

Course Title

Urban Greening Lab

Course Number

SCA-UA.9650 D01, ENVST-UA.9495 D01

Spring 2020

Syllabus last updated on: 22-Jan 2020

Lecturer Contact Information

Dipl. Ing. Architekt Sigismund Sliwinski
ss6541@nyu.edu

Course Details

Tuesdays, 4:00pm to 6:45pm

Location of class: NYU Berlin St. Agnes (Alexandrinenstr a e 118–121, 10969 Berlin)

Tour meeting points will be announced, please check your email the night before class.

Prerequisites

None

Units earned

4

Course Description

This course provides a comprehensive examination of Berlin's urban ecology and approaches to urban planning, while introducing their history, and the correlations between the city's built structure, urban nature and culture. The course combines lectures, workshops and site visits to several facets of Berlin's 'green' past and present.

The course investigates Berlin's 'green' structures in relation to the economic, socio-cultural, and political processes that shape them, while placing an emphasis on ideas of sustainability and sustainable projects, as well as how these influence Berlin's built structure.

This is a fieldwork-intensive course, which meets for 2.5 hours per week.

Tours will alternate with lectures, discussions and workshops.

Course Objective

This is a fieldwork-intensive course, through which we will explore the history of urban change in Berlin. We will focus on the long-term processes that have made the city a contemporary

global green icon. In addition to completing all readings and attending all course sessions, you will complete an essay about Urban Ecology/Ecological Urbanism, Mapping: Neighborhood Luisenstadt-Oranienstraße and research papers about two Green Projects in Berlin.

Assessment Components

Class Participation

10% of total marks

Assignment Essay: Urban Ecology/Ecological Urbanism

(5 pages, A4, double-spaced, size 12 font)

10% of total marks

First Project

This research paper will be a set of 4 double-sized pages (8 normal pages) minimum.

It is an examination of a core question and theme related to the 1st project. This material will be developed in a strategy that combines the classical research text with mapping components.

30% of total marks

Second Project with Presentation

This research paper will be a set of 4 double-sized pages (8 normal pages) minimum.

It is an examination of a core question and theme related to the final project. This material will be developed in a strategy that combines the classical research text with mapping components. It also includes a 10-minute presentation and discussion.

40% of total marks

Second Project Essence

This research paper will be a set of 2-3 double-sized pages, (4-6 normal pages) minimum.

10% of total marks

Failure to submit or fulfill any required component may result in failure of the class, regardless of grades achieved in other assignments.

Required Text(s)

Electronic Resources (via NYU Classes / NYU Library)

Susannah Hagan, *Ecological Urbanism: The Nature of the City*, NJ: Routledge, 2015.

No need to purchase. The book is available as an e-book (<https://getit.library.nyu.edu/go/9441754>).

One copy of each book is kept in the Reading Room of NYU Berlin's Academic Center, for you to read in the center but not to take out.

Please follow this link for the [NYU Berlin Library Catalogue](#) or the link on NYU Berlin's website (Academics/Facilities & Services).

Supplemental Text(s) (not required to purchase)

Marcos L. Rosa, Ute E. Weiland (editors), *Handmade Urbanism*. Berlin: Jovis Verlag GmbH, 2013.

Brian McGrath (editor), *Urban Design Ecologies*. Chichester: John Wiley & Sons Ltd, 2013.

Mohsen Mostafavi with Gareth Doherty, Harvard University (editors), *Ecological Urbanism*. Baden: Lars Müller Publishers and the President and Fellows of Harvard College, 2010/11.

Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic (editors), *Living in the Endless City*. London: Phaidon, 2011.

Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic (editors), *The Endless City*. London: Phaidon, 2007.

Alain Gresh et al. (editors), *Atlas der Globalisierung*. Berlin: Le Monde diplomatique, taz Verlags- und Vertriebs GmbH, 2012.

Alain Gresh et al. (editors), *Atlas der Globalisierung, Sehen und verstehen, was die Welt bewegt*. Berlin: Le Monde diplomatique, taz Verlags- und Vertriebs GmbH, 2009.

Alain Gresh et al. (editors), *Atlas der Globalisierung, Die Welt von morgen*. Berlin: Le Monde diplomatique, taz Verlags- und Vertriebs GmbH, 2007.

Alan Berger, *Drosscape: Wasting Land in Urban America*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2006.

