

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**Cities in a Global World (GEOG 3023A)**  
**Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Carleton University**  
**Late Summer 2018**

Lecture: Mondays and Wednesdays, 6:05 pm - 8:55 pm, Southam Hall 314

Instructor: Dr. Donald Leffers  
Office: Loeb A209  
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 1:00 - 2:00 pm  
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**Course Description:**

In this course, we examine the social, political, economic, and historical factors that shape urbanization processes. The course focuses on local-global connections to examine urbanization processes in different places and contexts. These processes are examined through a range of contemporary themes, issues, and theories, including: globalization and 'worlding'; the production and regulation of urban space; gentrification and displacement; neoliberal and austerity urbanism; informality and the struggle for livelihoods; the right to the city and insurgent urbanism; and city branding and mega-projects. We will also examine several case studies of urbanization in different contexts.

**Prerequisite:**

GEOG 2200 or GEOG 2400, or third-year standing, or permission from the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies

**Course Outcomes:**

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

- Explain the relational and contingent nature of urbanization processes in different contexts;
- Examine and critically evaluate important urban issues using particular theoretical frameworks;
- Analyze the interconnected social, political, economic, and spatial dimensions of urbanization;
- Develop and apply critical reading, writing, and thinking skills.

**Class Format:**

The course meets twice weekly and consists of 3-hour time slots. Classes will consist of lectures, discussions, guest speakers, and debates drawing on readings, case studies, news stories, and so on.

**cuLearn**

A cuLearn site containing the course outline, unit descriptions, links to the required readings, assignment instructions, discussions, and lecture notes can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/culearn/>. The lecture notes provide a partial summary of the material presented in class and should not be considered a replacement for attending class and taking careful notes. Your confidential grades will be posted on cuLearn as available. Please check your posted grades and notify the instructor of any inaccuracies. Note that lecture topics, readings, and other course materials are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor. Changes will be announced in class and/or on cuLearn.

**Texts:**

There are no required textbooks for this course. The required reading materials can be accessed on ARES through cuLearn or through the library.

### **Lectures, Assignments, and Readings:**

Lectures, assignments, class discussions, readings, and other course materials are intended to work together in meeting the course's learning outcomes. Required readings establish the overall theme for each class, introducing key concepts, issues, and arguments. Lectures expand upon the readings, clarify key terms or issues, and provide additional background material and examples. Assignments give students the opportunity to deepen their critical understanding and analysis of issues and concepts. Students should come to class prepared to discuss the readings in an informed manner.

### **Course Evaluation and Assignments:**

#### ***Mark Distribution (% of final grade):***

In class reading presentations	10%
Assignment 1: Thematic critical commentary (due Jul 18)	15%
Mid term exam (Jul 23)	25%
Assignment 2: Comparative urbanism study (due Aug 15)	20%
Final exam (exam period)	25%
Participation	5%

#### ***Written Assignments (35%):***

Detailed instructions for each assignment will be distributed in class and posted on cuLearn. Assignment 1 (15%) instructions will be distributed and discussed in class in Unit 2. Assignment 2 (20%) instructions will be distributed and discussed in class in Unit 7. Written assignments are due at the beginning of class on the indicated due dates. Assignments handed in after class will be considered late. Late assignments will be penalized 10% for each calendar day past the due date, unless accompanied by adequate written documentation for a legitimate reason. Assignment extensions will be considered only for legitimate reasons and only if requested at least 48 hours before the deadline. Late assignments must be uploaded as a Word or pdf file to cuLearn. Do not use the drop box for late assignments.

#### ***Reading Presentations (10%):***

Over the course of the term, each student will present one of the readings for a particular unit. Student will sign up for a particular reading during Unit 1. Presenters will provide a brief summary of the reading, and then highlight a key issue of importance, a critique of the paper, or a comment on how the reading contributes to further understanding of cities in a global world. Presenters will also develop two questions or points for discussion at the end of their presentation. Discussion questions are to be uploaded to cuLearn the day before class.

