Purpose:
This quarter we’re going to be learning about how cities are formed, or more simply, why cities look the way they do. The purpose of this first exercise is to get you to look at cities more closely, to notice differences between one part of the city and another, and to think about what might explain these differences. A list of the terms used by planners for the things you’ll be seeing on your tour is attached.

Activities:
You are going to take a bike ride through Davis, stopping in different locations to look around. I’m assuming that most of you live in Davis and have access to a bicycle. For those of you who don’t, here are the options:
- Borrow a bike from a friend.
- Rent a bike at the Bike Barn or one of the downtown shops.
- Take the tour by foot and by bus and do at least Sections 1-3, below.
- Talk to me about the possibility of doing the exercise in another city, if Davis really won’t work for you.

Follow the following directions. For each section of the tour, stop and jot down some notes in answer to the questions. Make some sketches if you’d like, or take pictures of things that catch your notice. Be sure to bike safely, and bring water. (I don’t suppose I can convince you all to wear helmets.) Don’t forget a notebook and pen or pencil. In each place, think about the questions listed, and also make note of what you see by way of people and activity.

Here’s a link to the wonderful Davis Bike Map: [http://police.ucdavis.edu/docs/bikemap.pdf](http://police.ucdavis.edu/docs/bikemap.pdf). You can also pick up copies at the Bike Barn and other locations in town. I’ve also posted a map of the route (made using Google Maps) on the class website.

0. Davis Commons and Aggie Village...

0.A. Start at Davis Commons, on the southwest corner of First and E Streets, home to the Gap, Habit Burger, etc.
   What land uses are found here?
   What is “public space” and what is “private space”?
   What is the relationship between this development and downtown?

0.B. Bike west to Aggie Village, the small residential area next Davis Commons, on the southside of First Street.
   When do you think Aggie Village was built?
   What kind of housing do you find here?
   How would you describe the houses?
   How would you describe the streets?
1. Downtown...
1.A. Start at the corner of 3rd and C: Look at the four corners.
   - **What land use is on each?** Look for an example of “mixed-use” and “adaptive re-use.”
   - What is “public space” and what is “private space”? 
   - When do you think each corner was developed?
   - What do you think was there before the current use?

1.B. Head east on 3rd to G, then go north to the corner of 4th and G. Look at the four corners.
   - **What land use is on each?** Look for examples of “mixed-use” and “adaptive re-use.”
   - When do you think each corner was developed, and what was there before?
   - **What do you think happened on the southwest block, where Jack-in-the-Box is?**

1.C. Go east on 4th Street to K Street, south to 3rd, turn right back to downtown. Look around as you go, including up and down the cross streets.
   - **What are the different kinds of housing you observe in this area?** Look for “single-family” and “multi-family” housing and different types of each.
   - **How do you think this area evolved?**

2. Old North Davis...
   Take 3rd back to B, north on B, right on 6th, left on D, left on 7th, back to B.
   - **What kind of housing do you find here?**
   - **How would you describe the houses?**
   - **How would you describe the streets?**
   - **Look for the alleys – how do they affect the character of the neighborhood?**

3. Central Davis...
   North on B, left on 8th, right on Eureka, left on Antioch (past my favorite house in Davis – see if you can spot it), across Oak, right on Redwood, left on Reed, north to Villanova.
   - **What’s different about the houses and streets in this area?**

4. West Davis...

4.A. Left on Villanova (watch for cars), head west. Now you’re on the Davis Bike Loop and can follow the green pavement markings. When you get to Sycamore, turn left and then immediately turn right to get on the bike path to head over the bike bridge into West Davis. On the other side of the bridge, jog right (now you’re off the Loop), then left on one of the first few streets and see if you can find your way through to Shasta Drive.
   - **How do the houses and streets compare to Central Davis?**

4.B. West on Shasta to El Capitan, right on El Capitan, then quick right onto Tahoe Place. At the end of the cul-de-sac, get on the bike path and turn left. Follow the bike path north and follow it around until it comes out on Olympic. Cross Olympic and turn left on the path at the Glacier Drive sign. Go through the tunnel under Shasta, past the school, until you dead-end at another bike path. Turn right.
   - **What do you notice about the area you just biked through?**
   - **When do you think it was built?**

4.C. Right on the bike path behind the school until it gets to Shasta. Now you’re back on the Loop and can follow the green pavement markings again. At Shasta, turn left, cross Arlington to the bike path,
turn right, then take the first bike path left. This puts you into the famous Village Homes development. Wander south through here, turning off the main bike path now and then, until you get to the south end of Village Homes and Russell Boulevard.

- What’s so special about Village Homes?
- How does Village Homes compare to Aggie Village?

5. Back to Campus...
Cross Russell very carefully and follow the bike path back to campus, turning right on the path towards West Village. Find the central “green” in West Village. Stop here and reflect on your ride:

- Well, what do you think?
- What was new or especially interesting to you?
- What did you like? What did you not like?
- How does West Village compare to what you saw elsewhere in Davis?

To submit:
A two-page memo that summarizes your observations and thoughts for each of the sections of the tour. Do not go over two pages of writing, but include photos or drawings beyond the two-pages if you’d like. We’re looking for evidence that you took the exercise seriously and really thought about what you were seeing. The exercise will be graded on a check, plus, minus basis. **Upload your memo in SmartSite by noon on Tuesday, 4/5.**
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning Terms – Things to look for during your bike tour</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adaptive re-use</td>
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<td>Cul-de-sac</td>
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<td>Lot size</td>
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