Planning for Dynamic Systems

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1 Overview

Systems Planning℠ (SP) shares common ground with System Dynamics (SD) and Systems Thinking (ST) by reproducing formal mental models of dynamic systems — e.g. causal loop diagrams (CLD) in SD/ST; reverse blueprints (RBP) in SP. Each speciality has a distinct emphasis — for instance, numeric simulations of system behaviour over time in SD; system archetypes in ST; stakeholder perspectives and formal problem definition (e.g. ‘XYZ’) in SP — that complement each other and naturally build synergy — e.g. enhanced understanding of structure and function with stakeholder positioning and formal problem definition (e.g. CLD/ SFD with ‘XYZ’); qualitative and numeric simulations of action plans (Perdicoúlis, 2014b).

The course is structured by Systems Planning℠ modules — i.e. workshops (e.g. Reverse Blueprints™, Decision Logic™, Plan Workings™, Strategy Board™, Impact Tracing™, Creative Hypothesis™) and masterclasses (e.g. Insight/ Innovation™, Indicators/ Indices™, Growth/ Maturity™) — featuring topics from SP projects (e.g. KPI wiring/ management cockpit, business innovation, plan review and revision) or presented by the students for exploration and resolution (Perdicoúlis, 2014c).

Certain competences are required and reinforced in the course: (a) Base Skills™ (e.g. action, acumen, communication); (b) dynamic autonomy designated as Competitive Advantage™; (c) integrated multi-dimensional maturity designated as Haute Culture™ (Perdicoúlis, 2014a).

2 Teaching and Assessment

Mode Interactive classes (Perdicoúlis, 2016)
Assignments Two (2) to four (4) reports from respective sessions (§ 3)
Delivery PDF by email, two weeks after the conclusion of the respective session
Criteria Traceability, objectivity, precision, accuracy (Perdicoúlis, 2012)
3 Programme

S01 Introduction

S02 Reverse Blueprints™ (workshop) — system structure/ function

S03 Decision Logic™ (workshop) — reasoning protocols

S04 Plan Workings™ (workshop) — the content of action proposals

S05 Strategy Board™ (workshop) — positioning on an situation

S06 Impact Tracing™ (workshop) — how impacts arise

S07 Creative Hypothesis™ (workshop) — formulation of hypotheses

S08 Insight/ Innovation™ (masterclass) — mastering situations

S09 Indicators/ Indices™ (masterclass) — mastering systems

S10 Growth/ Maturity™ (masterclass) — mastering systems

S11 Conclusion

4 Diagramming Software

Graphviz (multi-OS) auto-layout; [code]

Instaviz (iOS/iPadOS) WYSIWYG, auto-layout

Concepts (iOS/iPadOS) manual drawings in vector format

OmniGraffle (macOS) WYSIWYG, auto-layout

LibreOffice Draw (multi-OS) WYSIWYG

TikZ/ \LaTeX{} (multi-OS) [code]

5 References and Further Reading


Systems Planning℠ (website) http://systemsplanning.org