Masterstudio
16 –21 January 2017

The i-City

UNIVERSITY OF AMSTERDAM

Centre for Urban Studies

INFOS

Registration
For up-to-date information and registration,
please visit www.urbanstudies.uva.nl/education

Costs
Institutional Participants:
per day € 200, full seminar € 1000
Private Participants:
per day € 40, full seminar € 200

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The Masterstudio Urban Planning 2016
The i-City is gratefully supported
by the EFL foundation

VAN EESTEREN-FLUCK & VAN LOHUIZEN STICHTING   EFL   PAKHUIS DE ZWIJGER*

Masterstudio Urban Planning

Since 2002 the master's programme Urban and Regional Planning of the University of Amsterdam organizes yearly a course intended for masterstudents, academics and professionals in the field of urban and regional planning, urban sociology, urban design, and city and regional government.

Every year an other current topic – in the front line of disciplinary development – is placed in the centre to discover new insights, to be discussed with domestic and international scientists. These courses have acquired a special place in recent years, particularly within institutions and agencys concerned with the quality of spacial planning in the Netherlands.

It opts mainly a form in which knowledge – high quality and international level – and practice meet, complement and reinforce: a masterstudio where students and professionals learn and work together on a specific issue. Students are thus offered an unique opportunity to deepen and broaden their education. Professionals can refresh their knowledge on an international level.

The course is organized in a studio of one full week consisting of lectures in the morning, and working groups in the afternoon, resulting in policy advices to the City of Amsterdam. Furthermore cases of practice in Amsterdam will be presented in addition to the lectures. The evaluation of the course is conducted also through scientific papers to be written by participating students in the weeks following the masterstudio.

Organisations like research institutes, city departments, consulting firms and urban design offices can purchase participation for several employees on different days.

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The i-City

The Urban Challenges of ICTs

Urbanization and technological innovation have always had a symbiotic relationship. Throughout history, it is possible to trace the genesis and form of any urbanization pattern by looking at the history of technological innovation. Suburbanization with the advent of the car, densification with the invention of lifts for skyscrapers, regional networks with the improvement of railway transportation, and globalization with the advent of real-time communication technologies. Today, the use of computational technologies for the mapping and understanding of urban complex dynamics is widespread.

We see two fundamental evolutions on the type of relation between technology and human action. On the one hand, ICTs are becoming unavoidable, or even driving tools in understanding, mapping and planning cities and regions. Sometimes they are used as 'solutions' to undefined problems. This reflect the emerging idea that urban societies are becoming so complex that it is impossible to design good policies without the support of computational instruments able to process large amount of data, evidences of urban dynamics at all scales, from the local to the global. In this case technology turns to be an instrument at disposal of planning policy processes which can used or even abused. On the other hand, we see a relation of mutual interdependency between the social sphere and the technological sphere. Urban living and social interaction are actively shaped by advancements in communication technologies. Here, it is harder to distinguish between agents and instruments, between institutions and technological innovation, as they both become active factors in urban change. The socio-institutional conformation of cities increasingly rely on the capacity of technological apparatuses to enable interaction, creative innovation, and human engagement. On the other

hand, the change in urban interactive practices also transform technology itself. This phenomena is most evident in the impact that ICTs had already on civic engagement, political activism and interpersonal communication.

In popular discourses these two trends tend to be commonly defined under the elusive and umbrella notions of smart cities, smart urbanism or smart communities. However, the difference between these two phenomena is often overlooked, leading to confusing political strategies which are often too biased towards a blind technological innovation (supply-led) or which instead tend to reject straightforwardly technological innovation focusing on the apparently negative effects of ICTs on human interaction (e.g. privacy issues, social and emotional disengagement, several exclusionary effects such as digital divide). In this sense, the term 'smart' is often inappropriately applied to all examples of applications of ICT tools on any urban dynamic.

The Masterstudio 2017 will work on the political and institutional challenges of the consolidated symbiosis between social collectivities and technological innovation, with a particular look at its socio-spatial expressions.

Main leading questions

—**What kind of urban future can we imagine where socio-institutional practices are symbiotic to technological instruments?**

—**How can technology help to re-organize collective action in cities to address urgent socio-spatial problems?**

Masterstudio Urban Planning

The Masterstudio is organized around five different topics, each providing a specific theme for the series of 5x2 lectures:

The introduction lecture addresses the broad socio-political questions of technological innovation in urban development, urban lifestyles and socio-spatial relations. It provides with an historical overview of the different ways the notion of 'smart city' has been used and a particular critique to the idea of 'city' in the context of technological innovation.

