

Open Spaces in Cities

Workshop under GIAN Initiative conducted by School of Planning and Architecture, Bhopal



Overview

Cities across the world are dealing with increasing populations which is often accompanied by social, economic and environmental changes and pressures. Increasing densities can influence the morphology of new buildings and result in loss of open spaces. Yet open spaces provide many benefits in cities across the world: some of these benefits are generic while others may be specific to country, culture and climate. It is vital that the importance of open spaces is not forgotten and lost as cities change to face increasing populations, and in some cases migration and as time goes on climate change. In addition open spaces, providing the benefits, can exist in different forms some as a result of historic contexts and some as a response to new development. The course will explore some of these issues from a British perspective before moving on to consider the situation in Indian cities. The course will include lectures, tutorials, group work with a site visit and discussion providing participants opportunities to interact with each other as well as Prof Woolley.

Objectives

The main objectives of the course are as follows:

The primary objectives of the course are to:

- i) Introduce participants to the benefits of open spaces in cities,
- ii) Introduce participants to the different types of open spaces that can exist in cities,
- iii) Provide the opportunity for participants to understand some of the open spaces in their city,
- iv) Provide an opportunity to reflect on relevant issues in the context of Indian cities,
- v) Enhance the capability of the participants to be an advocate for open spaces in cities.

Module A: Open Spaces in Cities

Lecture 1: Benefits of Open Spaces: This will explain and explore the reasons that open spaces are important in cities. It will draw upon the book *Urban Open Spaces* written by Prof Woolley.

Lecture 2: Types of Open Spaces: This will explain and explore the different types of open spaces that exist in cities. It will draw upon the book *Urban Open Spaces* written by Prof Woolley.

Tutorial 1: Introducing Group and Site Work: Students will be chosen, or be allocated, into groups. The number of groups and the number in each group will depend upon the number of participants in the course. Following a group discussion about the types of open spaces in their city each group will be allocated, or choose, an open space to study. Participants will prepare for a site visit where they will look at the physical context and the social use of the area. Students will prepare for activities on site including sketching, take photographs, make notes and undertake observations of who is using each space and how those people are using each open space.

Module B: Understanding an Open Space in Our City

Visiting and understanding an open space: For this session students will visit, in their group, their allocated or chosen open space where they will seek to understand something of the historic, physical, social and cultural context of the open space.

Students will support their learning by the use of sketches, taking photographs, making notes. They will undertake informal observations of who is using each space and how those people are using each open space.

Module C: Exploring the needs of Different Users of Open Spaces

Lecture 3: Children, Young People and Open Spaces: This lecture will explore some of the issues about provision of open space for children and young people. It will be given from an English perspective, explaining how it is often the situation that the provision does not meet the (play) needs of children and young people. This will address issues of both the design and management of some open spaces in cities.

Lecture 4: Older People and Disabled People and Open Spaces

This lecture will explore some of the issues about the way that older people and disabled people are provided for and supported to use open spaces in cities. This will address some of the barriers that older people and disabled people experience in their use of open spaces in cities.

Tutorial 2: People and Open Spaces in India

In their groups participants will:
reflect on their own, their families and friends use of open spaces.

Module D: Class tutorial

Each group will report key issues identified from the previous day for a class discussion.

Lecture 5: Found Spaces: This lecture will introduce the concept of found space discussing the origins and contemporary use of the term.

Lecture 6: The Importance of a Network of Open Spaces in a City: This lecture will explore the importance of a network of open spaces in a city combined from the individual open spaces of different types, re-emphasising the benefits that this can bring to any city.

Module E: Knowledge Sharing Workshop

Each group will undertake a short presentation to explain their learning from their site visit, lectures and group discussions. The presentation will include some conceptual suggestions for improving the open space they have studied.

