

**Geog 5501 – Urban Spaces in the Global Economy (aka Urban Geography)**  
**Autumn Semester 2014**

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

**MWF 11:30 am - 12:25 pm, Derby 1080**

Office Hours: *Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday* 10:00-11:00 am in Derby 1056

Course Materials are on Carmen: <http://carmen.osu.edu>

This course covers the large body of knowledge that is called *urban geography*. The course topics are organized around one textbook: *Urban Geography (3<sup>rd</sup> edition)*, by David H. Kaplan, Steven R. Holloway, and James O. Wheeler (Wiley, 2014). The Kaplan, Holloway and Wheeler book (abbreviated *Urban G* or Kaplan) provides a framework for the course and for urban geography generally, as well as the terminology or jargon common to urbanists and geographers. Films on three US cities will be shown in class from the *Making Sense of Place* series: on Cleveland, Phoenix, and Portland.

I expect you to: [1] attend class and speak out on all topics, [2] read (but not memorize) the textbook chapters, [3] read and review 2 articles from journals where urban research is published (see below), [4] write a 2-page “hometown paper” (see details below); [5] complete a project that gathers and/or uses data for a city, suburb, or metropolitan area, compiled in a final project report, [5], and [6] turn in assignments on time.

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*. Assignments are expected to be turned in 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 6 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.
- Summaries and comments on 3 posts in *CityLab*, a daily blog on cities [<http://www.citylab.com/>]
- Reviews of 2 articles [for grad students: 3 reviews] from any issue, any year (articles must be at least 5 pages long) from any two the following journals – all available as electronic journals in OSU Libraries:

*Cities*

*International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*

*Journal of the American Planning Association*

*Journal of Urban Affairs*

*Journal of Urban Economics*

*Urban Affairs Review*

*Urban Geography*

*Urban Studies*

First of all, choose an article that interests you. Do not choose one in the first issue you come across or the one with the fewest pages. Again, the article you choose must be at least 5 pages long. Select two or three that seem to be interesting throughout, not only on the title page. Print the articles out, and read them through on paper – not on the computer screen. Then select the one article (or save the second for your next review) you will read carefully and summarize. Then add your critique – your thoughts and reactions based on your home, work, travel experiences, or

other things you have read. 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 other course.

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 (double-spaced, 1-inch margins, 12-point Times Roman font), 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 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 19 and November 7**. 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-page paper (1000-1200 words, 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 **Friday, October 3** and is worth **20%** 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 quarter. Each is worth 5% of the course grade, or 10% for the two.
- A final project – individual or 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.**

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.

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.

The articles which you review – and others published in the journals – also provide examples of urban issues relevant to your final project.

The final project is worth **20%** of the course grade. The final project report should be 8-10 pages (2500-3000 words, plus appendices if appropriate). 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:**

Attendance:	10% - Sign in and participate each class day
<i>CityLab</i> reports (3):	15% (5% each) – due dates: September 12, October 10, and October 24
Article reviews (2):	30% (15% each) – due dates: September 19 and November 7 For grad students: 30% (10% each) – due dates: Sept.19, Oct. 17, and Nov 7
Hometown paper:	15% – due date: October 3
Quizzes:	10% (2@5% each): in class at instructor discretion
Project:	20% – due date: December 10; due date for graduating students: December 12

### **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](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.

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Schedule

Week	Dates and due dates	Topics	Reading Assignments
1	August 27 (W)	Intro	
	August 29 (F)	Cities and urban geog	Kaplan, ch 1, pp. 3-24
2	September 1 (M)	NO CLASS: Labor Day Holiday	
	September 3 (W)	Origins & development of cities	Kaplan, ch 2, pp. 25-45
	September 5 (F)	Cities as economic engines	Kaplan, ch 2, pp. 45-58
3	September 8 (M)	Urban systems	Kaplan, ch 3, pp. 61-64
	September 10 (W)	The US urban system	Kaplan, ch 3, pp. 64-84
	September 12 (F) <b>CityLab report due</b>		
4	September 15 (M)	World cities	Kaplan, ch 4, pp. 86-96
	September 17 (W)	World cities: connections	Kaplan, ch 4, pp. 97-102
	September 19 (F) <b>Review 1 due</b>	World cities and the Internet	Kaplan, ch 4, pp. 103-110
5	September 22 (M)	Land use, cities and suburbs	Kaplan, ch 5, pp. 117-126
	September 24 (W)		Kaplan, ch 5, pp. 126-141
	September 26 (F)	Film	
6	September 29 (M)	Production in the city	Kaplan, ch 6, pp. 142-153
	October 1 (W)		Kaplan, ch 6, pp. 153-163
	October 3 (F) <b>Hometown paper due</b>		Kaplan, ch 6, pp. 163-166
7	October 6 (M)	Social patterns in cities	Kaplan, ch 7, pp. 169-178
	October 8 (W)		Kaplan, ch 7, pp. 178-185
	October 10 (F) <b>CityLab report 2 due</b>		Kaplan, ch 7, pp. 185-197
8	October 13 (M)	Housing in cities	Kaplan, ch 8, pp. 198-206
	October 15 (W)	<b>Slums</b>	Kaplan, ch 8, pp. 206-220
	October 17 (F)		Kaplan, ch 8, pp. 220-232
9	October 20 (M)	Segregation & poverty	Kaplan, ch 9, pp. 233-253
	October 22 (W)		Kaplan, ch 9, pp. 253-268
	October 24 (F) <b>CityLab report 3 due</b>	Film	
10	October 27 (M)	Migration to cities	Kaplan, ch 10, pp. 269-284
	October 29 (W)		Kaplan ch 10, pp. 284-294
	October 31 (F)		Kaplan, ch 10, pp. 294-305

11	November 3 (M)	Governing cities	Kaplan, ch 11, pp. 309-316
	November 5 (W)		Kaplan, ch 11, pp. 316-333
	November 7 (F)		
	<b>Article review 2 due</b>		
12	November 10 (M)	Planning	Kaplan, ch 12, pp. 334-367
	November 12 (W)	Film	
	November 14 (F)	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
13	November 17 (M)	Cities in Europe & Japan	Kaplan, ch 13, pp. 371—386
	November 19 (W)		Kaplan, ch 13, pp. 386-394
	November 21 (F)		Kaplan, ch 13, pp. 394-399
	November 24 (M)	Cities in Asia, Africa, and Latin America	Kaplan, ch 14, pp. 401-428
	November 26 & 28	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
14	December 1 (M)		Kaplan, ch 15, pp. 429-460
	December 3 (W)	Project presentations	
	December 5 (F)	Project presentations	
	December 8 (M)	Project presentations Last class	
	December 10	<b>Final projects due (graduating seniors)</b>	
	December 12	<b>Final projects due</b>	