

Geog 5501 – Urban Spaces in the Global Economy
Autumn Semester 2015

Professor Ed Malecki (malecki.4@osu.edu)

TuTh 11:10 am - 12:30 pm, Denney 214

Office Hours: Tues, Wed, and Thurs 10:00-11:00 am (and by appointment) in Derby 1056

This course covers the large body of knowledge that is called *urban geography*. The course topics are organized around two books: *Cities & Economic Change*, edited by Paddison and Hutton (Sage, 2015) and *Cities & Social Change*, edited by Paddison and McCann (Sage, 2014). The two books jointly provide a framework for the course and for urban geography generally, including the terminology or jargon common to urbanists and geographers. A third resource for the course (not required, but recommended) is *Atlas of Cities*, edited by Knox (Princeton University Press, 2014). All three books are on closed reserve at Thompson Library.

Assigned chapters are noted in the course schedule at the end of the syllabus as **P&H** (Paddison and Hutton, *Cities & Economic Change*), **P&McC** (Paddison and McCann, *Cities & Social Change*), and (for suggested sections from the *Atlas of Cities*, **Atlas**).

Films on three US cities will be shown in class from the *Making Sense of Place* series: on Cleveland, Phoenix, and Portland. Some course materials, including prepared PowerPoints and useful readings, are on

Carmen: <http://carmen.osu.edu>

I expect you to: [1] read (but not memorize) the assigned book chapters before each class, [2] submit your feedback on the day's reading (on the Carmen Activities: Survey tab) at least one hour before class each class day (by 10:10 am), [3] attend class and speak out on all topics, contributing from what you have read recently, [4] read and discuss in class at least four posts from *CityLab*, [5] read and review 2 articles from journals where urban research is published (see below), [6] write a 2-3 page "hometown paper" (see details below); [7] complete a project that gathers and/or uses data for a city, suburb, or metropolitan area, compiled in a final paper, and [8] present a summary of your final paper in class in December.

In your writing, the focus should be on what you have read and learned recently, not on what you already knew. Good papers demonstrate new knowledge gained in this course. *Late assignments without a medical or funeral excuse lose a letter grade automatically*. Please turn in assignments as paper (or hard) copies at class time – not as attachments to e-mails. Don't make me print your files. Plan ahead so that you have time and a printer available.

Grading will be based on 7 elements:

- Attendance (sign in) each class day and participation on the topic of the day and your recent reading on urban issues, whether for assignments or otherwise.
- Complete a survey on Carmen [under the Activities tab] with your feedback [what is new, confusing, needing elaboration] on the day's assigned reading, no later than 10:10 am each class day.
- Summary and comments on 4 posts in *CityLab*, a daily blog on cities [<http://www.citylab.com/>]. These can be shared in class early or on the due dates.
- Reviews of 2 articles [for grad students: 3] from any of the following journals – from any issue, any year (the article must be at least 5 pages long; not a book reviews). All are available as electronic journals in OSU Libraries:

Cities
Journal of Urban Affairs
Urban Affairs Review
Urban Studies
International Journal of Urban and Regional Research

City, Culture and Society
Journal of Urban Economics
Urban Geography
Journal of the American Planning Association

A review must: include a full citation of the article (author, title, journal title, volume, issue, year, and page numbers), be 2-3 pages or 1000-1500 words (1-1/2 or double-spaced, 1-inch margins, , include a labeled section of **no more than** 1 page of *summary* of the article and a labeled section **at least** 1 page (i.e. 1-2 pages) long of *critique* – that is, your thoughts and reactions and comparisons with other sources – that resulted from having read the article. The critique should *not* be focused on the article itself, and a point-by-point criticism is not what is meant by a critique. The best critiques draw on material from outside the article – from your life, your job, your family or friends, or material from this or other courses.