#### ***Exams (50%):***

The two hour mid-term and final exams (25% each) will be comprised of multiple choice, fill-in the blank, short and long answer questions related to key concepts, issues, themes, relationships, and processes covered in class lectures, readings, class discussions, and other course materials. The mid-term exam will focus on course material covered between Units 1 and 5. The two-hour final exam will include material from the entire course. There will be no make-up exam for a missed mid-term. If a student misses the mid-term exam because of a documented illness or family emergency, the final exam will be reweighted to count for 50% percent of the final grade. If documentation for a missed mid-term exam is insufficient, a grade of zero will be assigned. The only acceptable absences from the mid-term exam are documented medical or immediate family emergencies. For absences from the mid-term related to medical reasons, students will need to provide a doctor's note that clearly excuses them on the day of the exam (e.g. a note saying that a student was ill before the exam is not sufficient). The note should be written on the official letterhead of the physician and it should be delivered to the instructor within five days of the missed examination. The note should include the name and telephone number of the physician so that details can be verified. As family emergencies vary more in nature, please contact the instructor during the week following the missed mid-term to discuss the process for obtaining the necessary written documentation.

***Class Participation (5%):***

Students should come to class prepared to participate in class discussions in an informed manner based on their familiarity with the weekly readings, and in conversation with the discussion questions uploaded to cuLearn by the weekly presenters. Students are encouraged to think about what important urban issues the articles raise, and how the articles contribute to an understanding of 'cities in a global world'. Class participation will be evaluated by the instructor based on attendance and overall contribution to class discussions during the entire semester. Class participation therefore involves completing the readings before class, attending class, and contributing to class discussions.

**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			

DEF = Deferred final exam or term work; GNA = grade not available; WDN = withdrawn from the course. The instructor may adjust course grades at the end of the term. 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.

**Drop Date:**

Please check the CU Calendar for the last day in the term to withdraw from a course with full fee adjustment.

**Course Schedule:**

Unit 1, July 4: Introduction to the course  
Unit 2, July 9: Theorizing cities in a world of cities  
Unit 3, July 11: Urban governance and neoliberalism  
Unit 4, July 16: Housing, informality, and livelihoods  
Unit 5, July 18: The right to the city; Assignment 1 due  
Unit 6, July 23: Midterm exam  
Unit 7, July 25: Creative urbanism  
Unit 8, July 30: Austerity urbanism  
Unit 9, August 1: Planning for people or for profit?  
Unit 10, August 6: Civic holiday, no class  
Unit 11, Wed., August 8: Urban developers and development  
Unit 12, Mon., Aug 13. City branding and 'imagineering'  
Unit 13, Wed., Aug 15, Course summary and exam review; Assignment 2 due  
August 18-24: Final examinations period

**Communications and Use of Electronic Devices in the Classroom:**

Feel free to use laptops or other devices during class if they assist in the learning process. Please minimize use of electronics for other purposes, especially if they may disrupt the class. Students should use their Carleton email account for all course-related correspondence, placing "GEOG 3023" in the subject heading. Email is an acceptable medium for responding to simple inquiries but not for more complex questions or issues, which should be discussed in person during office hours or by appointment.

### **Conduct, Academic Integrity, and Plagiarism:**

All students must follow Carleton University's Academic Integrity Policy, which can be found at: <http://www2.carleton.ca/studentaffairs/academic-integrity>. Carleton University has clear and firm policies regarding instructional and conduct offences. Instructional offences include among other activities cheating, contravening examination regulations, plagiarism, submitting similar work in 2 or more courses without prior permission, and disrupting classes. Conduct offences apply in areas of discrimination and sexual harassment. Further information about University regulations which define and regulate these offences is presented in the Undergraduate Calendar: CU Calendar.

Plagiarism is one kind of instructional offense. 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 Accommodation:**

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 me 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 me 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 me 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). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable) at <http://carleton.ca/pmc/students/dates-and-deadlines/>