Cities

Venice, Italy
Unplanned, Organic
Area: 414.57 square km
Population: 270,660
Cities

Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Planned, Radial Grid
Area: 219.32 square km
Population: 813,562
Thesis - Social Space

• Unplanned (Venice)
  • More “Livable” because the city was created by the inhabitants who live there.

• Planned (Amsterdam)
  • Less “Livable” because social spaces are dictated and restricted.
  • assume “man walks in a straight line…” -Spiro Kostof
Social Spaces

- Social Space is a Social Product

-Henri Lefebvre
City ‘form’

- Planned Social Spaces
  - Plazas
  - Parks
  - Venues
- Unplanned Social Spaces
  - Streets
  - Waterfronts
- Other natural areas
Venice
Social Spaces
Amsterdam
Social Spaces
Dam Square - Amsterdam
“de dam” Derived from original function as a dam
Piazza San Marco - Venice
First established as a church square
“the irregular city is the result of development left entirely to individuals who actually live on the land. If a governing body divides the land and disposes of it before it is handed over to the users, a uniformly patterned city will emerge.”

–Spiro Kostof, The City Shaped
Discussion

• Is Social Space based on restriction or allowance?

• Would a city be more “livable” if it was built by the **people** or **governing body**?