

## Lecture 1: The Planner's Toolbox

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### I. Subject Pedagogy

#### A. Planning

1. Requires an understanding of present conditions; it is context driven
2. It is a systematic and creative way to influence the future of a place
3. Planning activities focus on issues of equity, efficiency, and democratic involvement

#### B. Communication

1. The expression of ideas takes many forms: written, oral, graphic, etc.
2. Communication is persuasive, it is rarely value free
3. It is linked to analysis and ranges from the formal/sophisticated to the informal/messy

#### C. Digital Media

1. The planner's toolbox consists of instruments to analyze problems and promote ideas
2. There are choices: Memos Vs. E-mail; Sketches Vs. Photographs/Video
3. We will examine such tools as Dreamweaver, Photoshop, Excel, Access and ArcView

#### D. How can we examine these three concepts simultaneously?

1. By exploring advanced and real-world applications and projects (lectures)
  2. By observing demonstrations of various planning-related software packages (recitations)
  3. Through a "hands-on" approach to working with digital methods of visualization, analysis, and communication (labs/projects)
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### II. Subject Logistics

#### A. The Team

#### B. Student Groups

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### III. Subject Content

#### A. Lecture Notes

#### B. Recitations

#### C. Lab Exercises and Projects

#### D. Syllabus

#### E. Calendar

#### F. Required Readings

G. Evaluation

1. Your Grade
2. Mid-semester Feedback Session
3. Final Evaluations

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IV. What is a web-based portfolio?

- A. A collection of work, derived from a tradition of showcasing accomplishments
- B. A portable, durable container for your planning-related endeavors
- C. A product for potential employers
- D. Previous Student Work

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V. Important resources (if time allows)

- A. Web Publishing at MIT
- B. Computer Resource Network
- C. Rotch Library's GIS Laboratory
- D. ESRI Virtual Campus
- E. Element K (register here)
- F. IAP 2005