

Course Syllabus – Urban Growth and Structure

Course Information

Course number –GEOG - 3331

Course title – URBAN GROWTH AND STRUCTURE

Term –SPRING 2009

Section – 501

Classroom – CN 1.304

Time –Wednesday 5:30 am-8:15 pm

Professor Contact Information

Name – Dr. Irina Vakulenko

Phone number – 972-883-6718

Email – ivakulenko@utdallas.edu (best way to contact me)

Office location – GR 3.812

Office hours – Wednesday 10:00 am -11:00 pm; by appointment

Course Pre-requisites, Co-requisites, and/or Other Restrictions

There are no formal prerequisites for this course. General academic skills of analytical thinking, comparison, essay writing, working with statistical material, map reading will be helpful.

Course Description

This course challenges students to understand the dynamic relationship of urban spatial organization and the built environment to politics, economics, cultures and societies. It explores the changing forms of the city over time and analyzes the variety of ways through which people have recreated urban life through time and across cultures. This course also introduces students to contemporary issues related to the urban built environment in various countries and the implications of political and economic changes.

Student Learning Objectives/Outcomes

Upon completing this class students will be able to:

- Describe how cities and urban areas have evolved over time
- Understand how urban culture and urban society affect each other
- Explain how urban economy, governance and politics are connected and even conflicted.
- Discuss the role of urban planning, the causes and consequences of growth, and the approaches used to minimize negative externalities associated with growth and urbanization

Required Textbooks and Materials

Urban Geography. Second Edition. By David Kaplan, Wiley, 2009. ISBN-13: 978-0-471-79815-6

There are several readings that will be on reserve at McDermott Library or hard copies distributed.

Suggested Course Materials

Students are expected to take notes during PowerPoint presentations and complete exercises from the assignments distributed, e-mailed and/or posted on WebCT.

Assignments & Academic Calendar

| # | Date | Topic | Reading & Assignments |
|----|------|--|--|
| 6 | 2/4 | An Introduction to the Changing Field of Urban Geography | Chapter 1 K. Davis from The City Reader |
| 7 | 2/4 | Trends and Schools in Urban Geography | Chapter 1 |
| 8 | 2/11 | Preconditions of Urban Formation and Patterns of Early Urbanization | Chapter 2 B. Berry World's first cities" , Chapters 5, 9 |
| 9 | 2/11 | Origin and Development of Cities | Chapter 2 |
| 10 | 2/18 | Evolution of American Urban System | Paper on a historic city due. Chapter 3 K. Jackson from The City Reader |
| 11 | 2/18 | Globalization and the Urban System | Chapter 4 |
| 12 | 2/25 | Globalization and the Urban System. Telecommunications and the City | Chapter 4,5 Find out about Digital Switch from on-line reports and media. |
| 13 | 2/25 | Telecommunications and the City | Chapter 5 |
| 14 | 3/4 | Test 1. | |
| 15 | 3/4 | Urban Land Use. Economies of Cities: Basic and Non-Basic economic Activities | Chapter 6, 7 |
| 16 | 3/11 | Economies of Cities: Basic and Non-Basic economic Activities. Foundations of Urban Social landscapes | Chapter 7,8 |
| 17 | 3/11 | Urban Housing Markets: Sprawl, Blight, and Regeneration | Chapter 9 |
| 18 | 3/25 | Segregation, Race, and Urban Poverty. Role of Government. | Chapter 10 |
| 19 | 3/25 | Immigration, Ethnicity, and Urbanism. Politics and Urbanism. | Chapter 11 |
| 20 | 4/1 | Immigration, Ethnicity, and Urbanism. Politics and Urbanism. | Chapter 11 |
| 21 | 4/1 | Metropolitan Governance and Fragmentation. | Chapter 12 |
| 22 | 4/8 | Metropolitan Governance and Fragmentation. | Chapter 12 |
| 23 | 4/8 | Urban Planning. Legal Basis and Comprehensive Plans and Tools. | Chapter 13 |
| 24 | 4/15 | Test 2 | |

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| 25 | 4/15 | Cities in the Developed World. | Chapter 14 |
| 26 | 4/22 | Cities in the Developing World. | Presentations Chapter 15 |
| 27 | 4/22 | Cities in the Developing World. | |
| 28 | 4/29 | Regional Variations in Urban Structure and Form in the Less Developed World. | Presentations Chapter 16 |
| 29 | 4/29 | Review. | |
| 30 | 5/13 | Final Exam is on May 13 at 5:30 pm | |

