



2023 SYLLABUS

Course Title: Designing Cities for People on Bike

Instructor: Marc Schlossberg

Language of Instruction: English

UO Credits: 8

Contact Hours*: 200

Total Hours of Student Engagement (THSE) in all course activities*: 220

Copenhagen, Odense (Denmark), Nijmegen, Utrecht and Amsterdam (Netherlands)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The program is an eight-credit, four week traveling seminar in The Netherlands and Denmark to study bicycle planning, design, policy and culture as a sustainable, equitable, and economically viable form of transportation. The course will focus on the practices and policies that foster safe, convenient and accessible bicycle infrastructure and the underlying cultural and land use patterns that support a high rate of bicycle use.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this course is to give students the opportunity to explore the various elements involved in planning for increased utilization of bicycles as a form of urban transportation. This is not a design or engineering class, but one that looks at design and engineering, as well as culture, policy, education, history, urban form, and other elements that help create vibrant communities where bicycles are a primary mode of transportation for a large swath of the population. The class will consist of a combination of teaching and learning approaches, including the use of lectures, guest lectures by practitioners, self-reflection, and out-of-class hands-on activities.

Course objectives include:

- Understand the role of bicycling in urban, suburban, and rural transportation;
- Understand the role of policy and planning in shaping urban form and transportation choices;
- Understand the contribution of design, safety, and legal issues toward bicycle planning;
- Learn the critical components of successful integration and promotion of bicycling and transit into communities.

INSTRUCTIONAL METHODOLOGY

This course is a combination of daily urban bike riding as locals would do combined with instructor and local expert lectures, self-paced activities designed to explore and understanding the bicycle transportation infrastructure, and select cultural excursions to take advantage of the locations where we will be based. We will frequently gather to debrief what we have seen to try to

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understand what works, why, and how might those things work in a U.S. context. This is not a classroom-based course; our classrooms are the cities we will be experiencing. A key part of the course is developing a close student community to enhance learning, create support for one another, and to develop a network that may carry into future professional careers.

METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)

Transportation -pre-assignment (pre) – due June 1	10%
One on one meeting (2 meetings) – by July 17	5%
Blog/Reflection (before/during) – 15 total entries – by July-24 (rev deadline)	45%
Compiled Project (during & after)- presented July 19/ final due August 1	40%

Transportation Pre-Assignment (Choose 1 of 3):

1. Spend two hours observing a busy street or intersection to understand how streets and street space is used, collect observational data of your choice (e.g. how many empty seats in cars go by per hour), and communicate your findings and insights in memo, infographic, video, or related format. Further instructions:
 1. Find an arterial (busy) road in your city that provides access to many commercial areas or even the city center by car, but does not provide good opportunities for bike, walking, or transit. Critics of public transportation often complain about empty busses and the waste of taxpayer money that such vacancies represent as public transit is not a self-supporting mode of transportation. Critics of bike infrastructure often complain there isn't space in the road. In this assignment, you are to pick a one to two-hour block of time (2 hours is highly suggested) to observe and count traffic and vehicular occupancy/vacancy during that period. Such counting will also measure volume of vehicular use, which you can compare to the number of lanes on the street to see if there is a good match between lanes and users. More specifically, you are to:
 - Develop a data collection instrument that will allow you to separately note the type of vehicle (car, truck, bus, motorcycle) and observed occupancy. You may have to develop a generalization method so you can count quickly. For cars, it should be easy to count the number of occupants, but you may want to generalize the total number of seats (sedan = 4, minivan = 7, coupe = 2). For busses, you may want to count in quartiles (25% full, 50% full, etc.) and just know what the maximum seating or seating and standing capacity is on a typical bus.
 - Record this data in 15-minute time segments so you can compare traffic volume over time and also to divide up your data collection instrument in a way that makes it easier to keep data counts organized.
 - Calculate the # of empty seats or vacancy (or occupancy) percentage, the overall volume, the v/c (volume to capacity level) if you can, and reflect and comment on all of this.
 - NOTE: If you completed an assignment like this for Professor Schlossberg's Spring course, you cannot simply turn in that

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assignment again. Instead, you can either choose option 2 or 3 below, or re-do this assignment, but in an improved way given you have experience and might have deeper thoughts / curiosities.

