DOSSIER

COURSE ENHANCEMENT GRANT FOR EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING ACTIVITIES

2016 SPRING SEMESTER, URBAN STUDIES DEPARTMENT

URBAN STUDIES COURSES:
SPECIAL PROBLEMS IN ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES (URBST373)
SELECTED TOPICS IN URBAN STUDIES (URBST7603)

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING GOALS, FRAMEWORK, TOOLS, ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

373/7603 FINAL RESEARCH COURSE GOALS:

Develop a Final Research Project to provide students the opportunity to do a research in Urban Sustainability Strategies for the social-ecological systems (Flushing neighborhood and Kissena Creek green corridor). The framework of the research will content an analysis of the social-ecological system, visits, discussions with the local communities, define goals, create strategies and develop a Flushing/Kissena Park Self-reliant Action Plan for 2050. The goal is to promote a new link and future research project for a Strategic Action Plan 2050 between the urban studies department and the local communities of the Kissena Park at Flushing neighborhood.
373/7603 FINAL RESEARCH COURSE METHODOLOGY FRAMEWORK:

**FLUSHING & KISSENA PARK STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2050**
- Creation of an interdisciplinary team
- Concepts & Framework

**DATA/VISIT/MAPPING**
- Analysis of territory & reference elements

**CHALLENGES**
- Definition of critical points & opportunities

**GOALS**
- Goals

**TOPICS**
- ENERGY
- WATER
- WASTE
- FOOD/EDUCATION
- MOBILITY
- PUBLIC SPACE & SOCIAL

**STRATEGIES**
- Strategic Actions

**GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE INDICATORS: CARBON FOOTPRINT**
- Neighbourhood analysis (monitoring)
- Assessment of improvements (evaluation)

**LOCAL SUSTAINABLE INDICATORS:**
- METABOLISM
- SELF-RELIANCE
- MOBILITY

373/7603 FINAL RESEARCH COURSE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN TOOLS:

**ANALYSIS TOOLS**
- SES ANALYSIS EXERCISE
  1. VISIT KISSENA PARK/DISCUSIONS WITH THE KPCA
  2. COMPARISON NYC PLAN 2030/ONE NYC 2050

**MAPPING TOOLS**
- MAPPING
  3. MAPPING CHALLENGES
  4. MAPPING STRATEGIES

**GOVERNANCE TOOLS**
- MULTI-SCALE GOVERNANCE
  5. WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP
  6. MULTI-CRITERIA EVALUATION (SPIDER-GGRID)

**INDICATORS TOOLS**
- SES URBAN SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS ESTIMATION
  7. SELF-RELIANT INDICATORS (ENERGY, WATER, FOOD, WASTE, MATERIALS, MOBILITY, ETC.)
373/7603 FINAL RESEARCH COURSE ACTIVITIES:

1. VISIT KISSENA PARK/DISCUSSIONS WITH THE KPCA
2. COMPARISON NYC PLAN 2030/ONE NYC 2050
3. GIS MAPPING CHALLENGES
4. MAPPING STRATEGIES
5. WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP
6. MULTI-CRITERIA EVALUATION (SPIDER-GRID)
7. SELF-RELIANT INDICATORS (ENERGY, WATER, FOOD, WASTE, MATERIALS, MOBILITY, ETC.)

1. VISIT TOUR KISSENA PARK/DISCUSSIONS WITH THE KPCA

We organize several tours and discussions to the Kissena Lake Park, Kissena Corridor Park and Queens Botanical Garden. Meetings and Discussions with the local agents (Kissena Park Civic Association).

Photo 1: Meeting with the Vice-President of the Kissena Park Civic Association, Carsten Glaeser.
Photo 2: Meeting & Discussion with the Flushing/Kissena Park Local Communities.

