



*Course syllabus*

# Evolutionära urbana processer Evolutionäry Urban Processes

**VFTN35, 7,5 credits, A (Second Cycle)**

**Valid for:** 2023/24

**Faculty:** Faculty of Engineering, LTH

**Decided by:** PLED L

**Date of Decision:** 2023-04-20

## General Information

**Elective for:** L5-fr, L5-fe

**Language of instruction:** The course will be given in Swedish

## Aim

The aim of the course is for students to acquire knowledge of, and ability to analyze, how complex urban processes affecting conditions for households and businesses to operate in urban environments. Furthermore, the aim is for students to acquire knowledge and understanding of how these urban processes occur as a result of how households and companies choose to use their resources within the framework provided by physical, legal, bureaucratic and economic conditions.

## Learning outcomes

*Knowledge and understanding*

For a passing grade the student must

- Understand how the urban processes are a result of people's choices to use their resources within the framework provided by the geographical conditions, laws and regulations and their application, as well as path dependence on previous choices
- Have knowledge of the regulations that affect how urban environments are used and developed, and how these regulations are implemented
- Have knowledge of key concepts, theories and methods used to interpret urban processes
- Understand a selection of historical urban processes as a result of evolutionary urban processes.

### *Competences and skills*

For a passing grade the student must

- Be able to describe how the urban processes are a result of people's choices to use their resources within the framework provided by the geographical conditions, laws and regulations and their application, as well as path dependence on previous choices
- Be able to describe the regulations that affect how urban environments used and developed, and how these regulations are implemented
- Be able to describe a range of important concepts, theories and methods used to interpret urban processes
- Be able to analyse - theoretically and empirically - historically important urban processes as the result of people's choices to use their resources within the framework provided by the geographical conditions, laws and regulations and their application, as well as path dependence on previous choices

### *Judgement and approach*

For a passing grade the student must

- Be able to analyze the pros and cons of important urban processes taking into account the various interests involved
- Be able to critically analyze the current proposals or the current debate that is about urban processes and apply the different perspectives from the interests involved

## **Contents**

In the course, students analyze the economic and social processes in urban environments. Teaching is built around different processes and integrates knowledge from law, planning and economics as well as geographic information. The method is to study how the actors (individuals, households, businesses, bureaucrats, politicians) choose to act under different conditions regarding economic and legal conditions that affect the choice of location (of accommodation, business or other activity). We can with this method, for example, analyze how the decision to settle in a particular location will depend on economic and legal conditions, but also, conversely, how the choice of residence affect other choices, such as concerning employment, consumption and leisure.

A recurring theme of the course is to study how and why the city is used as it is. A consistent method used in the course is to understand urban processes is to interpret the macro pattern as the result of micro motive. In the teaching, current research conducted in the department is applied.

Examples of urban processes and phenomena being studied are: gentrification, displacement, degentrification, segregation, migratory chains, urban transformation, real estate development, urbanization, migration, creative destruction, agglomeration, path dependence, exclusion areas, housing legislation, planning legislation, the creative class, the theory of the broken window.

Instruction consists of lectures, seminars, guest lectures, field trips and project work. A common theme in the teaching method is that historical urban processes are studied on the basis of the thesis that they are the evolutionary result of several interacting forces, each of which tries to fulfill its own goals. A second consistent theme in the course is that students are expected and encouraged to be creative and

independently contribute to the course content by analyzing an urban process at each seminar and proposing how the process can be steered towards a more socially beneficial result. A third theme is that students are expected and encouraged to argue orally and in writing for their interpretation and their proposed action.

## Examination details

**Grading scale:** TH - (U,3,4,5) - (Fail, Three, Four, Five)

**Assessment:** Written exam determines the grade. Compulsory assignments will be carried out in groups. Mandatory active participation in seminars and guest lectures. Participation and performance in mandatory moments is weighed in when the final grade is determined.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

## Admission

**Admission requirements:**

- VFTF01 Economics or VFTF35 Economics of the Built Environment

**Assumed prior knowledge:** VFTA01 Real Estate and Physical Planning AND VFR140 Introductory Law and Real Estate Law OR VFTA05 Introductory Law and Real Estate Law AND VFRN10 Land Planning and Building Permits

**The number of participants is limited to:** No

## Reading list

- Scientific articles and current reports, surveys and opinion articles made available by the department.

## Contact and other information

**Course coordinator:** Ingemar Bengtsson, [ingemar.bengtsson@lantm.lth.se](mailto:ingemar.bengtsson@lantm.lth.se)

**Course coordinator:** Fredrik Kopsch, [fredrik.kopsch@lantm.lth.se](mailto:fredrik.kopsch@lantm.lth.se)