Overview
Community, Environment and Planning is an innovative undergraduate major at the University of Washington that seeks to promote active learning and student participation in the learning process. This course is an introduction to the three themes, Community, Environment, and Planning and to the major. We will examine the three topics from a range of perspectives including personal, local, state/regional, national, and international -- through readings and class discussion, field exploration and speakers.
Throughout the quarter, a major emphasis will be placed on examining how communities are created and defined, and the role of the natural and built environment in shaping our culture and communities. While there are no exams in this course, there are 3 essays and short written assignments on the readings.

Role of Service-Learning in the Course
This course combines classroom exploration with experiential service learning which will provide a sense of values, methods, and issues as they relate to Community, Environment, and Planning. Each student will participate in a service-learning project (with a 20 hour minimum requirement), selected from options available through the UW's Carlson Center. Our overall goal is to develop a community of learners inside and outside the classroom.

Assignments Related to Service-Learning
Students will focus on how community, environment, and planning affect or are reflected in their service learning organizations and tasks. Students will be assigned to a small group to complete a project that will include research on service learning organizations and their relationships to community, environment and planning. The project will include a presentation to the full class and a written report. Each student will also give a brief presentation to the class highlighting their service learning experience.