Grading Policy

You are required to take 2 tests during the semester that consist of 10 questions for short answers and map /chart / table analysis. Each of them will cover a range of topics. Each test will count **25%** toward your final grade. A paper* on one city rise, growth, and decay is to be submitted by 2/18/09 (**10%** of final grade). Average of the paper and Tests 1 will make your **Midterm Grade** to be posted on **March 6, 2009**. You are also expected to make a 10 minutes modern city presentation** during the class on **4/15/2009 or 4/22/2009** depending on the region. This individual assignment will count **20%** toward your grade. The Final Exam on **May 13, 2009** will make other **20%** of your grade. All graded material will be assigned a numerical value on a scale of 100. Letter grades are given as follows: 97% and over A+; 93% to 96% A ; 90% to 92% A- ; 87% to 89% B+; 83% to 86% B; 80% to 82% B- ; 77% to 79% C+; 73% to 76% C ; 70% to 72% C- ; 67% to 69% D+ ; 63% to 66% D ; 60% to 62% D; Less than 60% F.

***The paper** should be based on at least two different sources and contain a map of its location and at least one illustration. The text (not including illustrations) is to be about 5 pages. Sources reference needs to be included in the text, next to illustrations, and listed at the end. The narrative should include analysis of when and why the city emerged at that location, what factors facilitated its growth and development, what was the structure of the city and what purposes did it serve, as well as what were the circumstances of its demise and when it happened. A cover page is a plus.

****Your PowerPoint presentation** should include the following info about the city: its geographical location, origins, demographic characteristics, basic and non-basic economic specialization and the city structure, government and political landscape, and look into the future (why anyone would want to visit this city or live in it).

Course & Instructor Policies

Attendance is crucial for the successful learning and will be taken each class. A good set of class notes will be extremely helpful if you plan excelling in this course.

Attendance and class participation will be used as deciding factors for borderline students. Only one opportunity to make up the exam will be provided.

Field Trip Policies Not Applicable

Off-campus Instruction and Course Activities Not Applicable

Off-campus, out-of-state, and foreign instruction and activities are subject to state law and University policies and procedures regarding travel and risk-related activities. Information regarding these rules and regulations may be found at the website address http://www.utdallas.edu/BusinessAffairs/Travel_Risk_Activities.htm. Additional

information is available from the office of the school dean. Below is a description of any travel and/or risk-related activity associated with this course.

Student Conduct & Discipline

The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas have rules and regulations for the orderly and efficient conduct of their business. It is the responsibility of each student and each student organization to be knowledgeable about the rules and regulations which govern student conduct and activities. General information on student conduct and discipline is contained in the UTD publication, *A to Z Guide*, which is provided to all registered students each academic year.

The University of Texas at Dallas administers student discipline within the procedures of recognized and established due process. Procedures are defined and described in the *Rules and Regulations, Board of Regents, The University of Texas System, Part 1, Chapter VI, Section 3*, and in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*. Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations (SU 1.602, 972/883-6391).

A student at the university neither loses the rights nor escapes the responsibilities of citizenship. He or she is expected to obey federal, state, and local laws as well as the Regents' Rules, university regulations, and administrative rules. Students are subject to discipline for violating the standards of conduct whether such conduct takes place on or off campus, or whether civil or criminal penalties are also imposed for such conduct.

Academic Integrity

The faculty expects from its students a high level of responsibility and academic honesty. Because the value of an academic degree depends upon the absolute integrity of the work done by the student for that degree, it is imperative that a student demonstrate a high standard of individual honor in his or her scholastic work.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, statements, acts or omissions related to applications for enrollment or the award of a degree, and/or the submission as one's own work or material that is not one's own. As a general rule, scholastic dishonesty involves one of the following acts: cheating, plagiarism, collusion and/or falsifying academic records. Students suspected of academic dishonesty are subject to disciplinary proceedings.

Plagiarism, especially from the web, from portions of papers for other classes, and from any other source is unacceptable and will be dealt with under the university's policy on plagiarism (see general catalog for details). This course will use the resources of turnitin.com, which searches the web for possible plagiarism and is over 90% effective.

