GEOGRAPHY 4731: Urban Geography
Lakehead University CEDL
Fall 2016
Instructor: Dr. Amy Siciliano
asicilia@lakeheadu.ca

Course Description
In this course we will build on your existing knowledge of urban geography to explore key processes behind urbanization, taking a critical look at important issues such as growth and decline, polarization, and social difference. This lens will enable a better understanding of the uneven development of and between cities, and why cities can be places of emancipation and liberty for some; exclusion and oppression for others.

Course Objectives
- To advance understandings of key theoretical perspectives shaping the field of urban geography.
- To apply key concepts from urban geography to an understanding of contemporary urban social issues in both Canadian and international contexts.
- To advance understanding of the ways in which social relations, identities and inequalities shape, and are shaped by, the urban environment.
- To advance general critical analysis and written communication skills necessary in a graduate academic or other work setting.

In this course we broach a number of topics of a political, personal and sometimes contentious nature. Accordingly, please bring respect, tolerance and sensitivity to your readings, lecture material, the classroom discussion, and any interactions with your peers. You need not agree with all of the material presented in the course, but you are expected to engage all materials with an open and analytical mind. I will do my best to ensure our classroom will be a safe space to explore the many issues we raise, but responsibility also rests with you.

Contacting the Instructor
For this course, we will use our @lakeheadu.ca for correspondence. Accordingly, please email me atasicilia@lakeheadu.ca. I will use your @lakeheadu.ca account to contact you. You MUST INCLUDE the course name in the subject of your email.
I will check my e-mail and the discussion board once a day, between the hours of 9am-10pm (with the exception of weekends and holidays), and will endeavour to respond to your questions within 24 hours. Please do not email me and expect an immediate response. Please do not email me exam or essay related questions the night before the exam or due date of an assignment. If I am unable to access my email or the Desire2learn (D2L) course website for more than 24 hours, I will advise you in advance.

Learning Accommodations
Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. If you have special needs regarding the format or the due dates for the assignments, you must inform me at the beginning of the term. Guidance and appropriate forms can be obtained from the Student Accessibility Services: http://learningassistance.lakeheadu.ca

Evaluation Overview
Guidelines for the preparation of the assignments and for my assessment of your work are discussed in detail on the document titled Evaluation Criteria, posted to D2L. Below is a breakdown of the grading scheme and due dates.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics Canada Exercise</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>Week 4 (Sept 26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid term test</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>Week 6 (Oct 17/18)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research proposal:</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Week 7 (Oct 24)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research paper</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Week 12 (Dec 5)</td>
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Instructions for Submitting Assignments:
All assignments will be submitted through the D2L course website. You may submit your assignments in doc, docx, or rtf format. Please do not submit pdfs.

PLEASE NOTE: Assignments are due on the MONDAY of the week they are due. They must be submitted by 11pm EASTERN STANDARD TIME or they will be considered late, and penalized. A late penalty of 5% per day will be applied. Papers more than one week late will not be accepted without legitimate documentation.

I will return all graded material to you within one week of its receipt, with the exception of the mid-
term test, which I will return to you prior to the final course drop date.

**Academic Dishonesty**

Plagiarism is a serious offence and will be treated as such. Plagiarism includes improper acknowledgement or citation of the work of others, the inclusion of false or misleading references, and the resubmission of work that has already been evaluated at the university. Prevent inadvertent academic dishonesty by carefully referencing and citing the sources you use in your work. Please consult the library website’s guide on ‘Citing your sources’ if you are unsure of how to properly make a citation: [http://library.lakeheadu.ca/?pg=350](http://library.lakeheadu.ca/?pg=350)

If you are unsure as to whether or not you are plagiarising, check the scope of plagiarism as defined below, and/or contact the Writing Centre at the University: [http://writingcentre.lakeheadu.ca](http://writingcentre.lakeheadu.ca)

As noted in the University Calendar (University Regulation IX Academic Misconduct), ‘plagiarism’ shall be deemed to include:

1. Plagiarism of ideas as where an idea of an author or speaker is incorporated into the body of an assignment as though it were the writer’s idea, i.e. no credit is given the person through referencing or footnoting or endnoting.