Edward R. Tufte, *Envisioning Information*. Cheshire, Connecticut: Graphics Press, 2003.

James Corner, *Taking Measures: Across the American Landscape*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1996.

Internet Research Guidelines

To be discussed in class.

Additional Required Equipment

City map with an index of street names, for example *Falk Plan*; a journal/sketchbook; trace paper; a digital camera and a transportation ticket.

Remember that the excursions are often outside; *please wear appropriate clothing*.

Session 1 – 4 Feb 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Urban Greening Lab

Introduction to the Course

Lecture:

Berlin, Seven Phases of Greening

Loft

Session 2 – 11 Feb 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Lecture:

Urban Ecology / Ecological Urbanism

and Discussion

Required Reading for Session 2:

Ecological Urbanism: The Nature of the City:

- Parts 1 and 2, "What is it?" and "Three Models", pp. 1-32 and 33-84.

On NYU Classes:

- Richard T. LeGates and Frederic Stout (editors), *The City Reader*. Fifth edition. Oxon: Routledge, 2011.
Jane Jacobs, *The Uses of Sidewalks*. 1961, pp. 105-110.

Assignment essay "Urban Ecology / Ecological Urbanism" due for Session 3.

Tour: Neighborhood - Oranienstraße

Session 3 – 18 Feb 2020

Assignment Essay "Urban Ecology / Ecological Urbanism" is due.

Project Markthalle Neun starts.

Tour: Markthalle Neun

Meeting point entry Eisenbahnstraße 42/43, 10997 Berlin.

Required Reading for Session 3:

On NYU Classes:

- "Food and the City".
- Readings on Berlin and Kreuzberg.

Website Reading:

- Markthalle Neun: <https://markthalleneun.de/>

Workshop Mapping: Markthalle Neun and Neighborhood - Oranienstraße

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.).

Session 4 – 25 Feb 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Lecture:

Specifying Place & Program: Berlin as Built, and Re-built Form
and Discussion

Focus on History + Accessibility
 Program + Place
 Actors + Space
 Values

Tour: Neighborhood - Luisenstadt

Required Reading for Session 4:

Ecological Urbanism: The Nature of the City:

- Parts 3 and 4, "What's new?" and "Double Vision", pp. 85-106 and 107-149.

On NYU Classes:

- Siemens AG, Corporate Communications and Government Affairs (editor), *European Green City Index*, p.1-37 and *Berlin Profile*, p. 46. Munich 2009.

Website Reading:

Senate Department for Urban Development and the Environment, Berlin, 2013.

http://www.stadtentwicklung.berlin.de/natur_gruen/index_en.shtml

see under Landscape Planning:

- “The Berlin City Scape. An Analysis”, 5 pages.
- “The History of Open Space Development in Berlin”, 3 pages.
see under Urban Green Space:
- “The History of Berlin’s Urban Green Space”, 13 pages.

Material on mapping is posted on NYU Classes e.g.:

- Edward R. Tufte, *Envisioning Information*. Cheshire, Connecticut: Graphics Press, 2003.
- Alan Berger, *Drosscape: Wasting Land in Urban America*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2006.
- James Corner, *Taking Measures: Across the American Landscape*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1996.
- Mohsen Mostafavi with Gareth Doherty, Harvard University (editors), *Ecological Urbanism*. Baden: Lars Müller Publishers and the President and Fellows of Harvard College, 2010/11.
- Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic (editors), *The Endless City*. London: Phaidon, 2007.
- Ricky Burdett and Deyan Sudjic (editors), *Living in the Endless City*. London: Phaidon, 2011.

Workshop Mapping: Markthalle Neun and Neighborhood - Oranienstraße

Mapping is a specific data information strategy that will be explained in class.

It is an analysis which mixes text with graphic components such as images, sketches and/or photos as well as diagrams.

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.). Bring any visual material you’ve gathered on Markthalle Neun to work on.

It is imperative that you have work produced for me to look at. If you have nothing to present, I cannot give you any meaningful feedback. Make sure to print as much visual material related to your project as possible. I am obviously not expecting a finished product; nonetheless, bringing in the work you’ve done is essential and the feedback you will receive will improve your assignment.

Session 5 – 3 March 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Lecture:

Specifying Place & Space: Berlin as Built, and Re-built Form and as Social and Biophysical Landscape

and Discussion

Required Reading for Session 5:

On NYU Classes:

Cities and the Environment 2008 / Vol. 1, Issue 2, Article 4, 2008.