The two articles reviewed must be from two different journals – not just two different articles from different issues of the same journal title. [For grad students, three different journals]

- Each review is worth 15% of the course grade, or **30%** combined. The **article reviews are due on September 24 and November 5**. Evaluation will be based on evident organization (including sections with section headings), quality of writing (spelling grammar, and punctuation), and quality and clarity of the summary and of the points you are make in the critique.
- A 2-3 page paper (1000-1200 words, 1-1/2 or double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point Times Roman font) that summarizes the past, present, and future of your hometown and home metropolitan region. That is, think about the city and suburb with which you most identify and set them in the context of recent urban trends. Do not rely on – nor attempt to recreate – a Wikipedia account.
 - Your **hometown** paper is due **Thursday, November 19** and is worth 15% of the course grade. Evaluation is based on evident organization, quality of writing (spelling grammar, and punctuation), and quality and clarity of the points you are making in the paper.
 - The hometown paper should provide a geographical, historical and economic sketch of your hometown (if you have lived in several places, choose one). Include which metropolitan area is most important to your hometown; that is, if your home is a suburb or a small town, where does your family shop and eat out, and which airport do they use? What was the local economy based on, say, 25 years ago? What is it based on now? What is the future of the place in a globalized world?
- Small exams or quizzes on course material and readings. There will be 2 of these – unannounced – during the semester. Each is worth 5% of the course grade, or **10%** for the two.
- A final project – individual or by a group of 2-3 collaborators – on an urban issue in a particular city. The presentation and final report combined are worth **20%** of the course grade.

There are two kinds of projects.

Your paper should be based on or take off from an urban issue or topic in a chapter in one of our textbooks. Cite that chapter as well as one or more of the journal articles which you reviewed – and others published in the urban journals – also provide examples of relevant to your final project.

The first type of project relies mainly on *secondary* (published, readily available) data and should, first, place the city in its regional, national, and international context, in terms of the strengths and weaknesses of its economy, transportation connections, and attractions; and, second, describe the issues (political, social, economic), and their its history, the protagonists, and resolution or current status of the issue. Examples include: examining the ethnic and social mix in a neighborhood, accounting for the growth or decline of jobs in a city, and identifying where suburban residents work.

The project could, but need not, use census data analyzed with GIS or spreadsheet software. It could be based on archival sources, such as newspapers or public documents.

If your paper is mainly a review of published research or sources, it should cite at least 10 references.

The second type involves *primary* data collection: gathering your own data in the community from conversations with people and your own observations. Examples of topics for the project include: describing a cross-town ride (more than just High Street) on the COTA bus system, learning where your co-workers live and where they came from and where they shop, examining first-hand the ethnic and social mix in a neighborhood, identifying conflicts over housing decline and gentrification, documenting the sources of controversy over a new retail store or shopping center. Many other possibilities are out there. Even if using primary data, your paper must be connected to published research, citing at least 8 references.

The final paper is worth **20%** of the course grade. The final project report should be 2500-3000 words (8-10 pages) plus appendices if appropriate. At least 8 references must be cited. Evaluation is based on evident organization (that means sections with section headings), correct spelling, grammar and punctuation, completeness of the description of your research, your findings, and their significance or the “take home” point of your work.

Summary:

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|----------------------|---|
| Attendance: | 10% – Sign in, complete Carmen survey, and participate each class day |
| CityLab reports (4): | 20% (5% each) – due dates: September 10 and 17, October 8 and 22 |
| Article reviews (2): | 30% (15% each) – due dates: September 24 and November 5 For grad students: 30% (10% each) – due dates: Sept.24, Oct. 13, and Nov 5 |
| Hometown paper: | 15% – due date: November 19 |
| Quizzes possible: | 10% (2@5% each): in class at instructor discretion |
| Presentation | 5% – PowerPoint summary of your final paper in class |
| Final Paper: | 20% – due date: December 10 for graduating students; for others: December 14. Bring papers to 1056 Derby Hall |

Policies:

Academic Misconduct:

Plagiarism and cheating (academic misconduct) will be reported. For additional information, see the OSU Code of Student Conduct (http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp).