Sharing economy and its spatial effects

The lecture addresses the socio-spatial implications of new forms of economic organization, and the challenges for planning to govern the 'undesirable' effects of these practices. It provides several examples of practices of technology driven sharing.

Technology as Support
or Barrier of Planning City Regions

This lecture focuses on the use of information technologies to organize urban complexity of city regional dynamics. The relationship between urban- regional planning and the historical development of technologies for data gathering or decision support systems are critically addressed.

Masterstudio Urban Planning

Public Space and Virtual Space

The lecture addresses the uses, risks and potentials of new practices of design and place-making through communication and networking technologies. It gives a critical look at the notion of Living Lab or technology supported planning practices.

Technological Society or Social Technology

The lecture critically addresses the conditions to enable the emancipatory value of technologies and that reduce the risk of exclusive and technocratic urban policy making. It provides with cases and examples of how technology has pervasively influenced urban policy making and governance of cities.

Gilles Pinson
Professor at Science Po Bordeaux

Uncovering Smart Cities: A Sociological Critique to Economic Determinism

Most of scientific production about the smart city has been mainly of speculative and normative nature, often opposing technophile, blissful and naïve accounts about how digital technologies could improve urban experience and help urban governments solve problems such as congestion, pollution or crime, on one hand, and technophobic and dystopian visions of the smart city as the realization of the darkest prophecies about ubiquitous surveillance, conversion of urban policymakers to neoliberal creeds, and the rise of a post-political era, on the other. The speculative and normative orientation of the production on the smart city is to a large extent explainable by the absence of in-depth empirical research. The existing studies often share deterministic visions of how digital devices deploy in the cities and the probable outcome of this deployment. More precisely, they share a technological and economic determinism. Technological determinism because they consider that digital devices take the same shapes everywhere and will supposedly produce the same effects; economic determinism because the big corporations that brought the smart city motto to the fore are supposed to be the inevitable winner of the conversion of cities to the digital era. In this presentation, I argue that policy analysis and economic sociology approaches could be very helpful in this kind of research.

Geert Lovink
Institute of Network Cultures
and Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA)

From Social Media to Platform Capitalism

In this lecture I will deal with recent developments in social media analysis and their political implications for society-at-large. I will briefly give an overview of the rise of 'net criticism' post 2008 in the mainstream media landscape and then turn to a few concepts such as 'back box society' and 'platform capitalism'. Using Andrew Culp's toolbox of his book 'Dark Deleuze' we will examine the post-Snowden condition in which the 'techno unconscious' of the networked everyday life makes way to constant breakdown—and revolt—against the neo-liberal consensus of the social media ideology. How can we get rid of the economy of the free and create a sustainable P2P economy that is driven by real existing revenue models for the growing class of precarious (creative) workers.

abstracts

abstracts

Karin Bradley
Assistant Professor at KTH Royal Institute of Technology,
Stockholm

Open Source Urbanism

Within contemporary architecture and urbanism there is marked interest in urban commons. The presentation will explore the creation of temporary urban commons, more specifically what can be called 'open-source urbanism'. Citing two practices, i.e., urban commons initiated by Atelier d'architecture autogérée in Paris and Park(ing) Day initiated by San Francisco-based Rebar, I argue that these practices can be understood as open-source urbanism since their initiators act like open-source programmers, constructing practice manuals to be freely copied, used, developed, and shared, producing self-managed commons. This tradition of 'commoning' is not new, however, it is being reinvented with the use of digital technologies. Combining Elinor Ostrom's analysis of self-managed natural resource commons with Yochai Benkler's assertion that commons-based peer production constitutes a 'third mode of production' — beyond capitalism, social-ism, and their blends — I argue that open-source urbanism critiques both government- and privately led urban development by advancing a form of postcapitalist urbanism.

