Spring 2022: Rethinking Human Settlements from a Resilience Perspective after COVID-19: Introduction (TFRG80)



In the context of urbanization and globalization, people and cities are highly connected and dependent from each other socially, spatially and economically. Poorly managed human settlements with high population density, inadequate housing conditions, overcrowded modes of public transport and lack of open urban space, among other factors, have been related to the vulnerability of cities to coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), which causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

The global COVID-19 pandemic has affected the most vulnerable such as the elderly, the sick, migrants and the urban poor. Most humans spend more than 90% of their daily lives in different types of built environment and many even commuting between cities, whereas mandatory stay-at-home regulations have shifted the importance towards the own dwelling space, the neighbourhood and the virtual space.

People's appropriation and adaptation of housing space for self-care, work and study have been among coping responses during the pandemic. The latter has made explicit that we should rethink our practices of inhabiting, sharing and being involved in our communities and human settlements to be able to face future crisis.

How should future human settlements be planned, built and managed to prevent similar future situations – such as other pandemics or crisis?

About the course

The course "Rethinking Human Settlements from a Resilience Perspective after COVID-19, part 1: Introduction" introduces the relationship between people and the built environment from a health and urban resilience perspective.

The course aims to give participants knowledge regarding housing and neighbourhood qualities building on the experience from the COVID-19 pandemic. It stresses the importance of open urban space, equality and urban resilience when improving or planning future human settlements. The course seeks to provide an understanding of coping responses to the pandemic in people's everyday life regarding the use of the built environment in different types of contexts.

The course further aims to develop participants understanding of systems thinking for analysing pre-pandemic vulnerabilities related to the built environment. It consists of two modules:

- People's living conditions, pandemics and international frameworks
- The Built Environment, COVID-19 and coping responses

Course assessment

For a passing grade, active study of lectures, as well as participation in seminars, tutorials and final reviews are required, together with submission of exercises and an approved final essay.

Modality

The course is 100 percent e-learning, which means that participants and teachers interact asynchronously through a web-based tool (Canvas) where course material and lectures will be made available to participants on a weekly basis.

Online lectures are scheduled on Thursdays from 16.00–18.00 UTC +1 (from week 9 to week 18) for participants that can join in real time and will be recorded and uploaded afterwards to Canvas. Voluntary question time and discussion will be offered on Mondays from 8.00–9.00. On weeks 13 and 14, additional online lectures will be scheduled on Mondays from 8.00–10.00. Participants will focus on working with their final individual assignment during weeks 19, 20 and 21.

Participants would require dedicating around 14.5 hours per week for lectures, self-study and assignments.

Compulsory synchronous digital meetings where participants and teachers meet digitally are scheduled four times during the 14 weeks: at the beginning of the course (28 February, 8.00-9.45), two individual 25 minutes tutorials (31 March and 12 May) and a final half-day seminar to present your final assignment (30 May).

The course includes mostly individual work but also group work to stimulate exchange of experience from different contexts.

Admission requirements

Bachelor degree in:

- Architecture
- Community Building
- Disaster Management
- Human Geography
- Humanitarian Aid and Development
- Land Surveying
- ...or equivalent.

- Landscape Architecture
- Spatial Planning
- Urban Design
- Urban Management
- Urban Studies

English level: advanced level in the four skills (reading, writing papers, listening and speaking).

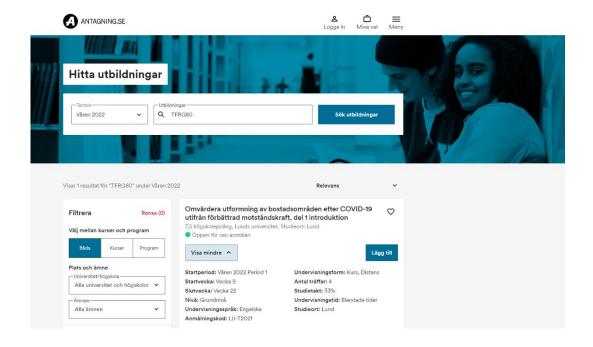
Application process

Applications should be done through the following link: https://www.antagning.se/

