



Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Urban Studies and Planning

MIT METRO LAB INITIATIVE
IAP 2017: 11.902 ROOM: 9-451
Bridging the metropolitan gaps: 9-13 January
Shaping the new metropolitan discipline: 16-20 January

The MIT Metro Lab Initiative is offering a two-week IAP session, sponsored by the MIT-SUTD Collaboration. The course session has two modules, which may be taken together or separately. Each module offers classes in the morning and workshops as well as conferences in the afternoon, based in peer-to-peer learning methods, exchanging experiences with outstanding academics and practitioners from different parts of the world. In the first module, “Bridging the metro gaps”, metropolitan challenges and their potential solutions will be addressed and developed through the discussion of different analytical perspectives. The second module, “Shaping the new metropolitan discipline” will focus on how selecting some aspects from different disciplines and its methods, can help gain a better understanding of the metropolitan phenomenon. As a result, we expect to co-create new approaches to face and teach how to solve metropolitan challenges. Open conferences and pin-up sessions open to the MIT/Harvard communities will be hold.

Objectives of the course

The course general objective is to improve awareness and generate applied knowledge on the metropolitan challenges to ultimately bridge the gap between theory and practice for a better understanding of the metropolitan phenomenon. Thus, the first main objective for the first module is to identify solutions that can help us bridge the metropolitan gaps to some of the metropolitan challenges, from different sectorial perspectives and comparative cases. The main objective for the second module is to discuss further the specificities of the metropolitan phenomenon and its structure. Participants will discuss how new curricula could be shaped in order to contribute to the development of a metropolitan community of practice worldwide.



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Module 1: Bridging the metropolitan gaps

Monday, January 9: Introduction to metropolitan issues

The topic of discussion will be the reasons why metropolitan governance has become one of the main challenges to achieve equitable and sustainable growth of cities. Lessons learned during MIT Metro Lab 2016 “Understanding the Metro Gaps” will be the starting point to this discussion. Participants will choose a topic/case and make a short presentation. We will choose cases in a collaborative manner and teams shall group for the first week. During this discussion we will have the expert guests Pedro B. Ortiz and Matts Anderson.

09:00-10:45	Welcome and introduction: Gabriel Lanfranchi and David Gomez-Alvarez, co-directors MIT Metro Lab
11:00-12:30	Understanding the metropolitan gaps: tools and concepts: Gabriel Lanfranchi
13:30-15:30	Workshop on cases selected by students.
15:30-16:30	Open conference, guest speaker to be confirmed
Readings: The Art of Shaping the Metropolis, Pedro B. Ortiz.	

Tuesday, January 10: Solutions to bridge territorial challenges

Pedro B. Ortiz and Matt Anderson will introduce us to the main problems presented when managing metropolitan territory and space. Introduction to the concepts of “grey infrastructure”, “green infrastructure” and “blue infrastructure”, and examples of successful solutions in metropolitan areas will be discussed.

09:00-10:45	Metropolitan infrastructure: Pedro B. Ortiz
11:00-12:30	Best practices applied in territory organization: Matt Anderson
13:30-15:30	Workshop on cases selected by students. Special guests: Janice Pearlman, Marco Kamiya and Robin Rajack.
15:30-16:30	Open conference, guest speaker to be confirmed
Readings: The Art of Shaping the Metropolis, Pedro B. Ortiz; “Metropolitan governance: the new formal for improving quality of life”, by Mats Anderson, in: Steering the Metropolis	

Wednesday, January 11: Solutions to bridge socio-economic challenges

According to UN Habitat, two thirds of cities around the globe have become more unequal in the last two decades. Despite this, the OECD points that metropolitan areas are the major wealth and



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innovation generators of nations today. Janice Pearlman and Robin Rajack will discuss and seek for solutions to some of these metropolitan challenges.

09:00-10:45	Construction of social capital as a tool to transform the metropolis: Janice Pearlman
11:00-12:30	Land readjustment concept: Instruments to develop lands within metropolitan areas
13:30-15:30	Workshop on applicable case studies.
15:30-16:30	Open conference, guest speaker Marco Kamiya (presents his book).
Readings:	

Thursday, January 12: Transversal linkages to bridge metropolitan gaps

In socio economic and institutional terms, metropolitan solutions require the development of integrated mechanisms of planning, financing and evaluating for the metropolis as whole. Being able to monitor and evaluate metropolitan policies is essential. This validation will attract public and private funds to projects at a metropolitan scale. With guidance from experts Marco Kamiya and Patricia McCartney we will explore which are the instruments that allow us to generate this type of links.