- Mary L. Cadenasso and T. A. Pickett, "Urban Principles for Ecological Landscape Design and Management: Scientific Fundamentals", pp. 1-16.

Cliff Moughtin and Peter Shirley, *Urban Design: Green Dimensions*. Oxford: Elsevier, 2005.

- Chapter 4, "The Region and Sustainable Development", pp. 59-76.
- Chapters 5-7, "The Urban Park, City Metaphor, City Form", pp. 77-157.

Katie Williams, Elisabeth Burton and Mike Jenks, *Achieving Sustainable Urban Form*. London and New York: E&FN Spon, 2000.

- Marina Alberti, "Urban Form and Ecosystem Dynamics: Empirical Evidence and Practical Implications", pp. 84-96.

Renata Tyszczyk et al., *Atlas: Geography, Architecture and Change in an Interdependent World*. London: Black Dog Publishing, 2012.

•

Workshop Mapping: "Markthalle Neun and Neighborhood - Oranienstraße"

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.). Bring any visual material you've gathered on Markthalle Neun to work on.

It is imperative that you have work produced for me to look at. If you have nothing to present, I cannot give you any meaningful feedback. Make sure to print as much visual material related to your project as possible. I am obviously not expecting a finished product; nonetheless, bringing in the work you've done is essential and the feedback you will receive will improve your assignment.

Session 6 – 10 March 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Required Reading for Session 6:

On NYU Classes:

- *City Visions 1910-2010*, Berlin, Paris, London, Chicago, Exhibition Catalogue 2010 as an excerpt from the book by DOM publishers Berlin, pp. 1-53.

Workshop Mapping: "Markthalle Neun and Neighborhood - Oranienstraße"

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.). Bring any additional visual material you've gathered on Markthalle Neun to work on.

It is imperative that you have work produced for me to look at. If you have nothing to present, I cannot give you any meaningful feedback. Make sure to print as much visual material related to your project as possible. I am obviously not expecting a finished product; nonetheless, bringing in the work you've done is essential and the feedback you will receive will improve your assignment

Session 7 – 17 March 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Project: Markthalle Neun is due.

Your printed/graphic material should be emailed to me by midnight between 18th and 19th March. Anything sent after midnight will be considered late. You should have your boards printed out and hung up before the start of class!

Presentation Project Markthalle Neun**SPRING BREAK – No Class – 24 March 2020****Session 8 – 31 March 2020****Tour: Ufa Fabrik**

Meeting point U6 Ullsteinstraße, subway station north-west exit upstairs.

Required Reading for Session 8:

See website for Ufa Factory, <http://www.ufafabrik.de/en/>

Session 9 – 7 April 2020**Tour: Prinzessinnengärten**

Meeting point Moritzplatz, entry to Prinzessinnengärten, subway station south-east exit upstairs

See website for Prinzessinnengarten, <http://prinzessinnengarten.net/about/>

Session 10 – 14 April 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Project: Ufa Factory & Prinzessinnengärten starts.**Lecture:**

Now, What is Urban Ecology / Ecological Urbanism?
and Discussion

Required Reading for Session 10:

On NYU Classes:

- *Post Oil City: The History of the City's Future. Arch+ 196-197.* January 2010, approx. 70 pages.

Workshop Mapping: Ufa Fabrik & Prinzessinnengärten

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.). Bring any visual material you've gathered of the projects to work on.

Session 11 – 21 April 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Required Reading for Session 11:

On NYU Classes:

- Paola Sassi, "Strategies for Sustainable Architecture". Abington: Taylor & Francis, 2006. In: *Ecological Urbanism*, Harvard Univ. Graduate School of Design. Baden: Lars Müller Publishers, 2010-11, pp. 51-142.
- Richard T.T. Forman, *Urban Ecology and the Arrangements of Nature in Urban*, pp. 312-323.

Workshop Mapping: Ufa Fabrik & Prinzessinnengärten

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.). Bring any visual material you've gathered of the projects to work on.

It is imperative that you have work produced for me to look at. If you have nothing to present, I cannot give you any meaningful feedback. Make sure to print as much visual material related to your project as possible. I am obviously not expecting a finished product; nonetheless, bringing in the work you've done is essential and the feedback you will receive will improve your mapping assignment.