2. Conduct a literature review of at least 10 articles or research reports by government or issue-oriented organization on current state of knowledge and practice in regards to bicycle transportation in the United States and summarize your insights in a report (up to 5 pages);
3. Find and watch a series of YouTube/Vimeo videos on bicycle transportation in Denmark and the Netherlands, summarize your main insights, and develop a list of questions you'd really like to know more about in terms of what, how, or why things work as they do (up to 5 pages).

Blog/Reflection: Keep and share/show with instructor a diary/journal of your observations and thoughts and reflections regarding city life, urban design, and bicycle transportation while abroad. Entries can include a mixture of text, photos, sketches, or other methods appropriate to the students' discipline that can record evolving thought processes and observations on site. Keeping a blog for reflection is required and we will make a master web page that links to all student blogs. Note that your blogs may be shared on social media and other platforms to discuss the class, so the writing style and content should be professional. If appropriate, you can use handwritten graphics and notes to feed into a web-based blog. Within your blog, we also encourage you to have conversations with ordinary people (citizens, students, faculty or staff) who bike and ask them about it. These conversations can feed into either structured or unstructured posts. Additionally, we encourage you to explore the literature (both what's provided below and through your own research) to inform your blogs.

We recommend the following platforms: UO Blogs, Wordpress, Weebly, or Blogger. **Your blog must be set up and functional before the class begins.** PLEASE enable comments on your blogs so that others (including your instructor) can comment on them.

Over the four weeks of the course, you will be asked to produce structured (prompt) and unstructured (no prompt) posts. You should blog a minimum of 3-4x a week or 15 entries minimum in total. The table below provides suggested dates for 19 posts. Posts should be at least one paragraph long and should be edited for grammar and include photos/graphics in addition to words. Below includes some suggested dates to post structured blogs. I will review blogs on Monday of each week, so you have some flexibility in completing and posting blogs.

Before the class starts:

2. **You must set up a blog by June 15th** using a platform above and share the link with your instructor

The first two structured posts **are due before we meet in Copenhagen on June 22:**

1. Write a post that says what you hope to gain from the class and what you're most looking forward to (this can be similar to the bio required for scholarships)
2. Write a post that shares a summary of your findings from your transportation pre-assignment.

For other structured posted listed below, more specific details will be provided on the date the activity occurs (see WhatsApp and another location TBD, which will maintain a record of detailed instructions.)

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Unstructured posts are a chance for you to write about anything you'd like – your experience traveling and living like a local, cultural excursions, architecture, food, or a general diary of your reflections and activities. You should have at least 7 unstructured posts throughout the class, but some students choose to blog everyday.

During the beginning of the class, we'll set up some "blog office hours" where students can meet at the hostel or a café to set aside time for blogging and get into the habit. I'll communicate times/locations for these informal and optional meetings via WhatsApp as we go and will continue as long as it's useful for students.