09:00-10:45	Financing metropolitan development: Marco Kamiya
11:00-12:30	Measuring urban performance and quality of life at a metropolitan scale: Patricia McCartney
13:30-15:30	Workshop on applicable case studies in metropolitan metrics: Patricia McCartney.
15:30-16:30	Open conference, Erin Baumgartner, MIT Senseable City Lab
Readings:	

Friday, January 13: Governance solutions for metropolitan areas

Metropolitan governance is a fundamental matter, which varies from metropolis to metropolis, where each metropolitan city has developed its own mechanisms and practices either formal or informal. Victor Vergara, Pedro B. Ortiz and Matt Anderson will illustrate which have been the most successful models and means to generate cooperation mechanisms between cities and municipalities, different government levels, and stakeholders from the metropolitan ecosystem.

09:00-10:45	Metropolitan governance: basic concepts. Why it is hard to reach? Pedro Ortiz and Matt Anderson
11:00-12:30	Featured practices in metropolitan governance: Victor Vergara
13:30-15:30	Final pitch with groups. Jury: Victor Vergara, Pedro B. Ortiz, and Matt Anderson
15:30-16:30	Open conference on metropolitan transportation and mobility, Chris Zegras DUSP MIT
Readings:	



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Module 2: Shaping the new metropolitan discipline

Monday, January 16: Introduction: Why do we need a metropolitan discipline?

Practitioners and academics alike are starting to think about the emergence of a new metropolitan discipline that could respond to the scale and scope of metropolis. With the world becoming more and more urbanized, it seems important to develop an academic corpus of knowledge around the metropolitan phenomenon and to develop the methods and instruments to manage the metropolis.

09:00-10:45	Introduction and presentation of the new discipline. Gabriel Lanfranchi and David Gomez Alvarez.
11:00-12:30	Towards a new metropolitan discipline. Antonella Contin
13:30-15:30	How to shape a new discipline. Arrange into groups. Pedro Ortiz, Victor Vergara, Remy Sietchiping, Francisca Rojas.
15:30-16:30	Open space: participants will present their metropolitan practices.
Readings:	

Tuesday, January 17: Fundamentals of the new discipline

Pedro B. Ortiz and Federico Bervejillo will present substantial arguments to discuss the need for a new metropolitan discipline. We then will open a space to debate the subject amongst participants. To conclude, we will draft a proposal for metropolitan curricula as a base for further courses and research agendas.

09:00-10:45	Fundamentals for a metropolitan curriculum. Pedro Ortiz
11:00-12:30	Theory of metropolitan planning and the new discipline. Federico Bervejillo.
13:30-15:30	Workshop. Francisca Rojas
15:30-16:30	Open conference: guest speaker to be confirmed
Readings:	

Wednesday, January 18: Lessons learned from practice

Remy Sietchiping from the UN Habitat Metro Hub will present cases of metropolitan development in different cases from the perspective of an international organization. Similarly, Francisca Rojas will present the results of a regional metropolitan development project of the Inter American Development Bank. Eduardo Rojas then will conduct the workshop where lessons from practice and cases will be discussed as part of an applied research agenda.



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09:00-10:45	Lessons from DAMI program for the new discipline: Francisca Rojas
11:00-12:30	Lessons from the New Urban Agenda and the UN Habitat Metro Hub. Remy Sietchiping
13:30-15:30	Workshop. Guest: Eduardo Rojas
15:30-16:30	Open conference: guest speaker to be confirmed
Readings: Governing the Metropolis; and Steering the Metropolis.	

Thursday, January 19: Lessons learned from the academia

“A new urban agenda requires a new urban practice”, said Michael Cohen in Habitat III. MIT Metro Lab strongly believes that a new practice requires a new disciplinary corpus. Michael Cohen and Eduardo Rojas will discuss ways in which we can conceptualize and structure the new discipline into an academic program and develop a curricula.

09:00-10:45	New approach from an economic perspective: Michael Cohen
11:00-12:30	New approach from urban planning: Eduardo Rojas
13:30-15:30	Workshop. Conclude proposals from different teams.
15:30-16:30	Open conference: guest speaker Diane Davis, Urban Planning, GSD Harvard University
Readings: “Metropolitan governance and urban economy”, by Michael Cohen, Steering the Metropolis	

Friday, January 20: Results and the metropolitan agenda

After a week of reflections, analyses and discussions, different proposals will be presented, synthesizing the arguments and rationale for shaping a new metropolitan discipline. Teams and instructors will work together and results will be presented in an open panel.

