OVERVIEW. Urban and regional planning in Asia reviews concepts and policies on key issues under conditions of rapid and uneven urbanization: (1) the livability of cities, including poverty and social inequalities in cities; the quality of the urban environment; and socio-cultural lifeworlds; (2) rural-urban migration and the perception of rapid population growth that is overwhelming the capacity to plan for housing, services and infrastructure; (3) intercity competition for global investment; (4) slow growth and entrenched poverty in rural regions; and (5) social movements calling for greater access to political power. The course is organized into four parts to cover these and related issues.

Part I presents an overview of the policy issues and objectives in the context of Asia’s urban transition.

Part II assesses the livability of cities across 3 dimensions: personal well-being (e.g., poverty, health, security, livelihood), environmental services, and lifeworlds (associational life). The importance of NGOs and local government is highlighted.

Part III reviews attempts to develop spatial strategies to spread development more evenly over national space. Rural regional development is explored in terms of rural-urban linkages, urban bias and post-agrarian economies. The growth pole approach to industrial deconcentration is assessed along with alternative approaches. The globalization of subnational spatial development processes is also investigated.

Part IV covers country experiences in East and Southeast Asia. Korea, China, Vietnam, Thailand and Indonesia are among the countries explored in terms of local and national spatial planning, global intercity competition, transborder urban networks, the rise of China in the world economy, responsible tourism, and new edge cities around major metropolitan regions.

ORGANIZATION & GRADING. The class combines lectures by the instructor and, from Week 4, student-led seminars on pre-selected topics. Assignments will consist of 2 short (8 page) “position papers” presentations (20% each) and a term paper (60% of the final grade). One position paper may be expanded for the term paper. Students will also give comments on presenters’ position papers.

EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES: (1) to understand major urban and regional planning issues in Asia, (2) to gain the ability to critically assess development concepts and theories, (3) to be able to link explanations of issues with policy alternatives and questions of implementation, (4) to deepen knowledge of specific areas of interest to each student, and (5) to gain the ability to work through debates on issues, concepts and explanations of problems to develop policy tools and each student’s own policy positions.

This course is an elective for the interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate in Population Studies.
COURSE READINGS
(Available online at the Laulima UH Plan 630 course website).

I. URBANIZATION AND URD IN ASIA: OVERVIEW OF POLICY ISSUES

**Weeks 1-2 – Development Goals and Urbanization in Asia**

**II. LIVABLE CITIES**

**Week 3 – The Concept of Livable City**

**Week 4 – Poverty as Livelihood, Entitlements, Social Power**
- University of London, SOAS Centre for Development Policy and Research.

**Week 5 – Slums, Housing and the Environment**

**Week 6 – Urban Form and Ecology**


**Week 7 – The Urbanization of Water and Cross-border Water Governance**


**Week 8 – Lifeworlds, Civil Society and the Public Sphere**

• Friedmann, John (2009), “Neighborhood by Neighborhood: Reclaiming Our Cities”.
• The bid-rent curve and urban land use under capitalist private property regimes.

### III. NATIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGIES & GLOBALIZATION

**WEEK 9-10: Rural Regional Development, Industrial Decentralization and National Spatial Strategies**

**Week 9 – Rural-Urban Relations and Rural Regional Development**


**Week 10 – Growth Pole Policy of Concentrated Decentralization**

IV. NATIONAL AND LOCAL EXPERIENCES

Week 11 – Spring Break (March 21-25)

Week 12 – Lessons from the Korean experience

Week 13 – China’s Spatial Transformations

Week 14 – China’s Changing Cities – Public Space, New Towns and Historic Preservation
• Douglass, et al. (2007), Xi’an – Historic Preservation,
• Douglass, Mike (2010), Enclave Urbanism in China in a Global Context – A Review of Literature.

Week 15 – Globalization the City in Southeast Asia

Week 16 – Globalizing the Urban Edge in Southeast Asia

WEEKS 16-17 [April 19-May 3]: Final Discussions and Student Presentations
• Open discussion on what we have learned from the course on April 28.
• Term paper presentations on May 3. Final papers due: May 3, last day of class.