	City	Subject	Activity Occurs	Rec Date.	Reviewed
1	Pre-Class	Aspirations for the class & what you hope to gain	Pre-Class	June 22	June 26
2	Pre-Class	Summary of your pre-class assignment	Pre-Class	June 22	
3	Copenhagen	<i>Semi-unstructured (1st impressions)</i>	June 22-24	June 25	
4	Copenhagen	<i>Semi-unstructured (what ??? do you have?)</i>		June 26	July 3
5		Cities for Kids	June 27	June 28	
6		<i>Unstructured</i>	June 24 & 27	June 29	
7		Regional bike network	June 25-29	July 1	
8		<i>Unstructured</i>		July 2	
9	Odense	Biking in a college town	June 30-July 2	July 3	July 10
10		<i>Unstructured</i>			
11	Amsterdam	Reflections on biking in NL v. Denmark	Jul 4-5	July 6	
12		<i>Unstructured</i>			
13		Reflect on Meredith's PUMA exercise	July 6-7	July 9	
14	Amsterdam	What are your top 5 insights thus far?		July 12	July 17
15	Utrecht	<i>Semi-unstructured (Utrecht? Ronald?)</i>	July 13-15	July 15	
16		<i>Unstructured</i>		July 16	
17	Utrecht	<i>Unstructured</i>		July 18	July 24
18		Brief summary of component of final project		July 20	
19		Wrap Up: big conclusions & remaining question		July 23	

Dates for posts above are recommendations. Posts reviewed by instructors on June 26, July 3, July 10, July 24. Minimum requirement is 15 posts (8 structured and 7 unstructured).

Compiled Project:

All students will contribute to a final group project: a synthesis book (or possibly some other mutually-determined final output) that reflects their experiences and recommendations for translating new insights into practice in the US. The synthesis book will be designed to be broadly appealing to an external U.S. audience, (professionals, policy makers, and general community members) who have not had the good fortune to participate in this class or think about bicycle transportation in the deep way that you will during this course. Students are encouraged to talk with Scan Design Professionals (accompanying the class). The highly visual and accessible book will cover different aspects of what can make cities work well for normal people trying to use a bike normally to do normal life activities. The exact structure of this joint book project will be collectively developed and individual contributions will be decided upon on-site as the class occurs. The book will fuse illustrative photos of key elements, informed commentary about the subject, and the integration of evidence from the literature or from careful observations, to create a product that is reflective of student learning and something that can serve as a teaching tool for external audiences back home.

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Upon completion of the course, students will be eligible to apply to be the Scan Design Fellow who will organize and publish research after the class. This student may help create a website, organize events, or publish materials in a different format.

Overall, the idea is that you contribute to a group produced project with individual components. In the past, each student has contributed two topics in addition to a personal narrative section. Specific details will be provided as this project approaches as the class may decide on a different or specific type of group output, but here is guidance used with the previous cohort:

WRITTEN:

Written Document (book chapter): 5-7 pages (1-2 pages each per audience) **DUE July 31**
[at least 5 pages of double-spaced text + images. Could go over 7 pages with images, depending on how many you're using]

PRESENTATION:

3-4 minutes (can be with visual aids, two slides max)

Please save your final presentations into the SharePoint folder by XX PM on XX (OR email to schlossb@uoregon.edu). We will compile them into a single PowerPoint to make the transitions easier. We will sort in order of topic.

You have 5-7 minutes and can use visual aids.

The idea is to share what you're working on and how it can inform policy in the U.S.

We will take short breaks as necessary, but the goal is rapid fire presentations to learn about each person's interests and get a sense of the amazing whole.

We will take a bit of time for questions during.

Presentations will start at 1 PM at the Generator – we'll close with some reflective activities about the class as whole.

COURSE OUTLINE

Daily updates will be shared via WhatsApp including meeting locations, lecture topics, and times.

2023 University of Oregon Bicycle Study Abroad DRAFT Itinerary

(Current as of January 30, 2023)

Other activities may be added throughout and days of listed activities may switch based on local conditions, opportunity, and availability.

