

PLAN435 Planning Thinking and Research: Case Study I



University
of Otago
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Group study of a local or regional planning issue; planning theories, debates, ethics, research design, data collection, analysis and report writing.

PLAN 435 is based on specific case studies of planning issues in urban and/or rural settings. Student groups act as honorary consultants to the client, typically a local authority within New Zealand. Each student group works on a local planning problem or concern identified by the client agency to analyse the issues involved, identify options for addressing these and formulate recommendations for implementation

PAPER STRUCTURE

2x 1 hour sessions per week

Lecture sessions, group study sessions, a week-long field trip and a formal presentation to the client.

Meet once or twice a week with your study group for the duration of the project.

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By the end of the paper, all students in PLAN 435 must demonstrate acquisition of the following:

- Ability to develop a coherent research project in conjunction with an external agency
- Appreciation of the significance of biophysical and socioeconomic interrelationships within environmental systems as a cause of environmental problems and as a consideration in developing planning policies
- Appreciation of the different political, administrative and statutory contexts within which planning takes place
- Communication and networking skills and the ability to work as part of a team
- Independent research and practical planning skills and an ability to carry out a successful research project
- Ability to analyse planning issues and to formulate policy recommendations to address these.



Assessment

The paper is 100% internally assessed, consisting of a group report (80%), a group video (10%) and a formal group presentation (10%).