Koen Frenken
Associate Professor at Utrecht University

The Sharing Economy:
A Case of "Reverse" Technology Assessment

The sharing economy generally has become defined as an economic system based on sharing underused assets or services, for free or for a fee, through peer-to-peer Internet platforms This includes people who lend out or rent out their house, car, parking space, boat, toys, appliances, books, clothes, et cetera as well people offering of personal services such as education, cleaning, taxi, cooking, gardening, etc. There has been a lively public debate about de pros and cons of the sharing economy. What perspective can the field of innovation studies bring to the table? Indeed, the platform-based sharing economy can be considered as an emerging technology and practice. As such, platform-based sharing can be approached from a technology assessment angle. I will sharply define sharing economy, discussing all the (little known) economic, environmental and social impacts and analyzing how these impacts affect different social groups to different extents. I then introduce the notion of "reverse" technology assessment. In a traditional technology assessment, one examines the effectiveness of a technology as well as all its side effects and wider economic, environmental and social impacts. This then helps a normative discussion, preferably as a public debate, which cumulates in regulations to permit market introduction. In the sharing economy, however, this process is actually reversed. Companies first launch a new platform, and then follows regulation, and only hereafter the normative debate and scientific research. Although this kind of reverse technology assessment is not entirely new (think of patients experimenting with drugs for new uses), the scale and pace of this process in the sharing economy is arguably unprecedented. I will illustrate this process using the examples of Airbnb, Airdnd, Helpling, SnappCar and UberPop in The Netherlands. I will discuss the key mechanisms of governance and networking sustaining these practices. meaning of different spaces in the city.

abstracts

abstracts

Simon Marvin
Professor at University of Sheffield

Standardising the City:
Constructing a Universal Platform

The International Standards Organisation (ISO) is currently coordinating the formulation of a new set of international standards on smart cities.   Drawing on the sociology of standards (Timmermans and Epstein, 2010; Lampland and Leigh-Star, 2009), alongside critical literature on the development of standards rules and codes for urban development, the paper tracks the most recent attempt to create 'the standard city'. The paper is critically examines three issues.   First, we show that much of the effort to develop smart city standards is only partially focused on setting the "technical" standards of the interoperability of systems, hardware and software necessary for the implementation of smart cities. Second, instead the focus of standard setting is on three other issues: – a. defining a data ontology for how urban authorities collect and manage data, b. establishing a framework for specifying how urban authorities develop priorities and purposes for smart technologies and c. formulating processes for the specification and purchasing of smart city software products. Third, the paper shows how smart city standards are less concerned with technological standards and instead more focused on developing a standardised and mobile framework of urban governmental control that reconfigures the urban context to make it amenable to the specification, purchase and implementation of software products. We conclude by arguing that the purposes of standards is to actually reconfigure urban contexts to match the technological and commercial presuppositions of software products and thereby establish a universal logic of urban control

abstracts

UvA Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)

Peter Pelzer
Researcher at Utrecht University, Urban Futures Studio

The Support of Planning with Technology:
a Happy Marriage?

The ubiquitous available of technology (data, hardware, software) is often perceived to have a positive influence on the quality of planning. The claim here is that in a smart city, quantitative analysis is facilitated by a plethora of big data, monitoring can be easily done through sensors, and residents can be involved in participation processes through web platforms. In this talk I will unpack and critically scrutinize this claim by answering two interrelated questions: What are the capabilities of technology to support planning? What is 'good' support of planning? Using earlier conceptual frameworks and recent empirical developments, the main argument of the talk will be that technology is increasingly equipped to support urban management (the present), but much less to support urban planning (the future). Or, put more provocatively, support technology might light to an overemphasis on the effective management of cities and thereby neglecting the question that in my view should always be central in urban planning: In what kind of city do we want to live in the future?

abstracts

UvA Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)

Rob Kitchin
Professor at University of Maynooth

Data-Driven Urbanism

For as long as data have been generated about cities various kinds of data-informed urbanism have been occurring. In this paper, I argue that a new era is presently unfolding wherein data-informed urbanism is increasingly being complemented and replaced by data-driven, networked urbanism. Cities are becoming ever more instrumented and networked, their systems interlinked and integrated, and vast troves of big urban data are being generated and used to manage and control urban life in real-time. Data-driven, networked urbanism, I contend, is the key mode of production for what have widely been termed smart cities. In this paper I provide a critical overview of data-driven, networked urbanism and smart cities focusing in particular on the relationship between data and the city, and critically examine a number of urban data issues including: the politics of urban data; data ownership, data control, data coverage and access; data security and data integrity; data protection and privacy, dataveillance, and data uses such as social sorting and anticipatory governance; and technical data issues such as data quality, veracity of data models and data analytics, and data integration and interoperability. I conclude that whilst data-driven, networked urbanism purports to produce a commonsensical, pragmatic, neutral, apolitical, evidence-based form of responsive urban governance, it is nonetheless selective, crafted, flawed, normative and politically-inflected. Consequently, whilst data-driven, networked urbanism provides a set of solutions for urban problems, it does so within limitations and in the service of particular interests.

