

University of Toronto  
Department of Geography and Planning  
**JPG1428H: Greening the City: Urban Environmental Planning and Management**

**Course Outline**  
*Winter 2022, Mondays 1-3*

**Instructor**

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**Course Description**

This course focuses on the recent efforts to 'green the city' by integrating green infrastructure into the built environment, including emerging research supporting such initiatives. The course begins by examining greening goals associated with ecosystem service provisioning, individual and community well-being, environmental justice, and urban resiliency in light of climate change. The role of urban planners, municipal policy, private property owners, and other key actors will be examined in-depth. Throughout the course, issues associated with bridging knowledge gaps between the social and natural sciences, unique characteristics of urban ecosystems, and the role of specific decision-makers will be considered.

**Topics Covered through Weekly Readings and Discussion**

- What is an urban socio-ecological system?
- Urban Ecosystem Services and Disservices
- Environmental Justice and the Urban Ecosystem
- Green Infrastructure: Is it the solution?
- Land Use Planning and Urban Ecosystems
- Resilience, Vulnerability and Climate Change
- Urban Forests
- Urban Biodiversity

**Course Requirements**

Weekly required readings should be completed prior to the class. You will be required to write four short readings responses over the course of the term. Students are also required to write a paper proposal (2 to 3 pages) and a final paper (20 pages), exploring a theoretical and/or empirical aspect of urban ecosystem management. Another option for the paper is to complete a case study/comparative study of management plan(s) or policy implementation. The final requirement is to give a presentation of your paper topic at the end of the course.

**Evaluation**

The final grade will be based on the following factors:

Class participation (attendance, class discussion)	20%
Four reading responses	10%
Paper proposal (due 4 <sup>th</sup> week of class)	10%
Final paper (due 1 week after classes end)	50%
Paper presentation (week 11 or 12)	10%