



COURSE DATA

DATA SUBJECT

Code: 33815
Name: Planning of Urban and Rural Spaces
Cycle: Undergraduate Studies
ECTS Credits: 6
Academic year: 2025-26

STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1318 - Degree in Geography and the Environment	Facultat de Geografia i Història	4	Second quarter

SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1318 - Degree in Geography and the Environment	Planning of urban and rural spaces	ELECTIVES

COORDINATION

SANCHEZ CABRERA JOSE VICENTE

SUMMARY

This course aims to explain the theory and practice of planning of rural and urban areas, with special reference to the regulations of the Valencian Autonomous Region and the analysis of specific cases. In the first place, it establishes the difficulty -and the changes which explain it- that differentiate rural and urban spaces subject to territorial planning that has become an integral character. And it indicates the instruments used in rural and urban planning in the Valencian Autonomous Region. How planning for rural areas will be analyzed: at the local level, the management of "land not suitable for development" in municipal General Land Use Plan. And at the supra-local scale, environmental planning and specific determinations of dominant rural areas in regional land use planning. The planning of urban areas will be discussed at length: the municipal General Land Use Plan and its components; the detailed planning instruments; and implementation of urban planning that will allow to understanding of process of production of urban space and the role of various actors involved. This part ends with the unique characterization of the Spanish urban system and practice of urban planning in Spain, with special attention to the General Land Use Plans. In addition to learning the rules and practice of rural and urban planning in Spain and in the Valencian Autonomous Region, it is intended that students read and work with real examples of planning documents and get used to suggesting alternatives to the proposed plans.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

None

COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Acquire basic knowledge for analysing and diagnosing public policies related to the geographical aspects of the environment.

Be able to communicate effectively with non-experts.

Be able to learn independently and show creativity, initiative and entrepreneurship. Be able to resolve unforeseen situations.

Be able to relate and synthesise cross-disciplinary territorial information.

Be able to work independently.

Be able to work in interdisciplinary teams.

Have capacity for analysis and synthesis.

Have oral and written communication skills in one's own language and in a foreign language.

Have problem-solving skills and decision-making capacity. Be able to design and manage projects.

Have skills for organisation, planning, management and assessment.

Learn about land-use planning.

Learn about rural and urban development programmes based on environmental sustainability.

Learn about the time and space dimensions in the explanation of social, territorial and environmental processes.

Show commitment to the values of gender equality, interculturality, equal opportunities, universal access for people with disabilities, the culture of peace, democratic values and solidarity.

Show motivation for quality, responsibility and intellectual honesty.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. Rural spaces, urban spaces and land-use planning.

- The challenge of the delimitation of rural and urban spaces.
- Changes in rural areas and new demands; territorial consequences. Rural areas as a planning problem.
- Rural and urban planning in Spain and in the Valencian Autonomous Region.
- The municipal General Land Use Plan. Soil grading and classification

2. Planning of rural areas in The municipal General Land Use Plan: the land not suitable for development

- The traditional concept of land not suitable for development in Spain and its territorial and environmental consequences. The conflict of illegal constructions in land not suitable for development.
- The restrictive concept and the broad vision of land not suitable for development.
- Planning of land not suitable for development; its regulation in the Valencian Autonomous Region.

3. The planning of urban spaces. Urban planning.

- Urban planning. Urbanism in the Spanish Constitution of 1978.
- The municipal General Land use Plan; the Structural Plan and its components. The decision on the limits of urban expansion.
- Detailed planning: New development Partial Plans, Innercity Redevelopment Plans, Detailed Studies, Special Plans.

4. The implementation of urban planning

- The Land Readjustment Project and the Infrastructure Provision Project.
- The Programa de Actuación Integrada (Integrated Performance Program)
- The urbanising agent
- Actors in the urban development process.
- The debate about the scarcity of land suitable for development in Spain.

5. Urban planning in Spain

- Particularities of the Spanish urban development legal system
- The Land Act.
- Urban planning in the Franco period.
- The General Land Use Plans of the democratic municipal councils.
- The housing bubble and its aftermath.
- Strategic urban planning in Spain.
- Strategic urban planning in Spain.
- The territorial and urban legislation of the Valencian Community.



6. The planning of rural spaces at supralocal level

- Rural areas as protected space. The relationship between environmental planning and land use planning.
- The delimitation of rural areas in regional land-use planning; the indicators of rurality.
- The specific policies for rural areas in the Regional Land-Use Plans of the Autonomous Communities.
- The problem of planning public services in rural areas

WORKLOAD

PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Theory	30,00
Other activities	15,00
Classroom practices	15,00
Total hours	60,00

NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	30,00
Independent study and work	35,00
Preparation of lessons	25,00
Preparation for assessment activities	0,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
Total hours	90,00

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

- Explanation in class of the most important and complex theoretical and practical contents, complemented with questions and debates with students (45 hours). For most topics, prior to class students should read diverse material (handbooks, records, scientific papers, plans, reports...) delivered or indicated by the teacher.
- Complementary activities (15h). Seminars (details in the annex of the teaching guide), conferences given by other professors or external researchers, visits and field trips that complete the vision of what is explained in the classes and practices. Viewing and commenting on documentaries and/or films on the subject (...). These activities are valuable.
- Individual or group tutoring, in order to clarify doubts on theory, practices and reports.



EVALUATION

Kind of Evaluation/Assessment

- Exam 50 Weight (%)
- Evaluation of practical activities based on the preparation of written - works and/or oral presentations 30 Weight (%)
- Evaluation of complementary activities 20 Weight (%)

In the 2nd Call, the theoretical-practices evaluation criteria will be the same as in the 1st Call.

REFERENCES

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- BURRIEL DE ORUETA, E. L. (2009): Planificación urbanística y ciudad, en HERMOSILLA, J. (Coord.), La ciudad de Valencia. Historia, Geografía y Arte, Valencia, Universidad de Valencia, pp. 144-171
- RAMÓN FERNÁNDEZ, T. (2011): Manual de derecho urbanístico, Madrid, El Consultor, 294 pp
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