- 1. If you do not have a Swedish personal number, you need to create an account using your email. For confirming your identity "Antagning" will send an activation code to the address you have registered when creating your account. Please consider that these steps might take between one or two weeks according to your country of residence.
- 2. After you have activated your account, select "Termin: Våren 2022" and write the course code under "Utbildningar: TFRG80", then click "Sök utbildningar"
- 3. The system will direct you to the course information in Swedish "Omvärdera utformning av bostadsområden efter COVID-19 utifrån förbättrad motståndskraft, del 1 introduktion". Select "Lägg till"
- 4. Go to "Mina val" and select "påbörja anmälan". Under *My chosen educations*, select *Start registration*. You can use Google translator to follow these instructions in English.
- 5. Upload copy of your passport, certification of English skills (IELTS or TOEFL) and academic degree to prove that you are eligible for the course.

Non-Swedish speakers, who are in need of assistance while applying to the course, are welcome to contact Ivette Arroyo at any stage of the application process via a message through **WhatsApp**: +46739927678 or E-mail: ivette.arroyo@abm.lth.se

For other questions about the course, please contact Laura Liuke: E-mail: laura.liuke@abm.lth.se



Practical Information

Course Code

TFRG80

Credits

7.5 hec

Modality

Distance course (online) during 14 weeks.

Dedication

14.5 hours per week

Closing date for late application

20 February 2022

Course start 28 February 2022

Course end 2 June 2022

Tuition Fees

Free for EU/EEA citizens

Non-EU/EEA citizens: Application fee: SEK 900. Course fee: SEK 18 125 (equivalent to circa €1 800) paid in full before the course start.

Course coordinators

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Organized by:

Housing Development & Management

Department of Architecture and the Built Environment

Lund University, SWEDEN



Testimonials from participants -year 2021

The greatest thing that I have taken from the "Rethinking Human Settlements from a Resilience Perspective after COVID-19" course is how I now view resilience in housing and our cities more broadly. Too often as urban designers, we can be stuck thinking of resilience in housing as simply a matter of the physical and programmatic. This course has really given me an insight into the broader systems that enable resilience in our cities, and the various ways in which we can strive to achieve social integration, adaptability, diversity and dynamism through our built form, tenure models, as well as policy and beyond.

My advice for future participants in this course is to make an effort to attend the online lectures and join in the discussions. There are guest lecturers from all over the world who share their insights directly from the places which they are talking about, and it is a really enriching experience to be able to have such a diverse global perspective about really globally relevant and topical issues.

Adam Wojcik, Urban Planner, University of Melbourne, Australia Graduate of the Master of Sustainable Urban Design, Lund University, Sweden

This course brought to discussion the COVID-19 pandemic, a crisis that we have lived and experienced ourselves, and I was curious about how I would be able to help. Understanding a health crisis through architectural and urban lenses was a very important and practical lesson to learn. The idea that everything and everyone is connected took a different and more tangible meaning. I have learned that quality spaces, specific building typologies and a good urban planning, with various users in mind, can save lives and are key to mental and physical health.

Participate actively during all sessions in order to learn as much as possible from it! The international character of the course and the difference of participants' background is definitely a good reason to take part in it. We had the chance to analyze a wide range of topics unknown for many of us, through discussing these topics with participants working or studying in various fields of knowledge.

Claudia Iovita, Architect, Technical University of Moldova, Moldova Student at the Master of Architecture, Lund University, Sweden

Collaboration after the course

Some course participants of the 2021 course continued working further on their final assignments after the course in collaboration with an early career scholar. The following draft chapter submissions have been accepted for inclusion in the upcoming book **The Future of Architecture and Urbanism in the Post-COVID Age**.

"Future student housing in the Pandemic Era: Lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic in Lund, Sweden", authored by Adam Wojcik and Ivette Arroyo

"Addressing Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic: The Case of Chisinau, Republic of Moldova" authored by Claudia Iovita and Ivette Arroyo

This book is currently being considered for the Routledge book series, *Health and the Built Environment*. Co-editors: Celen Pasalar, Ph.D. and George Hallowell, Ph.D., College of Design, North Carolina State University.