09:00-10:45	Final pitch: group works are presented. Jury: Gabriel Lanfranchi, David Gómez-Alvarez, Pedro B. Ortiz, Antonella Contin, Federico Bervejillo, Remy Sietchiping y Michael Cohen
11:00-12:30	Discussion: Seeking an integrated view of the metropolitan agenda and discipline
13:30-15:30	Workshop: drafting the final document by teams
15:30-16:30	Open debate on the shaping of the new metropolitan discipline and closing remarks
Reading: “Metropolitan Disciplines”, by Antonella Contin and Gabriel Lanfranchi, Steering the Metropolis	



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Instructors:

Gabriel Lanfranchi, MIT Metro Lab | David Gomez-Alvarez, MIT Metro Lab | Pedro B. Ortiz, international senior consultant | Antonella Contin, Politecnico di Milano | Marco Kamiya, UN Habitat | Robin Rajack, Inter American Development Bank | Victor Vergara, World Bank | Francisca Rojas, Inter American Development Bank | Matts Anderson, international consultant | Patricia McCarthy, Toronto University and WCCD | Michael Cohen, New School University | Eduardo Rojas, University of Pennsylvania | Janice Pearlman, Megacities Project | Federico Bervejillo, ORT University | Remy Sietchiping, UN Habitat . In addition to these instructors, the MIT Metro Lab Initiative will be hosting a series of MIT and Harvard guest speakers to be announced.

Readings, assignments and grading

The course is on a pass/fail basis. Participants willing to obtain a certificate of attendance must attend all sessions and submit a final assignment for each module. The course assignment requirements and grading criteria will be announced and distributed the first day of each module.

The course readings will be based on a forthcoming publication:

Steering the Metropolis: Metropolitan Governance for Sustainable Urban Development, UN Habitat, steeringthemetropolis.org. Additional suggested readings:

The Metropolitan Century, OECD, <https://www.oecd.org/regional/regional-policy/The-Metropolitan-Century-Policy-Highlights%20.pdf> and

Governing and Financing Cities in the Development World, Lincoln Institute, [http://www.lincolninst.edu/publications/policy-focus-reports/governing-financing-cities-developing-](http://www.lincolninst.edu/publications/policy-focus-reports/governing-financing-cities-developing-world)

[world](http://www.lincolninst.edu/publications/policy-focus-reports/governing-financing-cities-developing-world) Each instructor might suggest further readings that will be distributed to participants in advance.

Schedule

It is expected from all participants to be on time and attend all sessions regardless the certificate of attendance. The course is from 9 am to 430 pm and there will be one hour break for lunch. The sessions will be in room 9-451 at the Samuel Tak Lee building. Module one: "Bridging the metro



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gaps”: Monday, January 9th to Friday, January 13th. Module two: “Shaping of a new metropolitan discipline”: Monday, January 16th to Friday, January 20th.

Prerequisites and requirements

This non-credit IAP activity is targeted to students and practitioners focusing on public policy; urban management; planning, urban design and architecture; international development; transportation; housing; land use and urban law; environment and climate change. MIT Students who participate may seek 3 units of credit as an independent study. See: <https://dusp.mit.edu/subject/iap-2017-11902>

Applications:

Applicants must fulfill the following form: <https://goo.gl/forms/t72CY9cMQr1IYTGH1> and submit their resume (CV) to: metrolab.initiative@mit.edu Application deadline is on November, Wednesday 30th at 11:59pm EST. Results will be announced by December, Monday 5th. Further information contact: Gabriel Lanfranchi, SPURS Fellow 2015 and MIT Metro Lab co-director gl_urban@mit.edu or David Gomez Alvarez SPURS Fellow 2017 and MIT Metro Lab co-director gomezalv@mit.edu

Academic integrity

Plagiarism and cheating are not accepted. Never turn in an assignment that is not your own original work, or turn in an assignment for this class that you previously turned in for another class. Anyone caught cheating on an assignment will be reported, to the provost in line with recognized university procedures. This may result in a failing grade for the course. MIT policy on Academic Integrity: <http://web.mit.edu/academicintegrity/>.