

COURSE DESCRIPTION

**GEOG 5500: CITIES AND URBANIZATION, WINTER 2017**

The topic for this year is:

**MAKING A LIVING: URBAN LIVELIHOOD STRATEGIES IN THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

**Instructor:** Pablo Mendez (pablo.mendez@carleton.ca, office Loeb B-441)

**Course times and location:** Tuesdays, 8:35 am-11:25 am, room A220 in the Loeb Building

**Course description**

This course examines current research and debates about the activities and resources that people in cities deploy to make a living. We will pay attention to how such efforts relate to processes of sustainable/unsustainable urbanization and the ways in which the uneven geographies of these practices are classed, gendered, racialized, and marked by colonial dynamics. We will also strive to identify patterns of similarity and difference across and within the global north and south. Key themes approached in this course will include:

- precarity
- informal sectors
- creative and craft industries
- sharing and platform economies

Rather than working with predetermined theoretical interpretations, we will seek to move from the particular to the abstract as we examine different examples or cases. To this end, readings will consist of texts that range from the scholarly to the literary and journalistic. A detailed list of assigned readings will be available from the instructor in November 2016.

**Student evaluation**

A substantial portion of the course grade (30 percent) will be based on student participation in discussion on the readings assigned. In addition, students will be required to identify (in consultation with the instructor ) a recently published book related to the course topic and write a review of it (800-1000 words) in the style required by a scholarly journal of their choice. This assignment, due before the Winter break, will be worth 20 percent of the course grade. The remaining 50 percent will be allocated to a 6000- to 7000-word term paper on a topic selected by the student in consultation with the instructor. This term paper will be due at the end of the term.

**Note on plagiarism**

Plagiarism is the submission of someone else's writing/ideas/work as your own. All ideas presented which are not your own must be properly referenced. While forms of plagiarism may vary, each involves verbatim or near verbatim presentation of the writings or ideas of others' as

one's own without adequately acknowledging the original source. Plagiarism includes (but is not limited to): copying from a book, article or another student; downloading material or ideas from the Internet and replicating these verbatim or without citation; or otherwise submitting someone else's work or ideas as your own.

University regulations stipulate that allegations of plagiarism, cheating or any violations of examination conduct rules will be thoroughly reviewed. If the instructor suspects that a student has submitted plagiarized work, the submitted assignment will be forwarded to the Chair of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies. If it is agreed that an instructional offence may have been committed, the case will be forwarded to the Associate Dean's Office. University procedures do not permit the instructors to discuss the allegations with you. You will receive a request from the Associate Dean's Office to discuss this matter in person with two Associate Deans. They decide if an instructional offence has occurred, following an interview with the student, and decide what, if any, any penalties are warranted. Thus, you are advised to keep all research notes and printouts from web sites, even after you submit your paper.

The key to avoiding plagiarism is to learn how to do research and how to cite sources properly. The following web site provides advice: <http://www.library.carleton.ca/help/avoid-plagiarism>

### **Copyright**

Course materials, including power point presentations, outlines, and similar content, are protected by copyright. The instructor is the exclusive owner of copyright and intellectual property in the course materials. You may take notes and make copies of course materials for your own educational use. You may not and may not allow others to reproduce or distribute course materials publicly for commercial purposes without the instructor's express written consent.

### **Academic standing and conduct**

Students must familiarize themselves with the regulations concerning academic standing and conduct in the *Carleton University Graduate Calendar*. This document can be accessed online at: <http://calendar.carleton.ca/grad/>

### **Academic accommodations**

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

- **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). **Paul Menton Centre, Room 501, Unicentre**

- **For religious observance:** Students must work out accommodation (for alternate dates and/or means of satisfying academic requirements) on an individual basis with the instructor in the first two weeks of class. Consult the Equity Services website or an Equity Advisor for the policy and list of Holy Days. **Equity Services: 613 520 5622**
- **For Pregnancy:** Pregnant students requiring academic accommodations are encouraged to contact and Equity Advisor in Equity Services (ext. 5622) to complete a letter of accommodation. The student must then make an appointment to discuss her needs with the instructor at least two weeks prior to the first event in which it is anticipated the accommodation will be required.

### **Student life services**

Student Life Services, located in Room 501 of the Unicentre, offers a range of programs and services to assist students in adjusting to academic life, in improving their learning skills, and in making academic and career decisions.