Date	Location	General Activity	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Thursday, June 22, 2023	Copenhagen	Arrive by 3pm	Travel - Arrive!		PIZZA in Park
Friday, June 23, 2023	Copenhagen	Intro to everything	Bike Mike	Scavenger Hunt	Midsummer's Eve
Saturday, June 24, 2023	Copenhagen	Copenhill	blog	Copenhill Tour (?) or Climb & Treat (?)	Open
Sunday, June 25, 2023	Copenhagen	Nordhaven	Open	Nordhaven	5pm: Rooftop cocktail party with Lena
Monday, June 26, 2023	Copenhagen	Gehl & Superhighways	Gehl	find the end of a superhighway	Open
Tuesday, June 27, 2023	Copenhagen	Kids	Traffic Garden	Cities for Kids / Park Explore	Restaurant Kronborg
Wednesday, June 28, 2023	Copenhagen	Professional Panel	blog	Find a single family house	Panel w/ Professionals
Thursday, June 29, 2023	Copenhagen	Open / Amusement Park / Louisiana		Optional: Amusement Park, Louisiana option	

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Friday, June 30, 2023	Odense	Train to Odense & City officials	Travel	Connie from city	Open
Saturday, July 1, 2023	Odense	TBD	Student Check In	Excercise between students and professionals	Open
Sunday, July 2, 2023	Odense	Open	blog	Excercise between students and professionals	Debrief picnic
Monday, July 3, 2023	Amsterdam	Train / Plane from Odense to NL	Travel		
Tuesday, July 4, 2023	Amsterdam	TBD	Learn to bike	Open	July 4th Picnic in the park
Wednesday, July 5, 2023	Amsterdam	Marjolein	blog	Marjolein	Open
Thursday, July 6, 2023	Amsterdam	Meredith	Meredith	Meredith	
Friday, July 7, 2023	Amsterdam	Meredith	Meredith	PUMA	Open
Saturday, July 8, 2023	Amsterdam	Windmill & Cheese/Clog	open	Optional: rural ride	
Sunday, July 9, 2023	Amsterdam	Project Work	blog	Project Work	Boat ride with Floris?
Monday, July 10, 2023	Njimegen	Travel to Nijmegen	Travel	Sjors	Open
Tuesday, July 11, 2023	Njimegen	Guided class activity & Adam	Excercise	Excercise of some kind	Adam house?
Wednesday, July 12, 2023	Utrecht	Train to Utrecht	Travel	Ronald Introduction	Open
Thursday, July 13, 2023	Utrecht	Ronald	Tour with Ronald	Tour with Ronald	??
Friday, July 14, 2023	Utrecht	Rotterdam?	blog	Ronald something?	??
Saturday, July 15, 2023	Utrecht	Ronald	Houten	& Rural Ride	Open
Sunday, July 16, 2023	Utrecht	Ronald	project work	Open	Open
Monday, July 17, 2023	Utrecht	Ronald	project work	project work	Pancake House? (Marc's birthday)
Tuesday, July 18, 2023	Utrecht	Ronald?	project work	project work	Canal Boat Ride
Wednesday, July 19, 2023	Utrecht	Project Work	Final blog	project work	Presentations
Thursday, July 20, 2023	Depart				

COURSE READINGS

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Readings below are organized by location and by theme. For each locale, there are a few short required readings or videos. All other readings are optional and could be used to inform blog posts, final projects, and general curiosity. You are encouraged to do your own research and look for literature, reports, and articles to inform topics that interest you. Readings will be available electronically via Slack and/or via weblink provided below.

Required Readings:

Location	Read By	Title	Length
Pre-Class	June 22	01: League of American Bicyclists Benchmarking Report (Executive Summary) - 2019	16 pages
Denmark	June 22	02: DIS Danish Rules of Biking - 2015	17 pages
	June 22	03: Ride Like a Dane (no date)	1 page
	June 22	04: Danes bike for the same reason Americans drive: they're lazy (Emily Han - Mobility Lab) - 2018	4 pages
Copenhagen	June 26	05: Copenhagen Bike Strategy - 2012	16 pages
	June 26	06: Is Jan Gehl winning his battle to make our cities liveable? (Ellie Violet Bramley- The Guardian) - 2014	7 pages
	June 29	07: The 2019 Copenhagenize Index of Bicycle-Friendly Cities - 2019 (web only)	Website
Odense	June 30	08: Bikes + Trains – Danish Cycling Embassy – no date	10 pages
		09: Denmark National Bike Strategy (Summary and Ch 3) - 7-12 and 42-54 - 2014	17 pages
Odense	July 1	10: Europe's most liveable city? The secret of Odense's post-industrial revolution (Peter Walker- The Guardian) – 2016	10 pages
Netherlands	July 3	11: Cherish the Bicycle (Forbes) - 2019	6 pages
		12: Dutch Cycling Rules - 2020	6 pages
Amsterdam	July 4	18: Fiestersbond - Cycle Vision 2040 - 2019 (web only)	Website
		19: Amsterdam Long Term Cycling Plan – 2017-2022 (5-18 and 69-75) - 2017	20 pages
		20: Streetfilms - Life on a Dutch Woonerf - 2019	Video
Nijmegen	July 10	13: Bicycle Dutch Blog – Over the Meuse, A New Cycling Bridge – 2020	12 pages
		14: Streetfilms- Nijmegen: The City That Tamed Cars So People Can Walk and Bike Where They Please - 2017 (web only)	video
Utrecht	July 12	15: Streetfilms-Utrecht: Planning for People & Bikes, Not for Cars- 2019 (web only)	video

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	16: If You Build It, the Dutch Will Pedal - (By Christopher F. Schuetze - New York Times) - 2017	4 pages
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Other Optional Readings (Organized by Locale)

U.S. Reference Readings

- 1) Bicycle and Pedestrian Resources for Transportation Professionals (Michigan DOT)
- 2) Cycle Track Comparison Matrix
- 3) Are you a Cyclist or Do you Cycle? The Language of Promoting Cycling (Academic)
- 4) Four Types of Cyclists (Roger Gellar)
- 5) Bicycling and Walking in the United States – Benchmarking Report (League of American Bicyclists)
- 6) Build it and they will come: Portland Oregon’s experience with modest investments in bicycle transportation (Gellar)
- 7) Oregon Statewide Transportation Strategy Executive Summary

Danish Context

- 1) Making Cycling Irresistible: Lessons from The Netherlands, Denmark and Germany (Pucher and Buehler)
- 2) Cycle Superhighways PowerPoint
- 3) Cycle Superhighways: Capital Region of Denmark

Copenhagen

- 1) Guide to Copenhagen 2025
- 2) Copenhagen Collection of Cycle Concepts 2012
- 3) Copenhagen Climate Strategy
- 4) Cycle Superhighways PowerPoint
- 5) Cycle Superhighways: Capital Region of Denmark

Netherlands Context

- 1) Netherlands Traffic Signs and Regulations
- 2) Dutch Cycling: Quantifying the Health and Related Economic Benefits

Amsterdam

- 1) Unwelcome guests: moped riders protest as Amsterdam drives them from bike lanes (Guardian)
- 2) Amsterdam's Amazing Disappearing Parking Spaces – CityLab
- 3) Amsterdam’s Plea to Tourists: Visit, but Please Behave Yourselves (New York Times)

Other Optional Readings (Organized by Theme)

Legal

- 1) Legal Guide for Oregon Cycling – 8th Edition
- 2) Netherlands Traffic Signs and Regulations

Resources and Guides

- 1) Bicycle and Pedestrian Resources for Transportation Professionals (Michigan DOT)

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- 2) Surdna Urban Parking Policies Brief
- 3) NYDOT Measuring the Streets: New Metrics for 21st Century Streets
- 4) Cycle Track Comparison Matrix
- 5) Charlotte Street Design Matrix

Framing

- 1) Transportation and the New Generation: Why Young People Are Driving Less and What It Means for Transportation Policy (US PIRG)
- 2) To Encourage Biking, Cities Lose the Helmets (NYTimes Article)
- 3) Protected Bike Lanes Mean Business (People for Bikes)
- 4) Are you a Cyclist or Do you Cycle? The Language of Promoting Cycling (Academic)
- 5) Commuters Pedal to Work on Their Own Superhighway (NYTimes Article)
- 6) Good for Business: The benefits of making streets more walking and cycling friendly (Heart Foundation)
- 7) Four Types of Cyclists (Roger Gellar)
- 8) Investing in Place: Two generations' view on the future of communities: millennials, boomers, and new directions for planning and economic development