Modules	<p>A: Open Spaces in Cities B. Understanding an Open Space in Our City C: Exploring the needs of Different Users of Open Spaces D: Class tutorial; E: Knowledge sharing</p> <p>Dates : 8thDec2016 – 12thDec 2016 Last date of Registration: 7th December 2016 Number of participants for the course will be limited to forty.</p>																							
Who can attend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Landscape Architects, Architects, planners, Open Space Designers and Managers in National and local government and private practice. ▪ Student at all levels from undergraduate to postgraduate, Masters and PhD and Faculty from related academic areas. 																							
Fees	<p>The participation fees for taking the course is as follows: Participants from abroad : US \$300</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">S No</th> <th style="width: 60%;">Registration category</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Professional with accommodation</td> <td>Rs5000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>Professionals without accommodation</td> <td>Rs3000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>Students with accommodation</td> <td>Rs2000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>Students without accommodation</td> <td>Rs1000/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>Students of SPA, Bhopal</td> <td>Rs200/-</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>Students from other academic institutions of Bhopal</td> <td>Rs500/-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The above fee include all instructional materials, computer use for tutorials and assignments, laboratory equipment usage charges, 24 hr free internet facility.</p>			S No	Registration category	Amount	1	Professional with accommodation	Rs5000/-	2	Professionals without accommodation	Rs3000/-	3	Students with accommodation	Rs2000/-	4	Students without accommodation	Rs1000/-	5	Students of SPA, Bhopal	Rs200/-	6	Students from other academic institutions of Bhopal	Rs500/-
S No	Registration category	Amount																						
1	Professional with accommodation	Rs5000/-																						
2	Professionals without accommodation	Rs3000/-																						
3	Students with accommodation	Rs2000/-																						
4	Students without accommodation	Rs1000/-																						
5	Students of SPA, Bhopal	Rs200/-																						
6	Students from other academic institutions of Bhopal	Rs500/-																						

The Faculty



Prof. Helen Woolley is a Chartered Landscape Architect and specialist in Landscape Architecture and Society and has been a member of the Landscape Institute Council. She is a longstanding Faculty member in The Department of Landscape at The University of Sheffield in England which has an excellent reputation for both research and teaching. Prof Woolley was a CABE Space Advisor, being one of the first 15 and only academic in the country in this role. In this consultancy role she worked with many local authorities across the county to support them in the development of green and open space strategies, play strategies and training between 2003 and 2011.

Prof Woolley has undertaken a wide range of research relating to open spaces in cities. Some of this has been funded by national government departments and national organisations. This research has related to the strategic importance of open spaces and fed into national government policy and the establishment and ongoing direction of CABE Space, who were the government's advisor on public open spaces between 2003 and 2011. She has also worked with a range of national organisations including Natural England and Groundwork.

Prof Woolley has a long standing interest in people and open spaces with a special focus on children, young people and disabled people and this is reflected in many of her academic publications and book chapters. Her research in this area has been funded by research councils and charities, while some of it has been unfunded and developed with students. In particular Prof Woolley has explored issues around young people and town centres, skateboarders' use of public open spaces and how this is influenced by policy and society, the inclusion of disabled children in primary school playgrounds and the approach taken to the provision of outdoor play spaces. Prof Woolley has also worked with a wide range of non-academic partners including play equipment companies, local authority staff, charities and social housing providers. Following the triple disaster of earthquake, tsunami and nuclear power plant failure Prof Woolley was invited and received funding to visit and understand the situation with respect to children's outdoor play provision in the post-disaster context in north-east Japan. She is currently building on this research by working with the International Play Association to understand more about the provision and opportunities for children's play in crisis situations of both natural and man-made disasters. Helen is a Visiting Professor at Haerbin Institute of Technology and has also taught in China at Sichuan University in Chengdu and Nanjing Normal University together with Chiba University in Japan.



Sonal Tiwari is a Landscape Architect and Assistant Professor at the School of Planning and Architecture Bhopal, an MHRD institution with an excellent reputation for both research and teaching. She has worked on conservation of Natural heritage sites and has presented her work internationally at various forums. She is a member of National and International bodies of Landscape Architects. Sonal specialises in biodiversity assessment and planning and has worked as a consultant for numerous landscape projects. Her present research area is *Conservation of Riparian zones of River Narmada*.

Course Co-ordinator

Sonal Tiwari
Assistant Professor
School of Planning and architecture, Bhopal

Phone: +91-9993049068
E-mail: sonal@spabhopal.ac.in

.....
<http://www.gjan.iitkgp.ac.in>