Indiana University  
School of Public and Environmental Affairs  
V482: Urban Problems and Solutions in Poland

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Course Objectives

This course will consist of a broad overview of the problems facing our urban areas today. Issues will be placed in historical, current and future contexts. We will review today’s efforts and their effectiveness at solving these problems.

Achieving Course Goals:

By the end of this course student will be able to identify past, current and possible future urban problems facing the United States and also consider these issues in Poland, an European Union member. Students will consider the analytic process in developing possible solutions for these urban areas. This class is designed for students to begin the process of interpreting data, being able to understand complex laws and regulations and finally being able to evaluate and write professional recommendations facing urban areas. We will work together in developing the required skills to be proficient in accomplishing our primary goal; identify urban problems and give realistic approaches to address these problems.

Learning Outcomes:

In context of the American and European perspective

- Understanding of the basic urban issues and terms
- Ability to identify, review and analyze urban issues
- Ability to convey complex solutions, verbally and written, concerning urban problems
Instructor’s Background:

I am a professional certified planner, serving in the past with the State of Indiana, City of Bloomington and Town of Ellettsville. Currently I am serving as the Professional Development Officer for the Indiana Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA). In this position I work with planners throughout Indiana in the development of professional planning, administrative skills and techniques. I bring over 30 years of planning and public service experience to the class; we will look at real case studies and issues.

Class Structure

Each class in this course will start with the students signing the day’s attendance sheet. It is against University policy for students to sign in for others. Class attendance as well as attendance for group outs will be taken into account for your class grades. It is expected that you attend all required classes, groups trips and functions while in Poland and in Bloomington before our departure.

This course will be interactive in nature, meaning that each student is expected to be prepared for every class by completing all of the required readings, found in the class packet. The class packet will include some readings concerning, techniques on determining problem identification and solutions, brief Polish urban/community development issues and other short articles on urban issues. The instructor will not lecture for the whole class period; instead there will be some lecture but mostly we will have discussions and work sessions about the topics assigned for that day.

University Credit:

The class is a spring break class for Indiana University and as such there will be one credit hour available for those students completing the course. Students will not have to take the spring 2016 SPEA V/S161 course to enroll in this course. Students wishing to enroll in this overseas spring 2016 to Poland must comply with all SPEA requirements for overseas study.
Requirements and Grading Criteria

The instruction will consist of lectures from Professor Nierzwicki, lectures from Polish University faculty and guided tours of Polish urban areas. Student interaction will also play an important role in the overall success of the class.

The following items will account for you grade in this class:

Grading:

**Attendance**
(Each student is required to attend all classes and group Activities while in Poland and in Bloomington – no exceptions) 25%

**Class Participation**
(Determined by Instructor while in Poland) 10%

**Polish Problem Identification and Solution Paper**
(Due by March 25, 2016 by 5PM via email to instructor) 25%

**Quiz 1 – Warsaw**
(March 15, 2016) 10%

**Warsaw Summary Paper**
(Due before leaving Warsaw) 10%

**Quiz 2 - Krakow**
(March 18, 2016) 10%

**Warsaw Summary Paper**
(Due before leaving Krakow) 10%

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Total 100%
The Grading Scale for the Class

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>98 – 100</td>
<td>A+</td>
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<tr>
<td>94 – 97</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>90 – 93</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<td>88 – 89</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>84 – 87</td>
<td>B</td>
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<tr>
<td>80 – 83</td>
<td>B-</td>
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<tr>
<td>78 – 79</td>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>74 – 77</td>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>70 – 73</td>
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<td>68 – 69</td>
<td>D+</td>
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<td>64 – 67</td>
<td>D</td>
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<td>60 – 63</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<td>00 – 59</td>
<td>F</td>
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</tbody>
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Schedule of Class Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Contact Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td><strong>All Day:</strong> Arrival in Warsaw, Poland</td>
<td>1 @ 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hotel Check-In</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Briefing Lecture by Professor Nierzwicki</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“Urban Poland”</td>
<td>Total 1 Hour</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Evening:</strong> Welcome dinner at University of Warsaw</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td><strong>AM:</strong> Lecture by Professor Nierzwicki</td>
<td>1 @ 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Polish Urban Issues”</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>PM:</strong> Tour of Downtown Warsaw – financial district, near the Palace of</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Culture (observing traffic design, pedestrian, tram, motor vehicle),</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Warsaw Spire- new skyscraper located near Polish Uprising Museum</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(urban design issues), in Praga district, east of the river, near the</td>
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<td>new Metro station (gentrification issues)</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>PM:</strong> Time available for students to work on Warsaw paper and reflections</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total 1 Hour</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 14</td>
<td><strong>AM:</strong> Lecture by Professor Swianiewicz</td>
<td>1 @ 100%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Urban issues in Poland Today”</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>PM:</strong> Tour of Warsaw “Old Town”</td>
<td>5 @ 50%</td>
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March 15  
**Tuesday**

