Course Objective

Strategic Spatial Planning, born in the Western World, has received widespread acceptance both in developed and developing countries for some 20 years. Although it has universal/general principles, it is also contingent: This approach is interpreted differently within different planning systems. The course aims at elaborating how the changing world conditions led to the revival of the strategic spatial planning, what general principles it has (planning process and plan), and how these general principles are interpreted in different localities. At the end of the semester, students are expected to familiarize with this contemporary and increasingly widespread approach, learn its constant characteristics, and acknowledge its different interpretation in different planning contexts.

Weekly Program

1: The changing world conditions that brought about the Strategic Spatial Planning approach
   - Changing circumstances created by the global capitalism:
   - New mode of capital accumulation and advanced technologies
   - Network society

2: The Emerging Communicative Rationality Paradigm
   - Modernism’s crisis on rationality and penetration of post-modern thinking into the sphere of spatial planning
   - Paradigm and paradigm shift
   - Communicative rationality paradigm vs. Instrumental rationality paradigm

3: The new phenomena and problems that urban areas encounter
   - Interurban competition
   - Entrepreneurial urban management

4: The new phenomena and problems that urban areas encounter
   - Environmental agenda
   - Sustainable urban development
   - Increasing logic of horizontal interaction of local actors in urban decision making processes
5: The theory of Strategic Spatial Planning
- Revival of the strategic spatial planning
- Definitions of the strategic spatial planning
- New policy agendas and inter-institutional relations
- How strategic spatial plans serve as general frameworks for land-use plans

6: The organization of the strategic spatial planning process
- Communicative rationality in decision making
- Actors involved in the planning process
- Interaction of actors

7: The new techniques introduced with the strategic spatial planning
- Action orientation of the strategic spatial planning
- SWOT Analysis
- Vision formulation
- Strategy Making
- Project prioritization

8: Turkish Planning System vis-a-vis the Strategic Spatial Planning
- Where strategic spatial planning stands in the planning hierarchy
- Current strategic planning practices

9: Practical Examples
- Illustration of the above context within practical examples across the world
- Assignment of a practical case to each student to be presented in the coming weeks

10-13: Presentation of the practical examples
- How the strategic spatial planning process is organized (together with actors involved)
- What is the content of the plan produced
- To what extent it has been implemented
- Nation-specific and local-specific factors that shape the strategic spatial planning case

14: General evaluation