

COURSE IMPLEMENTATION DATE: September 1999  
 COURSE REVISED IMPLEMENTATION DATE: January 2014  
 COURSE TO BE REVIEWED: October 2018  
*(six years after UEC approval)* *(month, year)*

**OFFICIAL UNDERGRADUATE COURSE OUTLINE INFORMATION**

Students are advised to keep course outlines in personal files for future use.  
 Shaded headings are subject to change at the discretion of the department – see course syllabus available from instructor

GEOG 460	Geography	4
COURSE NAME/NUMBER	FACULTY/DEPARTMENT	UFV CREDITS
Practicum in Planning		
COURSE DESCRIPTIVE TITLE		

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

This course enables students to engage in an applied program of planning work. Practicum students will work under the supervision of a planner who is a member of the Canadian Institute of Planners, or with a professional with equivalent qualifications, as part of a semester-long practicum with a local employer or institution. This practicum presents students with the opportunity to apply techniques and methods as well as create contacts with practicing planners useful for future employment and/or graduate school applications. This course is offered in an independent studies format.

Note: Before initiating practicum placements, students must sign a practicum agreement. UFV reserves the right not to place a student into a practicum if, in the opinion of the faculty, the student is not ready to be placed.

PREREQUISITES: Two of GEOG 250, GEOG 252, or GEOG 253; one of GEOG 360 or GEOG 364; and permission of instructor and department head.

COREQUISITES:

**SYNONYMOUS COURSE(S):**

- (a) Replaces: \_\_\_\_\_
- (b) Cross-listed with: \_\_\_\_\_
- (c) Cannot take: \_\_\_\_\_ for further credit.

**SERVICE COURSE TO:** *(department/program)*

**TOTAL HOURS PER TERM:** 100

**STRUCTURE OF HOURS:**

Lectures: \_\_\_\_\_ Hrs  
 Seminar: 12 Hrs  
 Laboratory: \_\_\_\_\_ Hrs  
 Field experience: 88 Hrs  
 Student directed learning: \_\_\_\_\_ Hrs  
 Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_ Hrs

**TRAINING DAY-BASED INSTRUCTION:**

Length of course: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hours per day: \_\_\_\_\_

**OTHER:**

Maximum enrolment: 6  
 Expected frequency of course offerings: On demand  
*(every semester, annually, every other year, etc.)*

**WILL TRANSFER CREDIT BE REQUESTED?**

**TRANSFER CREDIT EXISTS IN BCCAT TRANSFER GUIDE:**

Yes  No  
 Yes  No

Course designer(s): Cherie Enns

Department Head: Michelle Rhodes

Supporting area consultation (Pre-UEC)

Curriculum Committee chair: Tetsuomi Anzai

Dean/Associate VP: Jacqueline Nolte

Undergraduate Program Advisory Committee (UEC) approval

Date approved: February 16, 2012

Date of meeting: May 18, 2012

Date approved: October 12, 2012

Date approved: October 12, 2012

Date of meeting: October 26, 2012

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Apply core geographic concepts to planning problems in the Fraser Valley.
2. Apply planning methods and techniques in future employment, internship, and practicum opportunities.
3. Exhibit their employability and professionalism through a presentation of their applied experience and career preparation.
4. Apply an understanding of the range of opportunities and career options in the field of planning.
5. Deliver workplace orientated projects and assessments.
6. Reflect on and assess their abilities and interests in employment in a planning field.

**METHODS:** *(Guest lecturers, presentations, online instruction, field trips, etc.)*

The learning objectives will be achieved through the online or seminar discussion, supervisor evaluation, and practicum experience.

**Practicum placement:**

Due to the organizational needs of a practicum-based course, initial discussions regarding possible practicum placement sites will begin well before the semester begins. A student interested in a GEOG 460 practicum and faculty supervisor will meet well in advance of the semester to discuss possible practicum sites and the nature of the course and its expectations. The planning practicum may include the following range of placements: Municipal Planning Departments, Regional Districts, Parks and Recreation Departments, the United Way, Citizen Associations, and other NGO organizations involved in planning related tasks.

**Practicum:**

After the initial meeting students will be working 8 hours a week in their arranged practicum for the next twelve weeks. The parameters of the practicum will be set out in detail in the Learning Agreement that is drafted in discussions between the student and employer, and approved by the instructor. The Learning Agreement will accomplish the following:

1. define the goals the student hopes to achieve;
2. clearly specify the major project undertaken in the practicum and the general work tasks;
3. specify the work schedule and location;
4. identify the individual who will serve as supervisor for the student; and
5. identify need for ethical review, if any.

**Practicum Project:**

Defined in the Learning Agreement, the Final Project will take whatever form is most appropriate—from written and illustrated reports or pamphlets, to historical videos and multimedia displays, to lesson plans or classroom resources. The sponsor will retain a copy of the Project; the student will present another copy at the post-practicum seminars. In the last week of the term students will have an opportunity to present their Final Project, share their practicum experiences with classmates, and consider the career possibilities opened to them by the course.

**METHODS OF OBTAINING PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT RECOGNITION (PLAR):**

Examination(s)                       Portfolio assessment                       Interview(s)                       Other (specify):

PLAR cannot be awarded for this course for the following reason(s):

**TEXTBOOKS, REFERENCES, MATERIALS:** *[Textbook selection varies by instructor. Examples for this course might be:]*

Reference texts used by practicum students, regardless of placement:

- Northey, Margot, David B. Knight, and Diane Draper, 2012. *Making Sense in Geography and Environmental Sciences. A Student's Guide to Research and Writing, Fifth Edition.* Oxford University Press.
- Solen, Michael, Kenneth Foote, and Janice Monk, 2013. *Practicing Geography. Careers for Enhancing Society and the Environment.* Pearson Education.

Additional text, required for Planning Practicum.

Hugh Barton, Marcus Grant and Richard Guise et. al (2010) *Shaping Neighbourhoods: For Local Health and Global Sustainability.* London: Routledge, Inc.

**SUPPLIES / MATERIALS:**

None, although the student may encounter additional travel expenses associated with off-campus practicum placements.

**STUDENT EVALUATION:** *[An example of student evaluation for this course might be:]*

Seminar participation	10%
Practicum journal	20%
Sponsor evaluation	30%
Practicum project	30%

**COURSE CONTENT:** *[Course content varies by instructor. An example of course content might be:]*

*On-Line Seminar Themes*

- Week 1: Planning as a Career (CIP)
- Week 2: Placement Training and Scheduling
- Weeks 3-4: Methods and Techniques; Project Design; Ethics Review
- Weeks 5-7: Case studies in Planning; Problems and Pressures of Planning
- Week 8: Planning and New Urbanization
- Weeks 9-11: Planning Issues and Trends: A Critique
- Week 12: Reflection on process to date; self-assessment
- Week 13: Final projects; review of sponsor evaluation