GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2024-2025

Planning and Transition: Mobility (E086621)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 3.0 **Study time 90 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2024-2025

A (semester 1)	English	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025

Fransen, Koos	TW15	lecturer-in-charge

Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025	**crdts**	**offering**
Master of Science in Civil Engineering	3	A
Master of Science in Urbanism and Spatial Planning	3	A
Exchange Programme Urbanism and Spatial Planning	3	A

Teaching languages

English

Keywords

Sustainable mobility, mobility-related (social) justice, transition management, mobility planning

Position of the course

Transition thinking derives from the idea of developing a current (often rigid and conservative) system into a more sustainable long-term strategy that allows us to steer towards a more desired societal outcome. Our mobility system is a well-known example of such a strong societal challenge with a high complexity, which demands for a new, holistic way of thinking and acting. This course aims to bring a transition lens to the field of mobility planning, in order to 1) zoom out and aid in illustrating and understanding the complex societal systems related to mobility, and 2) zoom in and provide hands-on tools for supporting and intensifying sustainable, systemic change. By doing so, this course builds on the students' prior knowledge in the domains of mobility and spatial planning. Complementary to a more general understanding of mobility planning concepts, students go into more detail and identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats for our current mobility system, critically explore what innovators (can) play a key role in the mobility transition, and bring the domain of mobility beyond its sectoralisation by linking it to other domains such as spatial planning, social or environmental sciences (e.g., the energy transition, aspects of climate change, demographic evolutions, etc.).

Contents

- Transition management: introduction on systems, regimes, landscapes and innovators; examples of system analysis, transition arenas, transition experiments and monitoring of transitions
- Challenges and disruptions: the impacts of challenges and disruptions on the mobility system; (un)desirable futures and the link with scenario planning
- Mobility innovators: introduction into sustainable mobility (e.g., cities for people, living streets, ...); examples of new approaches that challenge the current mobility regime; mobility experiments and their pros and cons; existing and desired mobility data (and the role of citizen science and co-creative experiments)
- Mobility-related justice: power relations and unevenly distributed effects of sustainable mobility transitions; how to combine environmental and social

sustainability (e.g., doughnut economy)
- Holistic approach to mobility: common understandings of sustainable mobility; actors and actor relations through the quadruple helix; desectoralisation of sustainable mobility

Initial competences

Final competences

1 Insights in the general concepts of transition management and, more specifically, the tools available to analyze systemic change, the current regime, the overarching landscapes and possible innovators.
2 An understanding of possible pathways for sustainable mobility transitions, and the ability to analyze actor relationships, conflicts and commonalities, and interdisciplinary causes, effects and (pathways to) solutions.
3 Knowledge on mobility-related justice aspects and the possible diverging goals and outcomes for different perspectives or domains.
4 The ability to critically apply a transition lens to a specific case study, assess its process (ideation, design, implementation) and provide possible (impetus for) pathways for sustainable mobility outcomes.

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

Conditions for exam contract

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture

Study material

None

References

- Sturing in transities: Een raamwerk voor strategiebepaling (Bode et al., 2019 - DUTCH)
- Burger meester boek (, 2012 - DUTCH)
- Een nieuw mobiliteitstijdperk (Langstraat, F. et al., 2014 - DUTCH)
- Succesvolle Mobiliteitstransitie met Adaptieve Reisbegeleiding (TNO, 2020 – DUTCH)
- Reflexieve Monitoring in Actie: Handvatten voor de monitoring van systeeminnovatieprojecten (Mierlo et al., 2010 - DUTCH)
- Sustainability Transitions Research (Avelino et al., 2017)
- Sustainable mobility—challenges for a complex transition (Berger, G. et al., 2014)
- Transition Management in the Urban Context. Guidance manual (Roorda et al., 2014)
- Doughnut economics: seven ways to think like a 21st-century economist (Raworth, 2017)
- Struggling with justice in transitions (Steenbergen et al., 2017)
- Managing the transition to sustainable mobility. System innovation and the transition to sustainability: theory, evidence and policy (Kemp et al., 2004)
- The mobility transition revisited, 1500–1900: what the case of Europe can offer to global history (Lucassen, J., & Lucassen, L., 2009).

Course content-related study coaching

Discuss literature and application

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Oral assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Oral assessment, Assignment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

not applicable

Extra information on the examination methods

- End-of-term evaluation: Oral examination based on presentation and discussion of group assignments and individual papers
- Examination during the second examination period is possible in modified form

Calculation of the examination mark

- Case study analysis (50%)
- Individual reflection (linked to the case study, 50%)