Neighborhood Planning and New Urbanism Design Course

7 – 11 December 2026
Abu Dhabi

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Ref: 970_173977 **Date:** 7 – 11 December 2026 **Location:** Abu Dhabi **Fees:** 4700 Euro

Overview

Neighborhood Planning and New Urbanism Design Course is a 1-week advanced course for urban planners, architects, real estate development teams, municipal design teams, and place-making professionals who leave with a Neighborhood Planning and Urban Design Brief. Participants compare garden suburbs, planned seaside communities, and New Urbanism through street networks, blocks, mixed uses, public spaces, housing, heritage, governance, climate response, and implementation choices. Agile Leaders Training Center delivers this course on neighborhood planning and New Urbanism.

Who Should Attend

- Teams responsible for neighborhood plans and urban design frameworks.
- Functions responsible for real estate development and community briefs.
- Professionals responsible for streets, public spaces, and mobility integration.
- Teams responsible for urban heritage and planned-community conservation.
- Decision-makers responsible for development governance and design review.

The course assumes participants contribute to planning, design, development, or place management and leaves out introductory drafting and building-level architectural detailing.

Departments and Industries

The course supports neighborhood planning across public planning, real estate, housing, tourism, heritage, and infrastructure development.

- Urban planning and municipal design
- Architecture and landscape architecture
- Real estate and housing development
- Transport, streets, and public-realm design
- Heritage conservation, tourism, and place management

Learning Objectives

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Analyze garden suburb, seaside, and New Urbanism precedents.
- Compare street, block, lot, use, and open-space structures.
- Apply walkability, mixed-use, and public-realm principles.
- Evaluate heritage, climate, governance, and implementation constraints.
- Build a neighborhood character and connectivity framework.
- Develop a Neighborhood Planning and Urban Design Brief.

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Course Agenda

Day 1: Garden Suburb Precedents

- Garden City and Garden Suburb Lineage Map
- Sunnyside Gardens Spatial Pattern Analysis
- Superblock, Courtyard, and Shared Open-Space Diagram
- Housing Type and Community Structure Matrix
- Historic Planned-Community Governance Review

Day 2: Seaside and New Urbanism

- Seaside Regulating Plan Reading Method
- Charter of the New Urbanism Principle Map
- Neighborhood Center and Edge Structure
- Mixed-Use and Building-Type Transect
- Traditional Neighborhood Development Comparison Grid

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Day 3: Streets and Public Realm

- Connected Street Network Assessment
- Walkable Catchment and Daily-Needs Map
- Street Enclosure and Frontage Analysis
- Public Space Hierarchy and Civic Anchor Plan
- Transit, Parking, and Pedestrian Integration Matrix

Day 4: Adaptation and Delivery

- Climate-Responsive Neighborhood Design Checklist
- Local Character and Heritage Adaptation Framework
- Development Code and Design Guideline Structure
- Phasing, Stewardship, and Governance Model
- Precedent Transfer Risk Review

Day 5: Neighborhood Design Practice

- Suggested Exercise: Precedent Pattern Diagnosis
- Suggested Exercise: Street and Block Network Test
- Suggested Exercise: Public-Realm and Mixed-Use Review
- Suggested Exercise: Climate and Heritage Adaptation Panel
- Capstone Exercise: Neighborhood Planning and Urban Design Brief

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Practical Exercises

The course uses suggested activities to convert precedent lessons into context-sensitive neighborhood decisions.

- Suggested activity: diagnose spatial and governance patterns in a garden suburb and a planned seaside community.
- Suggested activity: test a neighborhood street network for connectivity, walkable access, frontage, and civic destinations.
- Suggested activity: adapt mixed-use and public-space principles to a hot-climate development site.
- Suggested activity: present a design brief linking character, heritage, implementation, and stewardship choices.

FAQs

Who suits neighborhood planning and New Urbanism design training, and what does it assume?

Planning, architecture, development, public-realm, heritage, and place-management professionals suit the training. It assumes involvement in planning or design decisions and excludes introductory drafting and detailed building design.

How does New Urbanism design differ from general urban planning training?

New Urbanism design focuses on human-scaled neighborhoods, connected streets, mixed uses, public space, diverse housing, and walkable access, while general urban planning training may cover wider policy, regional, regulatory, and land-management subjects.

What can contemporary neighborhood planning learn from garden suburbs?

Contemporary neighborhood planning can examine shared open spaces, housing relationships, pedestrian routes, community structure, stewardship, and the limits of transferring historic patterns without adapting them to present needs.

How should New Urbanism principles respond to climate and local character?

New Urbanism principles should be tested against climate, mobility behavior, landscape, building traditions, privacy, public-space use, infrastructure, and governance instead of being copied as a fixed visual style.

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What makes a neighborhood urban design brief actionable?

An actionable neighborhood urban design brief defines objectives, spatial structure, street and block logic, land-use mix, public spaces, housing types, climate responses, character, governance, phasing, and review criteria.

Conclusion

Participants take back a Neighborhood Planning and Urban Design Brief linking precedent lessons, street networks, public spaces, mixed uses, housing, climate, heritage, governance, and delivery. It turns historical comparison into explicit design choices. It supports coordinated neighborhood decisions across public planning, real estate, housing, tourism, and heritage contexts.