

Geography 253/Urban Studies 253
Introduction to Cities
Spring 2013
M/W 09:00 – 11:45
ST131

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Office Hours: Monday 12:30 to 14:30 or by appointment

Course Description

This course is designed as a general introduction to the diverse processes that shape cities. While covering the interdisciplinary field of Urban Studies, it emphasizes the most diverse of the disciplines: Geography. In this course we will examine fundamental issues of city growth and development, social differentiation, urban culture, urban politics, urban economic processes, urban planning, urban form, urban design, and urban futures. While emphasizing a geographic (spatial) perspective, we will draw from a variety of perspectives, including those of Anthropology, Architecture, Cultural Studies, Economics, History, Political Science, Sociology, Urban Design and Urban Planning. Examples will come from a variety of locations around the world, emphasizing Canada, the United States, and Europe.

Course Objectives

The objective of this course is to provide students with a broad introduction to the processes that shape cities. These processes give rise to a variety of research and social policy questions that form the basis of Urban Studies and much of urban Geography. As this is an introductory course, emphasis is placed on raising basic questions about cities. Provisional answers to these questions may be suggested, but more advanced study is required for comprehensive understanding.

In addition to introducing students to the fields of Urban Studies and Urban Geography, this course is designed to demonstrate the advantages of an interdisciplinary perspective, to show the importance of cities in shaping cultural, economic, and political processes, and to familiarize students with contemporary urban issues.

Finally, this course aims to help students think through urban issues by writing about them, and in turn to hone their writing skills.

Textbook and Readings:

Legates, R.T. and F. Stout. 2011. *The City Reader: 5th Edition*. New York and London: Routledge.

There will be additional readings required for this course. These will be provided through Blackboard no later than one week before their assigned date. One copy of the textbook will be kept on reserve in Geography Collections Room, 4th floor of the Earth Sciences Building. However, it is highly suggested that you purchase the text.

Assignments and Grading

All assignments and exams must be completed. Writing competency (grammar, spelling, organization, word choice, etc) will count for 20% of the grade on all written assignments (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-1.html>). If for any reason if you have writing difficulties please consult the Writing Centre (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/writing-support>)

Policy for Late Assignments

All late submissions will be penalized 5% per day, except in the case of medical or family emergencies, for which written documentation must be provided. Given ample access to university facilities, computer problems are not acceptable. Students prone to difficulties should plan to complete papers in advance of the deadline. Please remember to back up files and print hard copies at various stages. All late submissions should be presented in person to the instructor. **DO NOT SLIP ANY ASSIGNMENTS UNDER AN OFFICE DOOR** (Instructor's or Department's), as they will be dated whenever encountered and at risk of loss. It is recommended to retain an electronic copy of all submissions until the course is completed and final grade assigned.

Grades will be based on:

Midterm Exam:	25%
Final Exam:	25%
Film Analysis:	25%
Calgary Project:	25%

Grades will be based on the following grading scale:

A+ (99-100); **A** (92-98.9); **A-** (88-91.9); **B+** (85-87.9); **B** (82-84.9); **B-** (78-81.9); **C+** (75-77.9); **C** (70-74.9); **C-** (62-69.9); **D+** (58-61.9); **D** (55-57.9); **D-** (52-54.9); **F** (0-51.9)

Class Etiquette

Lecture discussions are a very important part of class. Questions will be posed and ideas and information solicited from you. This enables us to learn from each other. For this approach to be maximally successful, it is important that you come to class prepared (having read the assigned readings) and ready to discuss the topic of the day. Many students take notes on class discussions using laptops, which is fine. However, please do not use your laptop, iPhone, Blackberry, etc. in class for purposes unrelated to class, e.g., checking email, watching movies, facebook, etc. Doing work unrelated to class disturbs others and should be done outside of class.

Plagiarism

Using any source whatsoever without clearly documenting it is a serious academic offense. (For details see the 2012-2013 University Calendar: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-2.html>) Consequences may include failure on the assignment, failure in the course and possibly suspension or expulsion from the university.

You must document not only direct quotations, but also paraphrases and ideas, *where they appear in your text*. A reference list at the end is insufficient by itself. Readers must be able to tell exactly where your words and ideas end and other people's words and ideas begin. This includes assignments submitted in non-traditional formats such as Web pages or visual media, and material taken from such formats. Please consult me if you have any questions regarding how to document sources.

Disabilities

If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation, it is your responsibility to:

- register with the Disability Resource Centre (220-8237), and
- discuss your needs with me no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

"SAFEWALK" PROGRAM--220-5333

Campus Security will escort individuals day or night -- call **220-5333** for assistance. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths.

Lecture and Reading Schedule (subject to revision)

Lectures will take the form of wide-ranging discussions focusing on the assigned readings. Completing the assigned readings prior to class is highly advised.

CR = The City Reader 5th Edition (2011)

BB = Blackboard readings, readings listed *by authors*

All readings are required

RED TEXT indicates important dates

May	Lecture Topic	Readings
W 15	Class Introduction and Pre-Modern Urban Development I	CR: Prologue, Introduction to Part 1, Davis, Childe, Kitto, Engels BB: Knox and McCarthy, Jordan
M 20	Victoria Day, no lectures	
W 22	Pre-Modern Urban Development II	continued
M 27	Urban Culture and Society	CR: Introduction to Part 2, Mumford, Wirth, Putnam, Jacobs, Florida, DuBois, W.J. Jackson
W 29	Urban Space	CR: Introduction to Part 3, Burgess, Madanipour, Davis

June

M	3	Culture, Fear, Public Space, Social Justice	BB: Zukin, Glassner, Low
W	5	IN CLASS MIDTERM EXAM Urban Politics, Governance and Economics I	CR: Introduction to Part 4, Harvey, Arnstein, Molotch, Wilson and Kelling, Porter, Orfield BB: Harcourt
M	10	Urban Politics, Governance and Economics II Gentrification	continued BB: Davidson and Lees, Hamnett, Lees, et al, Smith
FILM ANALYSIS DUE			
W	12	Urban Planning and Visions I	CR: Introduction to Part 5, Olmstead, Howard, LeCorbusier, Wright, World Commission on Environment and Development, Congress for the New Urbanism, Calthorpe and Fulton BB: Grant, Harvey, Marcuse
M	17	Urban Planning and Visions II Video: Urban Redevelopment in the Inner City: Jane Jacobs Vs. Robert Moses	continued
W	19	Urban Theory and Practice	CR: Introduction to Part 6, Hall, Kaiser and Goldschalk, Forester, Davidoff, Beatley, Wheeler
M	24	Perspectives on Urban Design	CR: Introduction to Part 7, Sitte, Lynch, Whyte, Jacobs and Appleyard, Gehl BB: Boddy
W	26	Cities in a Global Society Urban Sprawl CALGARY PROJECT DUE	CR: Introduction to Part 8, Sassen, Beaverstock, et al, Castells, UN-Habitat, Zhang, Brenner and Keil CR: Bruegmann, TBA

There will be a registrar's scheduled final exam for this course

Check http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exam_info/ for the date and location