SYLLABUS, SPRING 2014
UP 455: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Tuesday / Thursday, 3:00-4:50 P.M. Room 223, Temple Buell Hall
Instructor: Craig Rost rostcr@uiuc.edu
Phone: 493-5773 (leave message)
Office Hours: By Appointment

**Introduction:** This course is designed to be an urban economic development workshop, with a limited amount of classroom instruction and a focus on development of solutions to real urban economic development and planning challenges. The course is designed for planning, architecture and landscape architecture students with coursework and experience in planning, design and data analysis, or students of other disciplines by permission of the instructor. The knowledge level and responsibility required for the course is intended for graduate students and upper-level undergraduates. Others may be accepted by the instructor. The purpose of the course is to provide an opportunity to apply planning and urban development tools and principles in a multi-discipline team environment.

**Content:** The course is project-based, focusing on a specific local urban economic development or redevelopement challenge. The projects this year will be a mix of urban design, policy and development projects, suggested by the instructor and chosen by work groups of 3-5 students. Students will work in teams to prepare a problem statement, identify key issues and forces, explore design and planning policy options and develop a proposed solution. The makeup of the teams and their assignments will be worked out in the first two weeks of class. One of the first activities will be to develop a schedule of responsibilities and due dates. The final product and deliverables for each project will be determined by the student group and instructor.

**Grading and Expectations:** The course meets from 3 to 4:50 every Tuesday and Thursday. Students are expected to attend both classes each week, the instructor will attend most Tuesdays and some Thursdays to provide guidance and background information to the groups as they work on the project. A more detailed calendar of events and class meeting times will be worked out as the project planning takes place. This 4 hour course will require an equivalent amount of time each week for the students meeting as a group or smaller work groups and documentation of that time. Additional time outside of class and in the field will be required to successfully complete the project. An interim solution and work progress will be graded mid-term (30%) and the final written and oral presentation will be 50% - with a 20% grade for each student based on attendance, contribution to the solution and class involvement. Success in this class will require regular attendance, the discipline of time management and ability to work in groups.

**Instructor:** The course instructor has an education and background in both urban planning and landscape architecture and over 30 years experience in policy development and urban planning.