Photo 3: Tour with the Vice-President of the Kissena Park Civic Association
2. COMPARISON NYC PLAN 2030/ONE NYC 2050

3. GIS MAPPING CHALLENGES

Photo 5: GIS Mapping Learning session with Lucia Ring, Assistant
4. MAPPING STRATEGIES

Poster 1: Students GIS Mapping for the Flushing/Kissena Challenges

Poster 2: Students GIS Mapping for the Flushing/Kissena Strategies
5. FLUSHING/KISSENA PARK STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 2050 WORLD CAFÉ WORKSHOP

World Café Workshop to analyze Strategies, define strategies and Urban Sustainable Indicators

Photo 6: Students World Café Thinking Workshop  Sustainable Action Plan

Photo 7: Students World Café Thinking Workshop  Sustainable Action Plan
Photo 8: Students World Café Thinking Workshop Sustainable Action Plan

Photo 9: Students World Café Thinking Workshop Sustainable Action Plan
6. MULTI-CRITERIA EVALUATION (SPIDER-GRID)

The students evaluate and grade the Flushing/Kissena Park Sustainable Action Plan Strategies for 2030 and 2050, and created the Strategic Action Plan Vision for 2050.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Energy Building and Infrastructure</th>
<th>Mobility and Competitiveness</th>
<th>Food Production and Organic Waste</th>
<th>Education and Multi-level Governance</th>
<th>Green Space</th>
<th>Water Management</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use solar panels and wind turbines to produce off the grid energy</td>
<td>Created egging system (with 1 stop each stop with 25 busses)</td>
<td>Create a centralized handstand for the community</td>
<td>Have a community heating/cooling meeting to understand the gardening practices and park space uses of the sustainable areas</td>
<td>3 More connecting green spaces</td>
<td>0 installing rain basins to reduce flooding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Use thermal plant to provide energy to local neighborhood</td>
<td>Create tournament ending in the professional track</td>
<td>Plant trees in an organized manner for the landscape</td>
<td>Create signage throughout the park to indicate natural rights and plants throughout the park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Use hydro system in the lake to produce energy</td>
<td>Use all buildings in the area to promote education in a large scale</td>
<td>Bring attention to beautiful areas of the park such as Cherry Blossoms or other flowers that grow during the Spring</td>
<td>Have a public hearing to discuss how individuals would want the signage to be scripted in language that is adhered to them, such as localized terms</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Environmental signage with additional instruction, fruit trees can be watered</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduce green house emission in Kissena Park</td>
<td>Create interactive phone application for the whole Flushing Social ecological system.</td>
<td>Introduce plants that support pollinators such as Buddleja/Buddleia, a known commonly as butterfly bush</td>
<td>Have students from local schools help design the signage</td>
<td>3 addition of trees with larger root systems, more native trees</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Kissena Self-reliant Topics Strategies (Energy, Water, Education, Food, Waste and Mobility)

Table 2: Flushing/Kissena Self-reliant Strategic Action Plan Vision for 2030/2050
7. SELF-RELIANT INDICATORS (ENERGY, WATER, FOOD, WASTE, MATERIALS, MOBILITY, ETC.)

The students estimated the Flushing/Kissena Corridor Park self-reliant Indicators for Energy, Water, Food Production, Organic Waste and Environmental Education (see Final Presentation)

RESULTS

This Spring semester 2016, students from the course Special Problems in Environmental Studies (URBST 373/7603) at Queens College Urban Studies Department prepare a Strategic Action Plan for Flushing/Kissena Park Social-Ecological System in order to analyze, identify challenges and promote sustainable strategies that affect the Flushing community. This proposal is related to promote sustainable ecosystem services such as local food production, environmental education, renewal energies, closed water and waste life cycle, and sustainable mobility.

The students worked in coalition with the Kissena Park Civic Association to create innovative and self-reliant strategies to resolve these issues. The students have created a project for the community that can be implemented and effective to make the Flushing community a greener, healthier, and more resilient place to live for all. On the 18th of May 2016, we organized a Final Research Presentation at the Golwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College Campus with the attendance of Flushing/Kissena Park Local Communities and local Experts from Queens College. Find enclosed the presentation document, pictures and the video recorder of the event.

Photo 10: Students Final Research Presentation to the Local Communities
Photo 11: Students Final Research Presentation to the Local Communities

Photo 12: Students Final Research Presentation to the Local Communities
CREDITS
Final Presentation on May 18th at 5 p.m. at the Godwin Museum at Queens College

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COURSE 7603 MASTER URBAN AFFAIRS STUDENT      Landsdorf, Kate.

LOCAL COMMUNITY AGENTS                        Kissena Park Civic Association
                                                Carsten W. Glaeser MPhil, Ph.D, ASCA
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