Sustainable Cities Course Syllabus

Module 1: The urban opportunity
1.1 The urban opportunity
1.2 Cities: cultural and social transformation
1.3 Challenge of urban politics, planning and governance
1.4 Urban research methods
1.5 Urban theory and history

Module 2: What makes a city function?
2.1 Understanding urban systems
2.2 Municipal, regional and national governance
2.3 Urban utilities
2.4 Urban public finance and taxation
2.5 Law, order and conflict
2.6 Land management and planning
2.7 Lessons from London and Mumbai

Module 3: How can we reduce urban poverty and make cities inclusive and safe?
3.1 What is urban poverty?
3.2 Measuring urban poverty
3.3 Poverty reduction in cities
3.4 Affordable and adequate housing
3.5 Who can deliver the housing we need?
3.6 Safety and violence
3.7 Urban vulnerabilities

Module 4: Making cities productive and reduce inequality
4.1 City production and consumption
4.2 Women in the informal economy
4.3 Migration, mobility and the urban-rural continuum
4.4 Wealth and inequality
4.5 Case: SEWA, India
4.6 Migration and the refugee crisis

Module 5: Improving human development in cities
5.1 Addressing the challenges of urban public health
5.2 Solutions for improving urban health
5.3 Education and skills
5.4 Higher education in cities
5.5 Gender in the city
5.6 Human rights and justice
5.7 Law and equality
5.8 Apartheid in South African cities

Module 6: Providing universal urban services and infrastructure
6.1 Sustainable environmental services and infrastructure
6.2 Sustainable transport planning
6.3 ICT
6.4 Sustainable urban energy systems
6.5 Sustainable transport: Bangkok

Module 7: How can cities be resilient?
7.1 Air, water, food and natural resources
7.2 Urban ag for sustainable cities
7.3 City risk exposure
7.4 Climate impacts, adaptation and mitigation
7.5 Building urban resilience
7.6 Environmental planning and the politics of change
7.7 Sustainable environmental practices: Durban
7.8 Urban disaster risk management
7.9 Post-disaster recovery

Module 8: Governing sustainable cities
8.1 SDGs and other global processes
8.2 New institutions and governance
8.3 Public participation and democracy
8.4 Financing sustainable development
8.5 Measuring and monitoring the SDGs
8.6 Opportunities of secondary cities

Module 9: Implementing change
9.1 Making cities more sustainable
9.2 United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) and urban sustainability
9.3 Urban innovation: community-based organisations and civil society (the case of SDI)
9.4 UN-Habitat and international development and financing agencies
9.5 Implementing urban sustainability
9.6 International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) and urban sustainability
9.7 Local leadership: a case study of Melbourne
9.8 International climate action: A case of Chinese cities