Session 12 – 28 April 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Required Reading for Session 12:

Peter Hall, *Cities of Tomorrow: An Intellectual History of Urban Planning and Design in the Twentieth Century*. Third edition. London: Blackwell, 2012.

- Chapter 4: "The City in the Garden, The Garden City Solution": London, Paris, Berlin, New York, 1900-1940, pp. 87-141.

Workshop Mapping: Ufa Fabrik & Prinzessinnengärten

Please remember to bring your art supplies (tracing paper, colored pencils, etc.). Bring any visual material you've gathered of the projects to work on.

It is imperative that you have work produced for me to look at. If you have nothing to present, I cannot give you any meaningful feedback. Make sure to print as much visual material related to your mapping as possible. I am obviously not expecting a finished product; nonetheless, bringing in the work you've done is essential and the feedback you will receive will improve your mapping assignment.

Session 13 – 5 May 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Project Essence Selection

Individual consultation with the professor.

It is imperative that you have work produced for me to look at. If you have nothing to present, I cannot give you any meaningful feedback. Make sure to print as much visual material related to your mapping as possible. I am obviously not expecting a finished product; nonetheless, bringing in the work you've done is essential and the feedback you will receive will improve your mapping assignment.

Session 14 – 12 May 2020

Project 2 Presentation: Ufa Fabrik & Prinzessinnengärten

This research paper will be a set of 4 double-sized pages (8 normal pages) minimum.

It is an examination of a core question and theme related to project 2.

This material will be developed in a strategy that combines the classical research text with mapping components.

It also includes a 10-minute presentation and discussion.

Your printed/graphic material should be emailed to me by midnight between 11th and 12th May.

Anything sent after midnight will be considered late. You should have your boards printed out and hung up before the start of class!

Session 15 – 19 May 2020

Classroom St. Agnes

Presentation of Essence Project

The research paper of project 2 will be a set of 2 double-sized pages (4 normal pages) minimum.

It is an examination of a core question and theme related to project 2.

This material will be developed in a strategy that combines the classical research text with mapping components.

It also includes a 10-minute presentation and discussion.

Your printed/graphic material should be emailed to me by midnight between 18th and 19th May.

Anything sent after midnight will be considered late. You should have your boards printed out and hung up before the start of class!

Classroom Etiquette

No cell phone use during class time. Computers may only be used in offline mode.

Suggested Co-Curricular Activities

Additional visits to projects and actors who support the ideas of Urban Ecology as well as Urban Gardening, Urban Farming and Efficient City Farming.

Your Lecturer

Professor Sigismund Sliwinski (Dipl. Ing. Architekt) is a practicing architect in Berlin. His projects range from private to institutional work. He has won several competitions, has published and exhibited. He has taught Architecture and Design in Berlin and at several universities in the US, such as UT Knoxville, UVA Charlottesville and Parsons, New York. His research project on sustainability, originally commissioned by the WWF, Germany, has been transferred into a teaching strategy.

Academic Policies

Assessment Expectations

Grade A: The student makes excellent use of empirical and theoretical material and offers well-structured arguments in their work. The student writes comprehensive essays / answers to exam questions and their work shows strong evidence of critical thought and extensive reading.

Grade B: The candidate shows a good understanding of the problem and has demonstrated the ability to formulate and execute a coherent research strategy.

Grade C: The work is acceptable and shows a basic grasp of the research problem. However, the work fails to organize findings coherently and is in need of improvement.

Grade D: The work passes because some relevant points are made. However, there may be a problem of poor definition, lack of critical awareness, poor research.

Grade F: The work shows that the research problem is not understood; there is little or no critical awareness and the research is clearly negligible.

Grade Conversion

Your lecturer may use one of the following scales of numerical equivalents to letter grades:

A = 94-100 or 4.0

A- = 90-93 or 3.7

B+ = 87-89 or 3.3

B = 84-86 or 3.0

B- = 80-83 or 2.7

C+ = 77-79 or 2.3

C = 74-76 or 2.0

C- = 70-73 or 1.7

D+ = 67-69 or 1.3

D = 65-66 or 1.0

F = below 65 or 0

Attendance Policy

Participation in all classes is essential for your academic success, especially in courses that meet only once per week. Your attendance in both content and language courses is required and will be checked at each class meeting. As soon as it becomes clear that you cannot attend a class, you must inform your professor by e-mail immediately (i.e. before the start of your class). Absences are only excused if they are due to illness, Moses Center accommodations, religious observance or emergencies. Your professor or NYU Berlin's administration may ask you to present a doctor's note or an exceptional permission from NYU Berlin's Director or Wellness Counselor as proof. Emergencies or other exceptional circumstances must be presented to the Director. Doctor's notes need to be submitted to the Academics Office, who will inform your professors. Doctor's notes need to be from a local doctor and carry a signature and a stamp. If you want the reasons for your absence to be treated confidentially, please approach NYU Berlin's Director or Wellness Counselor.

