

GEOG 2023: Cities, Inequality and Urban Change

Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University

Fall 2024

Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Ridgley
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Lecture: Tuesdays, 9:35-11:25am

Tutorials: A1 Wednesdays 10:35-11:25
A2 Thursdays 10:35-11:25
A3 Wednesdays 9:35-10:25

Important note about emailing: It is important to include the course code and tutorial number (eg. GEOG 2023, A2) in the subject line of ALL emails to ensure they are not redirected to spam filters. Emails without the course code and section number may not be received and thus may not receive a reply.

Teaching Assistants: Jordan Moffatt (JordanMoffatt@cmail.carleton.ca)
Eyram Agbe (EyramAgbe@cmail.carleton.ca)

Brightspace course page link: <https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/289532>

1. Course Description

This course explores geographical perspectives on the uneven power relationships and politics that shape urban lives and urban space. It provides an introduction to Critical Urban Geography and examines how factors such as gender, class, dis/ability, race and sexuality shape city life and city form. It will also investigate how urban residents, social movements, and policy makers have attempted to address key urban issues such as inequality, health, safety, livelihoods, mobility and sustainability.

This is an in-person course and is not suitable for online or remote learners.

Students are expected to complete all required readings and learning activities before attending lectures and tutorials.

Prerequisites: GEOG 1023, or second-year standing, or permission of the department.

2. Learning Outcomes

By the end of this course, students should be able to:

- Apply key concepts in Urban Geography to analyze urban inequality and urban change;
- Identify how factors such as gender, class, dis/ability, race and sexuality shape city life and city form;

- Describe how urban residents, social movements, and policy makers have attempted to address key urban issues such as inequality, health, safety, livelihoods, mobility and sustainability;
- Demonstrate improved communication and academic skills, including writing, reading comprehension, and argument.

3. Required Readings and Textbooks

There is no need to purchase a textbook for this course. All required readings will be posted on Brightspace, or be made available through *Ares*, Carleton’s online course reserve system. A detailed schedule of required readings will be posted on Brightspace.

4. Course Calendar

Lecture Date	Topic(s)	
September 10	Introduction to Course	No tutorials
September 17	Cities for Whom? Spatial Justice and the Right to the City	
September 24	Urban Poverty and Everyday Life	
October 1	Housing and Home <i>Assignment #1 Due Friday October 4th (10%)</i>	
October 8	Planning, Politics and Policy	
October 15	<i>Midterm Test (25%)</i>	No tutorials
October 22	Fall Break	No tutorials
October 29	Planning, Politics and Policy cont’d	
November 5	The City and Social Reproduction	
November 12	Gender and Sexuality in the City <i>Assignment #2 Due Friday November 22nd (15%)</i>	
November 19	Nature, Sustainability and Justice in the City	
November 26	Health and Accessibility I	
December 3	Course Conclusion and Exam Preparation	No tutorials

5. Evaluation

Final grades will be based on the following:

Participation and In-class Activities	15%	
Assignment 1	10%	Due Friday, October 4th
Assignment 2	15%	Due Friday, November 22nd
Midterm Test	25%	October 15 th during lecture period
Final Exam	35%	Date TBD

Participation and In-class Activities

Students are expected to come to every class (lectures and tutorials) prepared to discuss the readings and course content, participate in learning activities and work towards course learning objectives.

Participation will be evaluated as a combination of attendance (the number of classes attended), completion of learning activities (small in-class exercises that are marked as complete/incomplete) and engagement (a qualitative assessment of your contributions in tutorials). Tutorial engagement includes: coming to tutorial prepared (having attended lecture and completed required readings), arriving on time, answering questions, and actively engaging in discussions and activities.

If you must miss a tutorial or lecture due to illness or emergency, please inform your TA as soon as possible to avoid penalties to your grade. There is no way to “make up” in-class activities, but students who are granted a formal accommodation will not be penalized for missing them. See below for more information about requests for formal accommodations due to short term incapacitation.

Assignments

Detailed instructions and preparation for all assignments will be provided during lectures and tutorial times and posted on Brightspace well ahead of the due dates. Students are encouraged to schedule office hours with their TAs to discuss graded work and receive detailed feedback.

Late Assignments and Extensions

Unforeseen and emergency circumstances may arise which understandably prevent students from submitting work on time (for example, illness, childcare responsibilities, death of a loved one, etc.). If this happens, students should contact their TA as soon as possible and no later than three working days after the due date to request formal accommodation. Without formal accommodation, the late penalty for assignments is -5% a day.

As mentioned above, there is no way to “make up” in class activities, but students with formal accommodations will not be penalized for missing them.

A Note re. Final Grades

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

6. Notes on Communication: “Ask Your Teaching Team” and Emails

Students are encouraged to post questions about the course or assignments on the “Ask Your Teaching Team” discussion forum on the Brightspace page. The team will respond to posts at least once a day during the week between 8:30am and 4:30pm (Monday to Friday). Private questions about standing in the course, accommodations, etc. may be emailed to the Instructor or your TA. Email should be used sparingly.

Students are expected to use their Carleton email addresses or the email function on Brightspace for all emails. It is important to include the course code and section (eg. GEOG 2023, A4) in the subject line of all emails to ensure they are not redirected to spam filters. Emails without the course code and section number may not be received and thus may not receive a reply. To ensure clear communication,

please use proper spelling, grammar and punctuation. The teaching team will make every effort to respond to emails within 2-3 working days. Please note that teaching staff generally respond to emails between 8:30am and 4:30pm on weekdays, and so emails received on Friday may not be responded to until the following Tuesday.

7. Office Hours

Students are strongly encouraged to schedule office hours with their TA to raise questions and concerns, or to engage in discussion about the course, readings, or assignments. Details about office hours will be posted on Brightspace.

8. Copyright and Intellectual Property

Classroom teaching and learning activities, including slides, reflections, discussions, assignments, presentations, etc., by both instructors and students, are copy protected and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). All course materials, including PowerPoint presentations, outlines, and other materials, are also protected by copyright and remain the intellectual property of their respective author(s). Students registered in the course may take notes and make copies of course materials **for their own educational use only**. Students are not permitted to reproduce or distribute notes and course materials publicly for commercial or non-commercial purposes without express written consent from the copyright holder(s).

Aside from the official legal contexts above, please note that the collective creation of a safe, trusting, and supportive learning environment to discuss and debate challenging subjects is an important expectation of students, faculty, and guests in this class. For this reason, all participants are asked to refrain from recording, copying, or re-posting anything from lectures or tutorials outside of the Brightspace course page.

9. Academic Integrity

Students are responsible for reading and familiarizing themselves with Carleton's Academic Integrity Policy. This policy is available here: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

Plagiarism

This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else's published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one's own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT)
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

Note that you are not permitted to re-use of the same piece of work previously submitted for credit in another course, or a previous year in GEOG 2023.

Prohibitions on the Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence Tools (e.g. ChatGPT)

The use of generative artificial intelligence tools for the creation or submission of graded work, or while completing learning activities in tutorials or lectures, is prohibited in GEOG 2023.

10.Statement on Student Mental Health

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you. Here is a link that may be helpful: <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

11.Requests for Academic Accommodations

Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (students.carleton.ca/course-outline).