Michiel de Lange
Assistant Professor at Utrecht University,
co-Founder of 'The Mobile City'

Smart Citizenship in the Data-Driven City

In the last few years numerous consortia of governments, industries and universities have embarked on attempts to make the city smarter by using digital media technologies. Thanks to the availability of large volumes and very diverse datasets the city, it is assumed, can be better controlled and managed. This so-called intelligent data-driven city raises a host of questions about for example the notion of "smartness", about the nature of cities, about the role of urbanites, and about the future of urban design practices. What implicit underlying ideas about cities and urban societies lie at the root of this desire to oversee and manage through data? What can or cannot be known through data about the city? Which interfaces, platforms and practices exist to generate, interpret and manage data, and how these in turn shape urban life? What role can citizens play and what does this ask of policy makers? And how does this shape the making of cities? In this talk we shall explore some of the opportunities and critical aspects of the data-driven smart city.

abstracts

abstracts

abstracts

Anthony Townsend
Bits and Atoms, author of *Smart Cities*

**Digital Master Planning:
An Emerging Strategic Practice in Global Cities**

The 21st century is being shaped by two global trends: the near-total urbanization of the world's population, and the seamless integration of digital information technology throughout the built and manufactured environment. A diverse array of interests are deploying these technologies at an accelerating pace, and a handful of global cities find themselves at the forefront of the convergence of urbanization and computational ubiquity. This lecture will look at an important strategy these cities have developed through the creation of what we call "digital master plans". These plans are attempts to mobilize local stakeholders around visions, goals, and road maps to adapt to these external technological and economic pressures, within local social, economic and political constraints. For this study at NYU's Marron Institute of Urban Management, we surveyed plans from eight cities - New York, Chicago, London, Barcelona, Singapore, Hong Kong, Dublin, and San Francisco, identifying the scope of content addressed in the plans, the process used to develop the plans, and the overall approach to implementation chosen. We find that while there is little convergence of methodology, the plans share a common set of goals: the amplification of existing investments in infrastructure, government services, and economic development through sustained, incremental innovation in digital technology. We identify four strategic approaches for action for cities considering digital master planning: facilitative, learning, systems and interventionist.through these means? Does planning regulation need to change to protect assets of importance for local communities?

