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Dept. of Civil Engineering | CPD course

Gender, Mobility and Transport Planning in Emerging Economies

In-person, Cape Town, 30 March – 1 April 2026

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Transformative Urban
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W Women
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Introduction



This course considers the critical issue of why and how gender influences the types of transport systems people need, and how to plan for, design, develop, and evaluate transport systems that are gender-inclusive and equitable.

Transport systems, including infrastructure, services, and public spaces, can seem gender neutral. In this course, you will discover why this is not the case and how this negatively impacts women and other marginalised groups. Everyone needs safe, accessible and reliable transport services that meet their needs. Poor access to such services matters for everyone. But it

matters differently for groups who already bear the brunt of living with fear, poverty, unemployment, and transport-related social and economic exclusion.

In developing and emerging economies, poverty, inadequate access to transport, and gender norms combine to create a spiral of deeper poverty in both rural and urban areas. There is a very clear relationship between gender and transportation, particularly how women access transport, what sort of transport they use, and why they use certain types of transport.

Women and marginalised groups do not automatically benefit when there are improvements in a transport system, nor do they benefit equally from any improvements. But when their needs are met, everyone benefits. This is the essence of inclusivity: that no one is excluded from the transport system, and that no one is unable to meet their mobility needs.

This course discusses why and how to take a gender-inclusive approach to designing transport services as well as how to create an inclusive environment for transport workers.

Who Should Attend

This course will be of interest to you if you are studying or working in any of these fields:

- Spatial and transport planning
- Economic and transport geography
- Public policy, administration, and governance
- Engineering and industrial design
- Urban planning and design
- Gender and equity
- Rural planning development
- Public health
- Gender advocacy and policy.

Course Content

This three-day course will cover:

- Concepts and theoretical frameworks within which to situate gender and mobility planning, including feminist theories, sexism, gender, transport poverty and inequity, and gender-sensitive, -responsive, -mainstreaming, and -empowerment.
- Gender-differentiated mobility patterns and transport needs, and why these matter in public spaces and transport planning.
- Using root-cause analysis and theories of change to make the case for gender-mainstreaming in transport systems.
- Planning and designing gender-sensitive and gender-responsive interventions in public spaces and mobility/transport systems.
- Moving beyond gender-responsiveness to mainstream and transformative interventions in public spaces and mobility/transport systems (including women as transport workers, and the opportunities in e-mobility).
- Collecting gender data for planning, advocacy, and evaluation.

Outcomes

Participants will be expected to be able to develop an argument for or make the case for gender-responsive interventions and gender-mainstreaming in their area of work, or for the inclusion of a gender expert, gender assessment, or gender impact in their area of work. This includes gender-inclusive stakeholder engagement, data collection approaches, design of measures, indicators, and evaluation mechanisms, and ongoing oversight. The participants are not necessarily expected to be able to design interventions, but to recognise their necessity, identify when gender interventions are merely superficial or generic, and make the case based on evidence of impact if gender needs continue to be ignored or ill served.

Format

This course is scheduled to be presented face-to-face in Cape Town, over three days from 30 March – 1 April 2026

Course Presenter and Convenor



Dr Gail Jennings' work explores the gender, equity, and social inclusion (GESI) dimensions of transportation. Her research examines the impacts and possibilities of transport interventions, decision-making around travel choices, active mobility (walking and cycling), and strategies for shifting behaviour toward more sustainable transport modes. She has published widely on topics including gender and social inclusion, cycling activism, walking, and transport justice. She holds a PhD (2025) from the University of Cape Town's Centre for Transport Studies, along with postgraduate qualifications in sustainable transport planning, instructional design, and programme evaluation.



Prof Roger Behrens is a Professor in the University of Cape Town's Department of Civil Engineering. He is Director of the Centre for Transport Studies. He graduated with a master's degree in city and Regional Planning from UCT in 1991, and with a PhD degree in 2002. His current research activities relate to the regulation and improvement of informal public transport services; analysis of the dynamics of changing travel behaviour; and the identification of urban form preconditions for effective and viable public transport networks

Course Overview

Name	Gender, Mobility and Transport Planning in Emerging Economies	
Duration	30 March – 1 April 2026	
Venue	Snape TS3A, Upper Campus, University of Cape Town	
CPD	3 CPD points, ECSA Validation No: UCTGMTP26	
Entry requirements	None	
Fees	Standard delegate: R11 000	Full-time student: R5 500

Previous Participants Comments:

'Thank you for such an eye-opening programme, and will be applying it in various projects I am in.'

'This course has not only been informative but mind-opening. Thank you for giving us a wealth of knowledge.'

'Thank you so much for offering and for providing us with such incredible tools. I'm truly grateful for the education, support, and confidence you've given me to keep doing what I love!'

'All this knowledge will be of great help to me in future projects. I now have more than just a technical perspective, but also an inclusive one!'

'I am happy to walk away with a head full of new learnings from this course. A feminist mobility certification is an important stepping stone for the goal of having feminist cities.'

'I am on a journey of learning more about urban planning as I want to prepare for a Masters Degree"

'I have completed a PhD on this topic, but I wished to understand better how transport and urban planning can work for women in real life.'

'My goal is to comprehend better arguments in the relation between transport and active mobility to keep my walkability advocacy in a wider range of impact with transport public policies.'

'As an Urban Planning and Mobility Consultant, I joined this course to deepen my knowledge of the intersection between gender and socioeconomic inequities."

'Through this course, I have strengthened my understanding of gender-responsive transport planning and learn practical tools to design inclusive mobility systems. I aim to apply this knowledge to support policy advocacy and local implementation efforts.'

'I am glad I found this course. I look forward to learning and hopefully seeing changes in the transportation sector over the next few years. Equipping ourselves with knowledge is the first step.'

Supported by:



Registration

Registration and Cancellation

- [Register for this course](#)
- Registration covers attendance of all sessions of the course and course material.
- Registrations close one week before the start of the course. Confirmation of registration will be sent on receipt of a registration form.
- **Cancellations must be received one week before the start of a course, or the full course fee will be charged.**
- For more information on application and registration procedures, please visit our website: www.cpd.uct.ac.za

Certificates and CPD Points

A digital certificate of attendance will be awarded to CPD participants. Participants need to attend 80% of the lectures to qualify for an attendance certificate. For further information on digital certificates please visit [Digital Certificates at UCT](#)

According to guidelines set out by the Engineering Council of South Africa, attendance of this course will earn participants 3 points towards Category 1 (Developmental Activities). The ECSA validation number for this course is *UCTGMTP26*.

Contact details

For more information or details on CPD courses, visit our website or contact us.

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