9pm); Saturday, August 2 (9am-5pm) |
| Class Location: | Alexandria, Virginia |

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| Instructor | Dale Medearis, Ph.D. |
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Course summary:

This course is a follow-up to the Introduction to European Urbanism module.

State and local authorities in the United States are confronting a variety of complex urban environmental and planning challenges such as climate change, polluted industrial sites, degraded stormwater and energy inefficiencies. European countries such as the Netherlands, Denmark and Germany have long been considered leaders in environmental policy and urban planning. The union of high population densities, severe resource constraints, and thoughtful planning approaches allowed these to develop innovative policies for climate change, energy efficiency, building and transportation policies ahead of many other countries.

However, despite the range of measures and reports suggesting that many European countries environmentally outperform the United States and offer lessons that can positively inform U.S. urban planning and environmental policies, there are few signs that urban environmental policymakers and practitioners deliberately search and rationally review policies from abroad for application in the U.S. A range of political, cultural, and institutional filters inhibit or stunt purposeful searches, reviews and testing of urban environmental and planning ideas, policies and practices from abroad. As a result, U.S. urban environmental planners and policymakers often rely on accidental contact with imported information that is short on or deficient in details about content, context or performance of the imported policies. Consequently, U.S. urban environmental policymakers and practitioners are usually unaware of practical outcomes and results of foreign urban environmental and planning policies. In turn, poorly informed U.S. urban environmental planners and practitioners are less able to push for or implement policy reforms that may make for more effective urban environmental planning in the U.S.

The purpose of this course is to share the general concepts of environmental planning as practiced in Europe and to explore means by which they are applicable to specific urban regions in the U.S. This class will study issues such as

- Climate and renewable energy policies in Germany;
- The policy contexts in Denmark and Germany that encouraged the blending of climate, energy and land-use policies;
- The policy and institutional mechanisms that support a rational, search, identification, review and testing of innovative environmental practices from Europe.

Readings:

There is one text, which contains, for the most part, descriptions about environmental and planning policies in Germany and other European countries. Copies of specific case studies on environmental planning in several European cities also will be distributed and discussed. The course also will rely on selected articles focusing on the dynamic of international policy transfer. The text will be Professor Timothy Beatley's "Green Urbanism," (2000, Washington, DC. Island Press – Chapters 1-2). This book is currently available from sites such as www.amazon.com and www.ebay.com. The other three articles will be dispatched approximately eight weeks before class.

Dolowitz David and Marsh David (2000). "Learning From Abroad: The Role of Policy Transfer in Contemporary Policy-Making." Governance: An International Journal of Policy and Administration. (13) 1: pp 5-24.

Hirt, Sonia (2007). "The Devil is in the Definitions." The Journal of the American Planning Association. Chicago, Illinois, (73) 4.

Rose, Richard (1991). "What is Lesson Drawing?" Journal of Public Policy. (11)1:pp3-30

Course Structure and Requirements:

Through this course, you will learn about environmental planning policies in Europe and their incorporation of climate, design, nature protection and ecology concepts. You also will learn about the phenomena of cross-national urban environmental and policy transfer to the United States. You will read, interpret and discuss the applications of these policies in the United States – both at the national and sub-national levels. You will be expected to understand the general environmental planning practices in Europe, including climate change, brownfields, "green" buildings and water management.

Each student is required to select a topic related to European urban environmental planning and present a proposal before the class concerning the potential application of this policy to the United States. Using visuals such as PowerPoint slides, handouts and posters in the presentation is encouraged, but not required. Students must also prepare a final written report on the topic of transfer that is approximately ten double-spaced pages.

Student presentations should last approximately 15 minutes, followed by a 15-minute class discussion. The presentations will be scheduled between 3:00 and 5:00 pm on July 26, 2008.

Students are expected to choose topics focused on clear research questions such as:

"How are energy, climate and land-use planning policies integrated in Freiburg, Germany?"

"What data suggests that European cities are more sustainable (or not) than their American counterparts?"

"What elements of Berlin's "green" building programs are transferable to the Greater Washington Energy Efficiency Partnership and why?"

"What elements of the Berlin's water management system are transferable to Alexandria, Virginia, and why?"

Students must suggest their research topics no later than July 11, 2008. Draft reports should be emailed to the instructor by August 8, 2008. Final reports are due August 29, 2008.

Grading:

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| Attendance and participation: | 50% |
| Presentation: | 10% |
| Final report: | 40% |

Time Schedule:

Friday, August 1, 5:00-9:00 pm

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| 5:00-5:15 pm | Introductions |
| 5:15-6:00 pm | EU and National-level Environmental and Planning Policies |
| 6:00-7:00 pm | Regional and Sub-national Environmental Policies in Germany and Denmark |
| 7:00-7:15 pm | Break |
| 7:15-8:15 pm | Open Space Planning and Brownfields |
| 8:15-9:00 pm | Energy/Climate Policy I: Buildings |

Saturday, August 2, 9:00 am-5:00 pm

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| 9:00-10:00 am | Energy/Climate Policy II: Transportation |
| 10:00-11:00 am | Water Infrastructure |
| 11:00-11:15 am | Break |
| 11:15-12:00 noon | <u>Case Study</u> : Freiburg |
| 12:00-1:00 pm | Lunch |
| 1:00-1:45 pm | <u>Case Study</u> : International Building Exhibition Emscher Park |
| 1:45-2:30 pm | <u>Case Study</u> : Environmental Policy Transfer Between Stuttgart and Northern Virginia |
| 2:30-3:00 pm | Break |
| 3:00-3:30 pm | Presentation #1 |
| 3:30-4:00 pm | Presentation #2 |
| 4:00-4:30 pm | Presentation #3 |
| 4:30-5:00 pm | Presentation #4 |