

COMPARATIVE URBAN TRANSPORTATION POLICY

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Course Description

This course compares and contrasts transportation policy and planning issues in two world cities: London and Los Angeles. This is a special field course whereby graduate students in the UCLA School of Public Policy and Social Research (SPPSR) spend one week in London meeting with planning officials, urban and transportation scholars, and activists to learn first-hand about the transportation issues facing Londoners. To appeal to the wide range of interests among SPPSR students, the course will focus on *access* – to employment, housing, culture, etc. – and the role of transportation policy and planning plays in facilitating access. This course will count toward completion of the transportation policy and planning specialization in the Department of Urban Planning.

Course Format and Requirements

The course requirements are as follows:

1. ***Attend three preparatory class meetings during the Winter 2001 quarter.***
The first three meetings will be used to (1) plan the policy and planning topics to be covered in London, (2) develop specific itineraries for each day, and (3) to finalize all of the logistical arrangements for the trip. These meetings will take place as follows:
 - Wednesday, February 21st from 4:45 pm to 5:30 pm in Public Policy Building room 3343C.
 - Monday, March 5th from 8:30 am to 10:00 am in Public Policy Building room 5273.
 - Monday, March 19th from 8:30 am to 10:00 am in Public Policy Building room 5391.

2. **Arrange a portion of the field activities in London.** During the Winter 2001 quarter student teams of two to four students will take the lead in arranging the field activities for each day. In addition, one team of students will be responsible for overall planning of the field trip. Upon returning to Los Angeles, each team will be responsible for writing and thanking each of the speakers with whom we visit during our London field activities.
3. **Course Reading.** Each student is responsible for completing the required course reading prior to beginning the field activities in London. The required course readings will be distributed to class members on Tuesday, March 20th. They are:

Pucher, John and Christian Lefevre. 1996. "The Urban Transport Crisis: An Introduction," *The Urban Transport Crisis in Europe and North America*. London: MacMillan Press Ltd. Pages 1-6.

Pucher, John and Christian Lefevre. 1996. "Overview of Urban Transport Systems and Land Use Patterns in Europe and North America," *The Urban Transport Crisis in Europe and North America*. London: MacMillan Press Ltd. Pages 7-42.

Pucher, John and Christian Lefevre. 1996. "Great Britain: Failure of Free Market Policies," *The Urban Transport Crisis in Europe and North America*. London: MacMillan Press Ltd. Pages 117-137.

Pucher, John and Christian Lefevre. 1996. "The United States: Car-Dependent Society," *The Urban Transport Crisis in Europe and North America*. London: MacMillan Press Ltd. Pages 175-200.

Pucher, John and Christian Lefevre. 1996. "Dealing with the Urban Transport Crisis: Comparative Policy Evaluation," *The Urban Transport Crisis in Europe and North America*. London: MacMillan Press Ltd. Pages 201-210.

In addition, recent articles in the *Los Angeles Times* and *Wall Street Journal* on transport planning in London will be included in the required readings.

Additional, Recommended Readings

Gakenheimer, Ralph (1993). "Land Use/Transportation Planning: New Possibilities for Developing and Developed Countries," *Transportation Quarterly*, 47:2, April, pages 311-322.

Mogridge, Martin J. H. 1990. *Travel in Towns: Jam Yesterday, Jam Today, Jam Tomorrow?* London: MacMillan Reference Books. 308 pages.

In addition to the readings listed here, readings relevant to each student's research topic should be reviewed and, where appropriate, cited in the course paper.

4. **Participate in five days of meetings and other field activities in London.** On each of the five business days during the week of 25 March 2001, one of the teams of two to four students will lead the entire class on a field trip and to meetings with policy and planning officials, researchers, and activists in London. The entire itinerary should be confirmed in advance and distributed to each class member on the day prior to the field activities.
5. **Attend three concluding class meetings during the Spring 2001 quarter.** The purpose of these meetings will be to (1) debrief on the policy and planning issues explored in London, (2) discuss the topics for and structure of the course term paper, (3) finalize any remaining administrative matters, and (4) discuss any final presentations to the broader SPPSR community (possibly *in lieu* of the final class session).
6. **Complete a course paper on some aspect of access policy and planning comparing and contrasting London and Los Angeles.** This paper should select a specific, clearly defined planning issue on the general theme of "access" and should compare and contrast the treatment of this issue by policymakers, planners, and/or activists in London and Los Angeles. The paper should have a clear thesis and should cite evidence (data, published material, logical argument, etc.) in support of all findings and conclusions. The paper should be at least 10 pages in length (double-spaced, 12 point type, 1 inch margins, including figures, tables, and pictures, but not counting the abstract, bibliography, or appendices).

Grading

Grades will be determined as follows:

1. **Attendance at preparatory and concluding class sessions and organization of London field activities** (1/3 of grade). Students will be asked to complete a form verifying their attendance and work in organizing the London field activities.
2. **Participation in the London field activities** (1/3 of grade). For each hour of London field activities missed, the minimum length of the course paper will be increased by one page (this penalty may be waived by formally presenting your paper in the final class session)
3. **Course paper** (1/3 of grade). The final paper is due in my mailbox in Public Policy Building room 5389 by Tuesday, May 15th at noon (hardcopy only, no electronic submissions). All late papers will be penalized 1/3 grade.