Linda Carton
Researcher at Radboud University, Nijmegen

**Citizens Co-Sensing for Planning:
Case of City Nijmegen**

The proliferation of the mobile smartphone, availability of wifi, social media, and big data are signaling a major shift of technology use and related daily habits in our society. Intellectual debate in planning has tended to focus on either promoting or critically dismissing technological advances and the uptake of Planning Support technologies in planning has longtime been regarded as problematic. But since few years, planning support technologies and methods have regained some credits as possible devices for bringing people together, bridging language barriers, clarifying ideas, alternatives and visualizing possible consequences. I will present a research aiming at a deeper understanding of the possible opportunities and limitations in establishing new methods for participatory planning purposes, with a special focus on values of 'green', 'sustainable' or 'healthy' cities. We will discuss the co-creation of a so-called low-cost citizen-sensor-network across the city, in project "Smart Emission". This pilot project aims to enables the monitoring of urban externalities which are normally not accounted for in traditional urban planning but which are valued by inhabitants for the experienced and perceived impact on their well-being and health: air quality and noise. The project has been set up in an 'urban lab experiment' in the city of Nijmegen, to explore and learn about the concept and application of a citizen-sensor-network in a co-creation effort among citizens, civil servants and researchers and experts, as well as two small ICT companies. The developed ICT-based technological infrastructure is meant to form a connection between the fine-grained network of spatially distributed low-cost sensors in hands of citizens, and the existing data infrastructure and government institutions for environmental monitoring and measuring air quality or noise in the city. I will clarify why I consider the monitoring of (invisible) externalities important for both short-term city management and long-term urban planning, lending insights from the discipline of ecological economics.
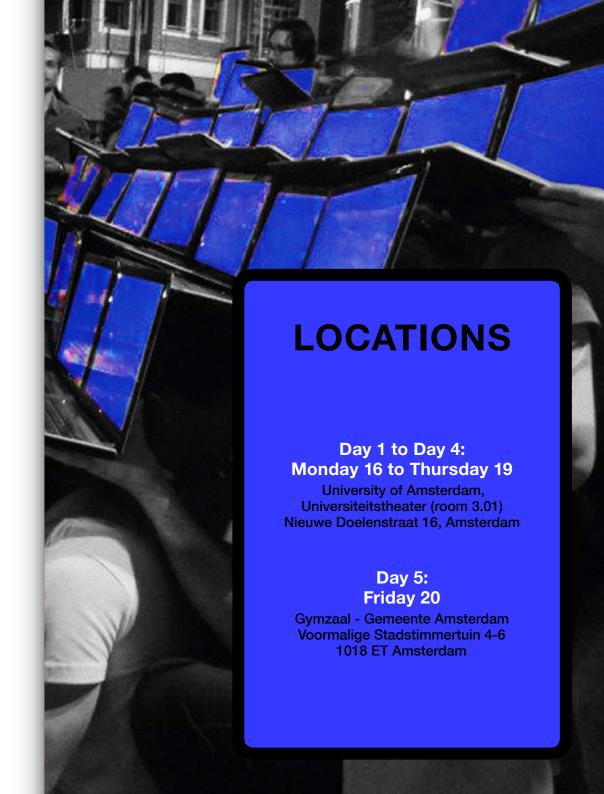
Gemeente Amsterdam (gymzaal)

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note

Each day, one specific case study will be presented. These are examples of current policies, projects or companies involved in the specific theme of the day. On Monday afternoon we will organize an excursion in Amsterdam to visit strategic places to experience the spatial impact of ICTs in the city region of Amsterdam. Participants will be welcome to join.

The evening public debate at Pakhuis de Zwijger is part of the program and will include the following speakers:
— Anthony Townsend
— Simon Marvin
— Ger Baron
— Peter Pelzer
And others...

16–21 January 2017

LOCATIONS

Day 1 to Day 4:
Monday 16 to Thursday 19

University of Amsterdam,
Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)
Nieuwe Doelenstraat 16, Amsterdam

Day 5:
Friday 20

Gymzaal - Gemeente Amsterdam
Voormalige Stadstimmertuin 4-6
1018 ET Amsterdam

Day	Time	Activity	Topics & Location	Speakers
Mon. 16	09.00–12.30	Lectures	**The Critique to the Smart City** *Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)*	**Gilles Pinson**, Professor at Science Po Bordeaux **Geert Lovink**, Institute of Network Cultures and Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (HvA)
	12.30–13.30	Lunch		
	13.30–17.00	Excursion		
Tue. 17	09.00–12.30	Lectures	**Sharing Economy and its Spatial Effects** *Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)*	**Karin Bradley**, Assistant Professor at KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm **Koen Frenken**, Associate Professor at Utrecht University
	12.30–13.30	Lunch		
	13.30–17.00	Workshops		
Wed. 18	09.00–12.30	Lectures	**Technology as Support or Barrier of Planning City Regions** *Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)*	**Simon Marvin**, Professor at University of Sheffield **Peter Pelzer**, Researcher at Utrecht University, Urban Futures Studio
	12.30–13.30	Lunch		
	13.30–17.00	Workshops		
	19.30–22.00	Seminar	**The i-City** *Pakhuis De Zwijger*	Evening debate with **Anthony Townsend, Ger Baron Simon Marvin, Peter Pelzer** and others.
Thu. 19	09.00–12.30	Lectures	**Public Space and Virtual Space** *Universiteitstheater (room 3.01)*	**Rob Kitchin**, Professor at University of Maynooth **Michiel de Lange**, Assistant Professor University of Utrecht
	12.30–13.30	Lunch		
	13.30–17.00	Workshops		
Fri. 20	09.00–12.30	Lectures	**Technological Society of Social Technology** *Gemeente Amsterdam (gymzaal)*	**Anthony Townsend**, Bits and Atoms, author of *Smart Cities* **Linda Carton**, Researcher at Radboud University, Nijmegen
	12.30–13.30	Lunch		
	13.30–17.00	Workshops		
Sat. 21	10.00–12.00	Presentation	Results of workshops Policy advises	