

Winter 2019 - Draft  
Special Topics in the Study of Cities and Urbanization  
**GEOG 5500: Order and Disorder in the City**  
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies  
Carleton University



Time and Location: Mondays 2:35-5:25 pm, Loeb A220  
Instructor: Dr. Jennifer Ridgley  
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Office Hours: TBA

Cities have long been viewed as chaotic and unknowable places, characterized by congestion, insecurity, and danger. Attempts to bring order to the perceived complexity and unpredictability of urban life have been at the heart of local planning, reform, and policing efforts. But cities have also been celebrated as sites of transgression and random encounter, diverse spaces where creativity and freedom have nurtured new forms of identity, economics, culture, and political change. Urban space and urban identities have been produced at the intersection of these different understandings of order and disorder in the city.

In this course, we will explore how diverse understandings of order and disorder have shaped urban life and the built environment. We will explore attempts to impose forms of discipline on the city, and how different groups (eg. workers, women, youth, racialized communities, the urban poor) have been positioned as potential threats to a safe, prosperous, and orderly city. We will examine how economic and political power are reflected in the regulation of urban space, and how “unruly” urban populations are both subjected to - and defy - forms of social control.

Key topics: labour and work, segregation and diversity, policing and surveillance, gender and sex, public health, protest and revolution, informality, property, racialized space.

### Course Readings

There is no textbook for this class. All required readings for the course are available on cuLearn or through *Ares* (Carleton’s online course reserve system).

### Evaluation

The course grade will be based on the following components:

Participation	20%
Discussant (2 x 10%)	20%
Reading Responses (4 x 5%)	20%
Term Paper or Final Project	40%

### **Participation (20%)**

Students are expected to come to every class prepared to discuss the readings and fully participate in classroom activities. Students should bring a copy of the required readings, and their notes, to class with them to facilitate engagement with the texts during class time. Participation will be evaluated as a combination of:

- Attendance (a simple tally of the number of classes attended); and
- Participation (a qualitative assessment of your contribution to class: come prepared, on time, raise questions, actively engage in discussions, make meaningful contributions to class discussion, engage respectfully with colleagues, etc.)

To encourage participation, and out of respect for colleagues in the class, there is no cell phone use in this class. Students are asked to turn off their cell phones, and put them away before class begins. Laptops are permitted in the class for taking notes and accessing readings, but should not be used for any other activity during class time

### **Discussant (2 x 10% = 20%)**

Twice during the term, students will be asked to take on the role of “discussant.” Discussants have 2 responsibilities:

1. Discussants will provide a 20-25 minute overview of readings for the class. These presentations should introduce important ideas and arguments from the texts, provide background information where useful, raises questions, and/or makes links with other readings and course materials. The goal of this presentation is to provide a framework for class discussion. Avoid a simple summary of the texts. Assume colleagues have read the materials thoroughly.
2. Submit 2-3 questions related to the week’s readings to the discussion forum on cuLearn. Questions are due at 4pm on the Wednesday before class.

### **Reading Responses (4 x 5% = 20%)**

Throughout the term, students are asked to submit 4 reading responses that critically reflect on the week’s readings. Reading responses should be about one page long (single spaced). Details about this component of the course will be provided on the second day of class.

### **Submission of Assignments and Late Penalties**

Assignments should be submitted according to the instructions provided by the Course Instructor in class. Students should retain a hard copy (with electronic backup) of all assignments submitted for class. Late assignments will be penalized 3 grade points per calendar day, unless accompanied by adequate written documentation (eg. a doctor’s note). Requests for a review of an assigned grade must take place in written form (e.g. by email) within 7 days of the grade being posted on cuLearn.

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; DEF = Deferred; INC = Incomplete.

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.

### **Plagiarism**

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This can include:

- 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;
- submitting a take-home examination, essay, laboratory report or other assignment written, in whole or in part, by someone else;
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, or paraphrased material, concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings;
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s works and/or failing to use quotation marks;
- handing in "substantially the same piece of work for academic credit more than once without prior written permission of the course instructor in which the submission occurs."

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.

### **Academic Accommodations**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. You can visit the Equity Services website to view the policies and to obtain more detailed information on academic accommodation at <http://www.carleton.ca/equity/>. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows:

Pregnancy obligation: write to the Professor 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.

Religious obligation: write to the Professor 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, contact your PMC coordinator to send the Professor your Letter of Accommodation 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. After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made.