Email Use

The University of Texas at Dallas recognizes the value and efficiency of communication between faculty/staff and students through electronic mail. At the same time, email raises some issues concerning security and the identity of each individual in an email exchange. The university encourages all official student email correspondence be sent only to a student's U.T. Dallas email address and that faculty and staff consider email from students official only if it originates from a UTD student account. This allows the university to maintain a high degree of confidence in the identity of all individual corresponding and the security of the transmitted information. UTD furnishes each student with a free email account that is to be used in all communication with university personnel. The Department of Information Resources at U.T. Dallas provides a method for students to have their U.T. Dallas mail forwarded to other accounts.

Withdrawal from Class

The administration of this institution has set deadlines for withdrawal of any college-level courses. These dates and times are published in that semester's course catalog. Administration procedures must be followed. It is the student's responsibility to handle withdrawal requirements from any class. In other words, I cannot drop or withdraw any student. You must do the proper paperwork to ensure that you will not receive a final grade of "F" in a course if you choose not to attend the class once you are enrolled.

Student Grievance Procedures

Procedures for student grievances are found in Title V, Rules on Student Services and Activities, of the university's *Handbook of Operating Procedures*.

In attempting to resolve any student grievance regarding grades, evaluations, or other fulfillments of academic responsibility, it is the obligation of the student first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the instructor, supervisor, administrator, or committee with whom the grievance originates (hereafter called "the respondent"). Individual faculty members retain primary responsibility for assigning grades and evaluations. If the matter cannot be resolved at that level, the grievance must be submitted in writing to the respondent with a copy of the respondent's School Dean. If the matter is not resolved by the written response provided by the respondent, the student may submit a written appeal to the School Dean. If the grievance is not resolved by the School Dean's decision, the student may make a written appeal to the Dean of Graduate or Undergraduate Education, and the dean will appoint and convene an Academic Appeals Panel. The decision of the Academic Appeals Panel is final. The results of the academic appeals process will be distributed to all involved parties.

Copies of these rules and regulations are available to students in the Office of the Dean of Students, where staff members are available to assist students in interpreting the rules and regulations.

Incomplete Grade Policy

As per university policy, incomplete grades will be granted only for work unavoidably missed at the semester's end and only if 70% of the course work has been completed. An incomplete grade must be resolved within eight (8) weeks from the first day of the subsequent long semester. If the required work to complete the course and to remove the incomplete grade is not submitted by the specified deadline, the incomplete grade is changed automatically to a grade of F.

Disability Services

The goal of Disability Services is to provide students with disabilities educational opportunities equal to those of their non-disabled peers. Disability Services is located in room 1.610 in the Student Union. Office hours are Monday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.; Tuesday and Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The contact information for the Office of Disability Services is:

The University of Texas at Dallas, SU 22

PO Box 830688

Richardson, Texas 75083-0688

(972) 883-2098 (voice or TTY)

Essentially, the law requires that colleges and universities make those reasonable adjustments necessary to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability. For example, it may be necessary to remove classroom prohibitions against tape recorders or animals (in the case of dog guides) for students who are blind. Occasionally an assignment requirement may be substituted (for example, a research paper versus an oral presentation for a student who is hearing impaired). Classes enrolled students with mobility impairments may have to be

rescheduled in accessible facilities. The college or university may need to provide special services such as registration, note-taking, or mobility assistance.

It is the student's responsibility to notify his or her professors of the need for such an accommodation. Disability Services provides students with letters to present to faculty members to verify that the student has a disability and needs accommodations. Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact the professor after class or during office hours.

Religious Holy Days

The University of Texas at Dallas will excuse a student from class or other required activities for the travel to and observance of a religious holy day for a religion whose places of worship are exempt from property tax under Section 11.20, Tax Code, Texas Code Annotated.

The student is encouraged to notify the instructor or activity sponsor as soon as possible regarding the absence, preferably in advance of the assignment. The student, so excused, will be allowed to take the exam or complete the assignment within a reasonable time after the absence: a period equal to the length of the absence, up to a maximum of one week. A student who notifies the instructor and completes any missed exam or assignment may not be penalized for the absence. A student who fails to complete the exam or assignment within the prescribed period may receive a failing grade for that exam or assignment.

If a student or an instructor disagrees about the nature of the absence [i.e., for the purpose of observing a religious holy day] or if there is similar disagreement about whether the student has been given a reasonable time to complete any missed assignments or examinations, either the student or the instructor may request a ruling from the chief executive officer of the institution, or his or her designee. The chief executive officer or designee must take into account the legislative intent of TEC 51.911(b), and the student and instructor will abide by the decision of the chief executive officer or designee.

These descriptions and timelines are subject to change at the discretion of the Professor.