

# GEOG 2023: Cities, Inequality and Urban Change

Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University: Fall 2023  
v. Draft August 2023

**Lecture:** Mondays 9:35 – 11:25am,  
**Instructor:** Dr. Jennifer Ridgley, [jennifer.ridgley@carleton.ca](mailto:jennifer.ridgley@carleton.ca)  
**Tutorials:** A1 Tuesdays 4:35-5:25pm  
A2 Mondays 7:05-7:55pm  
A3 Mondays 1:35-2:25  
A4 Mondays 11:35am – 12:25pm

**Teaching Assistants:** TBA

**Brightspace Page:** TBA

## 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.

## 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.

## 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 link to Ares can be found on the Brightspace page. A detailed schedule of required readings will be posted on Brightspace.

## Lecture Schedule and Important Dates

Week	Topic	
September 11	Introduction to Course	No tutorials this week
September 18	Cities for Whom? Spatial Justice and the Right to the City	Tutorials
September 25	Housing, Home and Everyday Life	Tutorials
October 2	Urban Planning Assignment #1 due Friday, October 6th at 12pm	Tutorials
October 9	Statutory holiday. University closed. No lecture.	No tutorials
October 16	Urban Planning and Politics	Tutorials
October 23	Reading Week - No lectures	No tutorials
October 30	Case Study	Tutorials
November 6	Midterm Test	No tutorials this week
November 13	The City and Social Reproduction	Tutorials
November 20	Gender, Sex, and Desire in the City Assignment #2 due Friday, November 24 <sup>th</sup> at 12pm	Tutorials
November 27	Health and Accessibility	Tutorials
December 4	Nature and Justice in the City	Tutorials
December 8	Exam Review - Note that this is a Friday, and Carleton is on a "Monday" schedule	

## Evaluation

Final grades will be based on the following:

Participation	15%	
Assignment 1	10%	Due Friday, October 6 <sup>th</sup> at 12pm
Assignment 2	15%	Due Friday, November 24 <sup>th</sup> at 12pm
Midterm Test	20%	Monday, October 16 <sup>th</sup> (during lecture period)
Final Exam	40%	Date TBD

## Participation

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), 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 participation grade. See below for more information about requests for accommodations due to short term incapacitation.

## Assignments

Detailed instructions and preparation for two short assignments will be provided during lectures or tutorial time and posted on Brightspace well ahead of the due dates. Where possible, graded assignments which were submitted on time will be posted no later than two weeks after they are submitted. Students are encouraged to attend 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 a formal accommodation.** The late penalty for assignments is -5% a day.

## 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 (GEOG 2023) in the subject line of all emails. 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.

## Office Hours

Students are strongly encouraged to attend office hours with their TAs to raise questions and concerns about the course, readings, or assignments. Details about office hours will be posted on Brightspace.

## 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.

## Grades

In accordance with the Carleton University Calendar, the letter grades assigned in this course will have the following percentage equivalents:

A+ = 90-100	B+ = 77-79	C+ = 67-69	D+ = 57-59
A = 85-89	B = 73-76	C = 63-66	D = 53-56
A - = 80-84	B - = 70-72	C - = 60-62	D - = 50-52
F = Below 50			

WDN = Withdrawn from the course ABS = Student absent from final exam DEF = Deferred (see below) FND = (Failed, no Deferred) = Student could not pass the course even with 100% on final exam.

Note that 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.

## 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.

### 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**.

### 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/>

### Academic Accommodation

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

**Informal accommodation due to short-term incapacitation:** If you must miss a lecture, tutorial, or due date due to illness, please contact your Teaching Assistant as soon as possible to request accommodation. If you miss a test or exam due to illness, please contact the Course Instructor as soon as possible and submit the Self-Declaration for Academic Considerations form (<https://carleton.ca/registrar/wp-content/uploads/self-declaration.pdf>). Note this form replaces the need for medical notes.

**Pregnancy obligation:** Contact the Course Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form (<https://carleton.ca/equity/contact/form-pregnancy-accommodation/>).

**Religious obligation:** Contact the Course Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist.

**Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic

accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or [pmc@carleton.ca](mailto:pmc@carleton.ca) for a formal evaluation. If you are already registered with the PMC, please request your accommodations for this course through the Ventus Student Portal at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (*if applicable*). Requests made within two weeks will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. For final exams, the deadlines to request accommodations are published in the University Academic Calendars. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with the Course Instructor during office hours to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

**Survivors of Sexual Violence:** As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

**Accommodation for Student Activities:** Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation will be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Write to the Course Instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>