Disability Services:

Students with disabilities that have been certified by the Office of Disability Services will be accommodated appropriately, and should inform the instructor as soon as possible of their needs. The Office of Disability Services is located in 150 Pomerene Hall, 1760 Neil Avenue; tel: 292-3307, TDD 292-0901; <http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu/>

Cell phones:

Please use them before and after – but not during – class.

Geog 5501 – Autumn 2015

Schedule

| Week | Dates and due dates | Topics | Reading Assignments |
|------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | August 25 (Tu) | Intro | |
| | August 27 (Th) | Cities and urban geography | P&H ch 1, pp 1-7; P&McC ch 1, pp 1-11; Atlas p 84 |
| 2 | September 1 (Tu) | Representing and imagining | Koch & Latham, P&McC ch 2; Atlas pp 114-115 |
| | September 3 (Th) | Rescaling | Harrison, P&H ch 3; Atlas pp 110-113 |
| 3 | September 8 (Tu) | Gentrification | Lees, P&McC ch 3 |
| | September 10 (Th) | Urban economies | Krätke, P&H ch 4; Atlas pp 138-139 |
| | CityLab 1 due | | |
| 4 | September 15 (Tu) | Decline; Film: Cleveland | Turok, P&H ch 5 |
| | September 17 (Th) | Poverty | De Verteuil, P&McC ch 4 |
| | CityLab 2 due | | |
| 5 | September 22 (Tu) | Urban diversity | Valentine, P&McC ch 5 |
| | September 24 (Th) | Sensing the city | Degan, P&McC ch 6; Atlas pp 88-97 |
| | Review 1 due | | |
| 6 | September 29 (Tu) | Jobs in the city | MacKinnon, P&H ch 6 |
| | October 1 (Th) | NO CLASS | I'll be in Kansas City |
| 7 | October 6 (Tu) | Social patterns in cities | Herbert & Grobelski, P&McC ch 7 |
| | October 8 (Th) | Informal work | Williams, P&H ch 7 |
| | CityLab 3 due | | |
| 8 | October 13 (Tu) | Governance; Film: Portland | Deas & Headlam, P&H ch 8; Atlas pp 196-209 |
| | October 15 (Th) | NO CLASS: Autumn Break | |
| 9 | October 20 (Tu) | Walls; Film: Phoenix | MacLeod, P&McC ch 8 |
| | October 22 (Th) | Economic resilience | Polèse, P&H ch 9 |
| | CityLab 4 due | | |
| 10 | October 27 (Tu) | Imagineering | Van den Berg, P&H, ch 10; Atlas pp 126-137 |
| | October 29 (Th) | Inclusion & exclusion | Pieterse, P&H ch 11; Atlas pp 140-157 |
| 11 | November 3 (Tu) | Governing cities | Kearns & Moon, P&McC ch 9; Atlas pp 78-81 |
| | November 5 (Th) | Place and justice | Ho, P&H ch 13; de Filippis & Rivero, P&McC ch 11 |
| | Article review 2 due | | |
| 12 | November 10 (Tu) | Sustainability 1 | Whitehead, P&H ch 12; Atlas 210-225 |
| | November 12 (Th) | Sustainability 2 | Cook & Swyngedouw, P&McC ch 10 |
| 13 | November 17 (Tu) | Production | Hutton, P&H ch 14 |
| | November 19 (Th) | Change | McCann & Paddison, P&McC ch 13 |
| | Hometown paper due | Organize presentation sched. | |
| | November 24 (Tu) | NO CLASS | Happy Thanksgiving |
| | November 26 (Th) | NO CLASS | Thanksgiving |
| 14 | December 1 (Tu) | Project presentations | |
| | December 3 (Th) | Project presentations | |
| 15 | December 8 (Tu) | Project presentations | Last class |
| | December 10 (Th) | Final papers due | (for graduating seniors) – Bring to 1056 Derby Hall. |
| | December 14 (M) | Final papers due at 12 noon | This is the scheduled final exam day & time. No exam, but are papers due at 12 noon in 1056 Derby Hall. |