

# GEOGRAPHY 4731: Urban Geography

Lakehead University CEDL

Fall 2016

Instructor: Dr. Amy Siciliano

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## 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 at asicilia@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.

Participation	20%	Ongoing
Statistics Canada Exercise	15%	Due Week 4 (Sept 26)
Mid term test	25%	Week 6 (Oct 17/18)
Research proposal:	10%	Due Week 7 (Oct 24)
Research paper	30%	Due Week 12 (Dec 5)

### 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>  
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>

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.

**TEXT: *Canadian Cities in Transition: New Directions in the Twenty-First Century* . 5th edition. Trudi Bunting, Pierre Filion, and Ryan Walker (eds.) Oxford University Press: Don Mills, ON)**

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

Engels, F. (1892). The Great Towns, in *The Condition of the Working Class in England* (New York)  
<http://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1845/condition-working-class/ch04.htm>

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

Massey, D. (1994). A global sense of place, in *Space, place and gender*, (University of Minnesota Press: Minneapolis) pp. 146-156.

Film: Azem, I. (2011). Ekümenopolis: City without limits, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=maEcPKBXV0M#t=1576>

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

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

Molotch, H. (1976). The city as a growth machine: Toward a political economy of place. *The American Journal of Sociology*, 82 (2), pp. 309-332.

Theodore, N. J. Peck, & N. Brenner (2009). Neoliberal Urbanism: Models, Moments, Mutations. *SAIS Review*, XXIX (1). pp. 49-66.

Slater, T. (2011). Gentrification of the City, in G. Bridge and S. Watson (eds) *The New Companion to the City* (Oxford: Blackwell) pp. 571-585.

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

Olds, K. (1997) 'Globalizing Shanghai: the 'global intelligence corps' and the building of Pudong', *Cities* 14(2): 109-123.

Swyndegow, E & M. Kaika (2003) 'The Making of 'Glocal' Urban Modernities: Exploring the Cracks in the Mirror', *City*. 7(1):5-21.

Shin, H. & B. Li (2013). 'Whose games? The costs of being "Olympic citizens" in Beijing' *Environment & Urbanization*, 25 (2), pp. 559-576

Film: Silva L.F & S. Lira (2013) Rio's Red Card, available at <http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/viewfinder/2013/01/2013181253860560.html>

## **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

Beauregard, R. (2009). Urban population loss in historical perspective: United States, 1820-2000. *Environment and Planning A*, 41, pp. 514-528.

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

## SECTION II: Social Difference and the City

### Week 7/ Oct 24: Polarization

Bunting, T. & P. Fillion (2001). Uneven Cities: Addressing Rising Inequality in the Twenty-First Century, *The Canadian Geographer*, 45: 126-131.

Hulchanski, D. (2010). The Three Cities within Toronto: Income Polarization among Toronto's Neighbourhoods, 1970 — 2000, Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto.

Film: Anaheim, A Tale of Two Cities (2012), available at <http://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/faultlines/2012/12/20121211112848544968.html>

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

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

Marcuse, P. (1997). The enclave, the citadel and the ghetto: What has changed in the post-fordist, US city?, *Urban Affairs Review* 33 (2). pp 228-264.

Walks, A. & L. Bourne, (2006). Are there Ghettos in Canadian Cities? Racial Segregation, Ethnic Enclaves and Poverty Concentration in Canadian Urban Areas, *Canadian Geographer*, 50.26, pp. 273-297.

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

Film: Whyte, W. H. (1989). Social Life of Small Urban Spaces, available at:

Mitchell, D. (1995). The End of Public Space? People's Park, Definitions of the Public, and Democracy, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 85(1) pp. 108-133.

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

Hayden, D. (1980). What Would A Non-Sexist City Be Like - Speculations On Housing, Urban Design, And Human Work, *Signs*, 5(3); pp. S170-S187.

Gurnstein, P. & S. Vilches (2010). The just city for whom? Re-conceiving active citizenship for lone mothers in Canada, *Gender, Place and Culture*, 17(4) 421-436.

Foran, C. (2013). How to design a city for women, *Atlantic Cities*, Sept. 16.

<http://www.theatlanticcities.com/commute/2013/09/how-design-city-women/6739>

TEXT: Chapter 22: Gender, Sexuality and the City

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

Davis, M. (1990). Fortress LA, in *City of Quartz: Excavating the Future of Los Angeles* (Verso Books: New York).

Day, K. (2006). Being feared: masculinity and race in public space, *Environment and Planning A* 38(3) pp. 569 – 586.

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

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

Smith, N. (2006). There is no Such Thing as a Natural Disaster, (Social Science Research Council, June 11) <http://libcom.org/library/there%E2%80%99s-no-such-thing-natural-disaster-neil-smith>

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