

Working Introduction and Document Architecture: 40%

Rural Planning and Economic Development | PLAC 5500-001 / LPPP 5559-001 | Fall 2026

A design and evidence skeleton for the full product

DUE: October 7, 2026, by 12:00 p.m. to Canvas

COURSE WEIGHT: 10%

Purpose

Show that the team can turn its Work Plan into a defensible diagnosis and a buildable product structure.

Required package

- ☐ Working introduction or equivalent opening narrative.
- ☐ Approved or revised document architecture.
- ☐ Existing-conditions and opportunity diagnosis.
- ☐ Relevant maps, tables, field observations, source-backed draft graphics, or equivalent evidence.
- ☐ Skills, data, permissions, and assets still needed, with a plan to obtain or verify them.
- ☐ Outline connecting evidence to alternatives, recommendations, and implementation.
- ☐ Current source/assumptions and individual contribution records.

Build the submission

Opening narrative: Place, issue, why it matters, intended audience, and how the product will help.

Document architecture: List chapters, sections, maps, tables, policy/design elements, recommendations, and implementation material in order.

Diagnosis: Name the most important conditions, opportunities, constraints, and public concerns, with evidence.

Opening narrative: Place, issue, why it matters, intended audience, and how the product will help.

Visual system: Record page grid, type hierarchy, colors, image treatment, map standards, chart standards, and voice.

Gap plan: List missing skills, data, permissions, assets, and the owner and date for each response.

Before submission

- ☐ The introduction frames a decision rather than merely describing the community.
- ☐ The architecture shows how evidence leads to choices and action.
- ☐ No missing value has been silently converted to zero or absence.
- ☐ Draft visuals are readable, sourced, undistorted, and accessible.
- ☐ Remaining needs have owners and dates.

Submission: One member of the team submits the package to Canvas by the listed deadline. Every student remains responsible for the work, sources, disclosed material AI assistance, and any required contribution record.