**AM:** Lecture Professor Nierzwicki  
“Summary of Warsaw Urban Issues”  
Lecture Professor Pawel Swianiewicz  
“Reforming Local Government in Poland”  
*And Warsaw Quiz*

**PM:** Time to complete *Warsaw* paper and reflections/pack

**PM:** Train to Krakow

**PM:** Check-In Hotel in Krakow

**Total 2 Hours**

March 16  
**Wednesday**

**AM:** Lecture Professor Nierzwicki  
“*Historic Preservation and Urban Planning: Krakow*”

**AM:** Lecture Professor Aleksander Noworol  
“*Moving Towards a More Sustainable Krakow*”

**PM:** Tour of Wawel Hill  
4 @ 50%

**PM:** Time to work on *Warsaw* paper and reflections

**Total 4 Hours**

March 17  
**Thursday**

**All Day:** Tour of Auschwitz  
6 @ 50%

**PM:** Lecture Professor Nierzwicki  
“How the Holocaust Effects Present Day Poland”

**PM:** Time to work on *Krakow* paper and reflections

**Total 4 Hours**

March 18  
**Friday**

**AM:** Lecture Professor Noworol  
“*Urban Issues in Krakow: Area Planning*”

**AM:** Lecture Professor Nierzwicki  
“*Tourism and Community Development Case Study: Krakow*”  
And Krakow Quiz

**PM:** Tour of Krakow (Schlinder’s Factory)

**PM:** Time to complete *Krakow* paper and reflections

**PM:** Farwell Dinner

**Total Hours 2 Hours**

March 19  
**AM:** Check out of hotel – leave for Krakow

**Total 3.5 Hours**
Saturday

Airport

**Poland Contact Hours** = **17.5 Hours**

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**Reading List:**

The following is a small sample of the reading materials that will be included in the packet for all V482 students traveling to Poland:


*Contemporary Spatial Planning and Case of Poland*, by Katarzna Miszczak Research Papers of Wroclaw University of Economics 2013

*Metropolization of the Polish Space and its Implications for Regional Development*, by Alicja Zakrzewska-Poltorak Research Papers of Wroclaw University of Economics 2013.


*Impressions of Poland*, *Poland Today* October 8, 2014
*Poland Transformation*, *Poland Today*, October 8, 2014
*Poland’s Public Health Woes*, *Poland Today*, January 10, 2013
*Warsaw on the Brink of a Renaissance*, *Poland Today*, January 5, 2014.

*Warsaw Voice* – various online articles
*Warsaw Business Journal* – various online articles
Assignments:

Warsaw and Krakow Summary papers: Students will be seeing and experiencing Polish urban issues first hand and without maintaining a journal or summary paper some of these experiences some of the learning experiences could be lost to the students. Therefore, each student will complete a summary paper due before leaving Warsaw and Krakow. These papers should be one (1) to two (2) pages in length double spaced. If the student does not bring a computer a handwritten paper of roughly the equivalent length will suffice. Students will have time to complete the papers during the stay in each city (see itinerary). Each student should keep a personal journal of the day’s activities and bring these observations total for the summary paper. These papers will be graded on four (4) criteria; what urban problem/issue did you find most interesting, what would be a technique or method to solve this problem, what issue do you want to bring up in a group discussion and clarity of thought/grammar. Each of these sections will be worth 25% of your paper grade.

It is important for each student to document this trip for their own personal enjoyment. Having a journal of your thoughts on this trip will be most useful. It will assist in the writing of the short summary papers and final paper. More importantly, it will allow students to look back at this overseas learning experience months or years later with documentation and with a better personal reflection.

Urban Problem Identification and Solution Paper (Poland) Each student will be required to submit a final paper covering an urban issue and solution concerning Poland. The concept of problem identification and solution is covering in your reading packets and from lectures in Poland. One source of information for students should come from their summary papers that were submitted before leaving each Polish city. There will also be a need to do some independent research on your own to complete this final paper.

Grading of this paper is based upon your three (3) items; analysis of the issue, your creativity to approaching the problems, and the clarity and quality of your writing. Each section of your paper will be worth 33%. While there is no firm page limit, I expect most papers will be approximately four (4) pages long. Margins must not exceed one inch and the font must be 10 or 12 Times New Roman. This paper is due by 5PM on March 25, 2016 via email to the instructor.

Quizzes – This course will have two (2) quizzes during our time in Poland. There will be five (5) fill in the blanks questions and one short essay question. The fill in the blank questions will be worth 5 points and the essay question will be worth 15 points. All lectures will have a summary portion and all essay questions will come from a “topic” of the day that is discussed in class.

Academic Dishonesty
SPEA faculty do not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty. If you have not done so, you should read the IUB Code of Students Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, which can be accessed at http://dsa.indiana.edu/Code/ so you will be sure to understand what these terms mean and what penalties can be issued for academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty can result in a grade of F for the class (an F for academic dishonesty cannot be removed from the transcript). Significant violations of the Code can result in expulsion from the University.

**Syllabus Disclaimer**

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed throughout the course of the semester. Whenever a change is made, students will be notified as early as possible during class and/or via email about the change(s).