Spring 2018, New Course Offering
Graduate Program in Community and Regional Planning, University of Texas

DEEP DIVE: EXPLORING PLANNING AND POLICY ECOSYSTEMS for SOCIAL IMPACT

CRP 385C (#01640)
Meets with PA 388K (#60749)
Fridays 9-12N SRH 3.B7 (Wasserman Media Lab)

Instructors:
Dr. Patricia A. Wilson, Professor, Graduate Program in Community and Regional Planning
Dr. Jenny Knowles Morrison, Research Fellow, LBJ School of Public Affairs

This team taught graduate course is a ‘learning laboratory’ in which students design an action plan that connects to their passion and purpose as catalysts of change for social impact. Students build reflective practitioner competencies, design thinking skills, and a systems level view as they each interact with a range of stakeholders across the issue ecosystem that the student identifies. Through a focused field exploration of action learning, students develop an understanding of the complex, multi-faceted issue arena they each have chosen. Each student will be guided in generating a professional mentor network. Students will strengthen their communication, networking, and interviewing skills fundamental to building relationships and catalyzing change in the issue arena of their choice. The semester concludes with action planning—each student designs the concrete action steps they will need to take to realize change in the specific arena they have chosen.

Students will be guided in their deep dives not only by the course instructors, but also by several outstanding coaches during the course of the semester. A life skills trainer and personal development coach based in New York City will lead a workshop on designing your lifework in sync with your passion and purpose. A consultant, author, and leader of cultural programs at the McCombs School will conduct a workshop on building cross-cultural synergy in international contexts. A UT professor of anthropology will address cross-cultural communication in the digital world and the role of language in social inequality. A nationally known thought leader in design thinking will help students design change processes, incorporating the power of empathy and systems awareness. The Chief Innovation Officer from the City of Austin will help students identify issue areas for social impact and design process innovations in planning and policy implementation. A successful social entrepreneur will coach students in action planning, in a workshop entitled The Three Day Start-Up.

Five spaces have been reserved for CRP students in this course. If you are unable to register for it, please come on the first class day anyway and we will see whether there is room for you under one of the unique numbers.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Professor Wilson, patriciawilson@utexas.edu
SUT 3.122, Fall Office Hours, T 12-1 and 4-5