2. Plagiarism of words occurs when phrases, sentences, tables or illustrations of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a writer’s own, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on the format followed) are present but referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given. [Please note that this also includes ‘cutting and pasting’ images, illustrations, etc from the web without citing the source in full].

3. Plagiarism of ideas and words as where words and an idea(s) of an author or speaker are incorporated into the body of a written assignment as though they were the writer's own words and ideas, i.e. no quotations or indentations (depending on format followed) are present and no referencing or footnoting or endnoting is given.

**University Regulation XII Timely Feedback**

Lakehead University recognizes that it is important to provide timely and constructive feedback on all academic work. For all courses, at least 25% (for one term courses) and 30% (for two term courses) of the final grade shall be provided to students prior to the last day to withdraw without academic penalty for the course. Exceptions to the graded feedback include theses, dissertations, pass/fail courses, directed reading courses, seminar courses, independent research study courses, and performance courses. All other exceptions must be approved by the Dean. Exceptions granted should be included on the course outline.
Course Material

The course material is divided into two modules: Urban Processes and Social Difference and the City. There is a required textbook for this course. It is available for purchase at both campuses. If you are unable to access the text, please let me know as soon as possible.


All other readings are available from the D2L course website, either in pdf, or as a link to an online document on the Internet. Accompanying lecture material (PowerPoint slides) will be posted on the course website at the beginning of each week (if not before). I expect that you will have read the course material prior to reviewing my slides.

The schedule below contains a list of the required material for each week of the course. As noted above, with the exception of the textbook, all other material is posted on our D2L course site under the ‘Content’ tab. On occasion, I will provide links to interesting media reports, websites, or videos to supplement the required course material. You will find these links under the appropriate week in D2L.

SECTION I: Urban Processes

Week 1/Sept 5: Urban Origins


Film: Steiner R. & W. Van Dyke (1939). The City, available at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cag7q8QlHY4

TEXT: Chapter 1: Fundamentals of Cities
TEXT: Chapter 2: Urban Transitions: The History and Future of Canadian Urban Development

Week 2/Sept 12: Global Contexts


TEXT: Chapter 3: Global Flows: Making the City, Made in the City

**Week 3/Sept 19: The City as Growth Machine**


**Week 4/Sept 26: The Urban Spectacle**


**Week 5/Oct 3: Mobility and Suburbanization**

TEXT: Chapter 8: International Migration and Immigration: remaking the Multicultural Canadian City
TEXT Chapter 21: Aboriginal People in Canadian Cities

Film: Brown, J. & G. Burns (2006) Radiant City, link distributed on D2L

TEXT: Chapter 24: Cities on the Edge: Emerging Suburban Constellations in Canada

TEXT: Chapter 19: Housing: Dreams and Nightmares

**FALL STUDY BREAK**

**Week 6/Oct 17 Shrinking Cities**


TEXT: Chapter 15: Slow Growth and Decline in Canadian Cities

**SECTION II: Social Difference and the City**

**Week 7/ Oct 24: Polarization**


TEXT: Chapter 9: Growing Divisions: Inequality, Neighbourhood Poverty and Homelessness in the Canadian City

**Week 8/Oct 31: Segregation and Community**


Film: Remembering Africville

Film: A short History of the Highrise

**Week 9/Nov 7: Public Space and Everyday life**

TEXT: Chapter 18: Public Space in the City Centre


**Week 10/Nov 14: Sex and the City**


TEXT: Chapter 22: Gender, Sexuality and the City

**Week 11/Nov 21: Fear and the City**


**TEXT: Chapter 16: Fear, Insecurity and the Canadian City**

**Week 12/Nov 28: Sustainable Cities**


**TEXT: Chapter 4: Getting Serious about Urban Sustainability: Eco-Footprints and the Vulnerability of Twenty-first century cities.**

**TEXT: Chapter 13: Climate Change and Neighbourhood Design for Low-Carbon, Resilient and Healthy Communities**