

URP 560: TRANSPORTATION AND LAND-USE PLANNING

Fall 2023

Monday and Wednesday, 8:30-10:00 / 2210 A&A

Instructor: Professor Jonathan Levine (jnthnlvn@umich.edu)

This course examines transportation and land-use planning from four interrelated perspectives: transportation-planning history, transportation/land-use theory, professional technique, and current transportation-policy issues. The course is built on the idea that these disparate aspects are intimately interrelated and frame many current urban transportation policy and planning questions. Issues include:

- **Transportation-Planning History:** What assumptions and approaches have guided domestic transportation planning during the past century? How do transportation planning's roots and traditions affect current practice? In what ways did transportation planning and technologies interact to produce evolving city forms?
- **Transportation/Land-Use Theory:** What frameworks have been developed to understand the interrelationships between transportation and land use, and how might these affect how we view potential transportation/land-use planning alternatives?
- **Transportation-Planning Technique:** Formal approaches to modeling the urban transportation system have evolved in the past few decades. We will explore these approaches as well as their limitations.
- **Urban Transportation Policy:** Alternative definitions of "the transportation problem" can lead to different directions for policy. We will explore various contemporary transportation planning concerns and approaches to dealing with them.

Learning Goals:

By the end of the term, students will be able to:

- Explain the roles of markets, policy, and changing transportation technologies in transforming the form of US metropolitan areas.
- Apply economic tools including supply, demand, bid-rent, and marginal-cost analyses to transportation/land-use problems.
- Apply and evaluate the fundamentals of travel-demand modeling to understand its function, strengths, and weaknesses.
- Apply economic, environmental, and social frameworks to the evaluation of transportation policy issues, including transportation and urban form, pricing, public transit, and environmental protection.
- Assess competing arguments in transportation policy and bring evidence to evaluate them.

Course Requirements:

Course assignments include two exams, two problem sets, and a term project.