Unexcused absences affect students' grades: In content courses each unexcused absence (equaling one week's worth of classes) leads to a deduction of 2% of the overall grade and may negatively affect your class participation grade. In German Language classes two or three (consecutive or non-consecutive) unexcused absences (equaling one week's worth of classes) lead to a 2% deduction of the overall grade. Three unexcused absences in one content course and five unexcused absences in your German language course may lead to a Fail in that course. Being more than 15 minutes late counts as an unexcused absence. Furthermore, your professor is entitled to deduct points for frequent late arrival or late arrival back from in-class breaks. Please note that for classes involving a field trip, transportation difficulties are never grounds for an excused absence. It is the student's responsibility to arrive in time at the announced meeting point.

Exams, tests and quizzes, deadlines, and oral presentations that are missed due to illness always require a doctor's note as documentation. It is the student's responsibility to produce this doctor's note and submit it to the Academics Office; until this doctor's note is produced the missed assessment is graded with an F and no make-up assessment is scheduled. In content classes, an F in one assignment may lead to failure of the entire class.

Regardless of whether an absence is excused or not, it is the student's responsibility to catch up with the work that was missed.

Attendance Rules on Religious Holidays

Members of any religious group may, without penalty, excuse themselves from classes when required in compliance with their religious obligations. Students who anticipate being absent due to religious observance should notify their lecturer AND NYU Berlin's Academics Office in writing via e-mail one week in advance. If examinations or assignment deadlines are scheduled on the day the student will be absent, the Academics Office will schedule a make-up examination or extend the deadline for assignments. Please note that an absence is only excused for the holiday but not for any days of travel that may come before and/or after the holiday. See also [University Calendar Policy on Religious Holidays](#)

Late Submission of Work

- (1) Written work due in class must be submitted during the class time to the professor.
- (2) Late work should be submitted in person to the lecturer or to the Academics Office, who will write on the essay or other work the date and time of submission, in the presence of the student. Another member of the administrative staff may also personally accept the work and will write the date and time of submission on the work, as above.
- (3) Work submitted late receives a penalty of 2 points on the 100 point scale for each day it is late (excluding weekends and public or religious holidays), unless an extension has been approved (with a doctor's note or by approval of NYU Berlin's administration), in which case the 2 points per day deductions start counting from the day the extended deadline has passed.
- (4) Without an approved extension, written work submitted more than 5 days (excluding weekends and public or religious holidays) following the submission date receives an F.
- (5) End of semester essays must be submitted on time.

- (6) Students who are late for a written exam have no automatic right to take extra time or to write the exam on another day.
- (7) Please remember that university computers do not keep your essays - you must save them elsewhere. Having lost parts of your essay on the university computer is no excuse for a late submission.

Provisions for Students with Disabilities

Academic accommodations are available for students with documented disabilities. Please contact the Moses Center for Students with Disabilities at 212-998-4980 or see their [website](#) for further information.

Plagiarism Policy

The presentation of another person's words, ideas, judgment, images or data as though they were your own, whether intentionally or unintentionally, constitutes an act of plagiarism. Proper referencing of your sources avoids plagiarism (see as one possible help the [NYU library guide](#) to referencing styles).

NYU Berlin takes plagiarism very seriously; penalties follow and may exceed those set out by your home school. Your lecturer may ask you to sign a declaration of authorship form.

Note that some assignments in the course may be checked for plagiarism by using TurnItIn or other another software designed to detect offences against academic integrity.

It is also an offense to submit work for assignments from two different courses that is substantially the same (be it oral presentations or written work). If there is an overlap of the subject of your assignment with one that you produced for another course (either in the current or any previous semester), you **MUST** inform your professor.

For a summary please follow the link to [NYU Global's academic policies](#).