International

- 1) Abu Dhabi Urban Street Design Manual
- 2) The Mayor's Vision for Cycling in London: An Olympic Legacy for all Londoners

Federal

- 1) Transportation 101: An Introduction to Federal Transportation Policy (T4America)
- 2) Safer People, Safer Streets: Summary of U.S. Department of Transportation Action Plan to Increase Walking and Biking and Reduce Pedestrian and Bicyclist Fatalities (US DOT)
- 3) FHWA Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide - Appendix (US DOT)
- 4) FHWA Separated Bike Lane Planning and Design Guide (US DOT)

Scholarly

- 1) Cycling in New York: Innovative Policies at the Urban Frontier-Youth transport, mobility and security in sub-Saharan Africa: The gendered journey to school in World Transport Policy and Practice 16 (1). (Pucher)
- 2) Lessons from the Green Lanes: Evaluating Protected Bike Lanes in the U.S. (Monsere et al)
- 3) Making Cycling Irresistible: Lessons from The Netherlands, Denmark and Germany (Pucher and Buehler)
- 4) Issues in Sustainable Transportation (Litman and Burwell)
- 5) Quantifying the Benefits of Nonmotorized Transportation For Achieving Mobility Management Objectives (Litman)
- 6) How to Make Biking Mainstream: Lessons from the Dutch (Walljasper)
- 7) Costs and Benefits of Bicycling Investments in Portland, Oregon (Gotschi)
- 8) Build it and they will come: Portland Oregon's experience with modest investments in bicycle transportation (Gellar)
- 9) Low Stress Bicycling and Network Connectivity (Furth)
- 10) Urban Design: Is there a Distinctive View from the Bicycle? (Forsyth and Krizek)
- 11) Access to Destinations:
- 12) How Close is Close Enough?: Estimating Accurate Distance Decay Functions for Multiple Modes and Different Purposes (Iocono et al)

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- 13) Access to Destinations:
- 14) How Close is Close Enough? Estimating Accurate Distance Decay Functions for Multiple Modes and Different Purposes (Dill)
- 15) Do motor-vehicle users in the US pay their way? (Delucchi)
- 16) Bicycling: Pathway to the Future (Clarke)
- 17) Are Bikeshare Users Different from Regular Cyclists? A First Look at Short-Term Users, Annual Members, and Area Cyclists in the Washington, DC Region (Buck et al)
- 18) Sustainable transportation planning on college campuses (Balsas)

Europe (broadly)

- 6) At the Frontiers of Cycling: Policy Innovations in the Netherlands, Denmark, and Germany (Pucher)
- 7) Bicycle policies of the European principals: continuous and integral
- 8) Pedestrian and Bicyclist Safety and Mobility in Europe (FHWA)
- 9) Dispatch from Europe: Bikeway innovations abound in Malmö (Bike Portland)
- 10) City of Malmö, Sweden planning a cycle city a perspective from 1976 to 2018

General Transportation Context

- 1) The British Cycling Economy
- 2) Introduction to Safe Routes to School: the Health, Safety and Transportation Nexus
- 3) Eno Transportation Foundation Policy Forum: CLIMATE CHANGE AND TRANSPORTATION
- 4) Transportation and Urban Form (in *The Geography of Urban Transportation*)

Cities

- 1) Vision Zero Action Plan (2014) – New York City
- 2) How to Make a City Great: A review of the steps city leaders around the world take to transform their cities into great places to live and work (McKinsey and Company)
- 3) Complete Streets Guidelines – Chicago
- 4) Our Cities Ourselves: 10 Principles for Transport in Urban Life