

Course Syllabus

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SOCI 3300: Urban Sociology

Instructor: Gabe Ignatow

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Course Description

We live in an increasingly urbanized world. At the start of the 21st century over half of world's population were living in urban areas. Urban sociology focuses on the study of these spaces. The study of urban sociology will provide you with the tools to understand how and why urbanization occurs and what impacts that level of development will have on people living within these urban environments and the natural environment.

Goals

At the conclusion of this course, you will be able to

1. Understand multiple approaches to urban sociology
2. Articulate the major factors of urbanism
3. Describe and examine how urbanization impacts social phenomena such as culture, the self, social structure, and inequality;
4. Better understand the impacts of development in the developing world
5. Identify environmental impacts of urbanization

Required Text

Gottdiener, M., Hutchison, R, & Ryan, M.T. (2015). *The New Urban Sociology 5th Edition*. Westview Press. ISBN-13: 978-0-8122-4956-5

Course Format

This is an online course intended to provide you with a unique and practical learning experience. The course material will be administered online. You will be introduced to new concepts and material online in Canvas. You will have the ability to check your understanding and knowledge of the material through mastery quizzes administered in Canvas. It is a course expectation that you will complete the assigned online modules, quizzes, exams, and assignments in the time allocated on the course outline located at the end of this document.

Academic Honesty

Dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course. During this course, you may submit for evaluation only work that is your own and that is submitted originally for this course. Forms of conduct that will be considered evidence of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Conversations between students during an exam
- Unauthorized collaboration on an assignment (e.g. discussing your answers to assignment questions prior to submission)

- Submission without proper acknowledgement of work that is based partially or entirely on the ideas or writings of others (traditionally, this is referred to as plagiarism)

Violation of the academic honesty policy will in an automatic zero on the assignment and a report to judicial affairs. I adhere to and enforce UNT's policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). You should review the policy. ([UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16](#)) I will address violations of academic integrity in this course in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy.

Students with Disabilities

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class.

For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at <http://www.unt.edu/oda>

[\(Links to an external site.\)](#)

. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323

Grading and Assignments

Assignment	Point Value
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Discussions (2 at 35 points each)	70
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Quizzes (4 at 25 points each)	100
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Student Response Paper	100
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Total	270
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Letter Grade	Point Range
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A	245+
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B	216-244
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C	187-215
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D	159-186
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F	158 and below
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Discussion Posts

Since this is an online class, discussion forums will be our primary medium for communication. We use the weekly forum to discuss weekly topics and readings, questions related to the readings, and any other issues relating to the course.

Weekly posts: Regular and active participation in discussion forums is essential to a clear understanding of assigned topics. You will need to complete **two** discussion prompts. Each post will include the following:

Major post: At least one posting must be a major or substantial post in which you make a significant contribution by answering the prompt, asking pertinent or interesting questions and/or making important, thoughtful points. Technically, a major post should consist of at least 300 words (~1 page double-spaced) and show a clear understanding of the topic. A consistent record of major posts can help if you have a borderline grade at the end of the term.

Minor post: The other post may be responses to the postings of others in the class or short questions or statements initiated by you. These posts may be in the form of questions, comments, observations, initial reactions, and so on. A minor post consists of approximately 200 words.

Grading of posts: All posts should be related directly to weekly topics and readings. Late posts will receive no points for the week except for documented illness or emergency.

Quizzes

You must complete the assigned online modules in order to successfully complete the class. At the end of each module, there is a 15-question quiz. You must complete **four out of the five** quizzes. All quizzes will be timed. You will be allowed 20 minutes to complete each quiz. Students who do not complete the quizzes during the assigned time period will receive a zero. Please note that no make-up quizzes will be given.

Student Response Paper

You will complete a student response paper on any topic related to urban sociology. Please discuss possible topics for your paper in Discussion 2. The SRP must include a title page, 4 pages of content in 12-point font, double-spaced, with 1" margins, and a reference page in any standard reference format (Chicago, APA, MLA, etc.).

Late/Make-up Policy:

All papers and assignments must be submitted via Canvas before the posted deadline to be graded. Late papers and assignments will not be accepted. Any paper or assignment sent via email or received in person will not be graded. Students should submit papers as a PDF or a Microsoft Word Document. Papers that are submitted in a different format or that cannot be opened will not be graded.

Make-up policy: No make-up exams or quizzes will be provided.

Module **Date** **Material**
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Assignments

1,2,3	7/5-7/9	Ch. 1: The New Urban Sociology Ch. 3: The Rise of Urban Sociology Ch. 4: Contemporary Urban Sociology	Quiz 1: 7/12 by 11:59PM Discussion 1: 7/12 by 11:59PM
4,5,6	7/12-7/16	Ch. 5: Urbanization in the United States Ch. 6: Suburbanization, Globalization and the Multicentered Region	Quiz 2: 7/19 by 11:59PM Discussion 2: 7/19 by 11:59PM Feedback Group/Topic Selection: 7/19 by 11:59PM
7,8,9	7/19-7/23	Ch. 7: People and Lifestyles in the Metropolis Ch. 9: Metropolitan Problems	Quiz 3: 7/26 by 11:59PM Discussion 3: 7/26 by 11:59PM
10, 11, 12	7/26-7/30	Ch. 10: Urbanization in the Developed Nations Ch. 11: Urbanization in the Developing World	Quiz 4: 8/2 by 11:59PM Discussion 4: 8/2 by 11:59PM
13 & 14	8/2-8/6	Ch. 12: Metropolitan Planning and Environmental Issues Ch. 13: Metropolitan Social Policy	Quiz 5: 8/6 by 11:59PM

Final Student Response Paper due 8/8 by 11:59PM

