

PSCI 5915 (Winter 2019)

Political Economy of Urban Crisis

Dr. Mustafa Kemal Bayırbağ

I - Course Objective

The aim of this course is to introduce students to the recent debates on urban crises. Political economy of urban crises will be explored around four major issues/themes, namely “alienation”, “uneven development”, “urban governance”, and “contestation”. The course, first offers an introductory survey of recent debates on urban crises, setting the ground for theoretical issues to be further discussed (Weeks 2-3). Next, “urban crisis” is discussed as a governance issue (and as political failure) (Weeks 4-5). Weeks 6-7 bring “alienation” as an urban problem worsened by neoliberal policies to the centre of attention, to be followed by further discussion on “subsequent/emerging forms of contestation” to crisis and public authorities’ urban policies during Weeks 8-9. Weeks 10-12 are dedicated to a comparative discussion on urban crises across the South-North/West-East divide. Students are expected to produce one reflection paper on course readings and one end-of-the-term project that will investigate a concrete example of urban crisis.

II - Teaching Policy

A friendly and positive teaching environment is preferred. I like to promote an atmosphere of mutual trust and vivid intellectual engagement. Cheating is not welcome and in no way accepted. Please try your best to add to the class with your own intellectual capacity. If you need any extra equipment or measure that will facilitate and ease your learning process, please let me know in advance. If you have health problems that will not let you attend the class or any exam, contact me as soon as possible. Please also note that I personally do not sympathise with giving extensions or make-ups unless there is a very good excuse.

III- Student Responsibilities and the Marking Scheme

The course will help you operationalise the above mentioned insights a) by asking you to write one reflection paper that will concentrate on the course readings and in-class discussions, b) and to prepare a final report, which will blend the theoretical insights from the course with empirical research, as well as a certain amount of extra literature survey pertinent to the policy issue/field you will have chosen; c) And, your active contribution to the classroom discussions, and thus attendance is crucial. Students are expected to come to the class prepared, meaning that you will have read the assigned materials to be able to follow the lectures and discussions. You are encouraged to participate in the class discussions.

And below is the evaluation scheme:

a) Participation – 20%

- Attendance, preparedness to the classroom discussions, the quality of your engagement.

b) Reflection paper – 40%

- Submitted: Week 7
- 5-6 pages long, double spaced
- Will cover the course readings/discussions covered thus far (critical evaluation).

c) Final Paper - 40%

- Details to be explained in the classroom (13-15 pages, double spaced)
- You will inform the instructor about the topic chosen, during (Week 3).
- Involves submission of a one-page research project outline (Week 9)

IV – Examination/Presentation Evaluation Policy:
(the average of three evaluation criteria)

a) Knowledge of the Literature : Breadth and Scope of your discussion. Allusion to reading materials, proper citations from the authors.

b) Insight or In Depth Analysis : Awareness of main issues, tensions, concepts, and efficiency in their operationalisation.

c) Engagement : Well researched / presented, good examples, innovative thinking and original contributions.

V - Topics and Readings

WEEK 1 (Jan 7 - 11)

Introduction: Course outline, main problematic and the concepts introduced.

WEEK 2 (Jan 14 - 18)

Urban Crisis: How to conceptualise (urban) crisis. Neoliberalism. Capital accumulation.

- Bayırbağ, M.K., Davies, J.S, Münch, S. (2017) “Interrogating urban crisis: Cities in the governance and contestation of austerity”, *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2023-2038.
- Weaver, T. (2017) “Urban crisis: The genealogy of a concept”. *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2039-2055
- Florida, R. (2017) *The New Urban Crisis*. Basic Books. (Preface; Chapters 1&2)

WEEK 3 (Jan 21 - 25)

Urban Crisis: The context. Uneven development. Alienation. Mobility. State rescaling.

FINAL PAPER TOPICS SELECTED

- Brenner, N. (2013) "Theses on urbanization". *Public Culture* 25(1): 85–114.
- Harvey, D. (2014) *Seventeen Contradictions and the End of Capitalism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (Chapter 17).
- Bayırbağ, M.K. (2013) "Continuity and Change in Public Policy: Exclusion, Redistribution and State Rescaling in Turkey", *IJURR* 37 (4): 1123-1146. "Symposium on State Rescaling" (ed. Bae-Gyoon Park).

WEEK 4 (Jan 28 – Feb 1)

Governing Urban Political Economy: "Ouroboros" and neoliberal urbanisation. Containment strategies.

- Jones, M., Ward, K. (2002) "Excavating the Logic of British Urban Policy: Neoliberalism as the "Crisis of Crisis–Management". *Antipode* 34(3): 473-494.
- Davies J.S. (2014) "Coercive cities: Reflections on the dark side of urban power in the 21st century". *Journal of Urban Affairs* 36(S2): 590–599.
- Bayırbağ, M.K., Penpecioglu, M. (2017) "Urban Crisis: Limits to Governance of Alienation". *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2056-2071.

WEEK 5 (Feb 4 - 8)

Limits to Urban Governance Under Neoliberalism: Failures and the search for ways out.

- Peck, J. (2012) Austerity urbanism: American cities under extreme economy. *City* 16(6): 626–655.
- Davies, J.S., Blanco, I. (2017) "Austerity urbanism: Patterns of neo-liberalisation and resistance in six cities of Spain and the UK". *Environment and Planning A* 49(7): 1517 – 1536.
- Hamel, p., Autin, G. (2017) "Austerity Governance and the Welfare Crisis in Montreal", *Alternateroutes* 27: 165-188.

WEEK 6 (Feb 11- 15)

Alienation: The concept. Neoliberalism and alienation.

- Ollman, B. (1971) *Alienation: Marx's Conception of Man in Capitalist Society*, 2nd Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Davies, J.S. (2013) "Just do it differently? Everyday making, Marxism and the struggle against neoliberalism". *Policy & Politics* 41(4): 497–513.
- Kipfer, S. (2002) "Urbanization, everyday life and the survival of capitalism: Lefebvre, Gramsci and the problematic of hegemony". *Capitalism Nature Socialism* 13(2): 117–149.

Also see (Harvey, D. (2014) *Seventeen Contradictions and the End of Capitalism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press (Chapter 17)) from Week 3.

WINTER BREAK – NO CLASS MEETING (Feb 18 - 22)

WEEK 7 (Feb 25 – March 1)

Governing Alienation: Challenges. Strategies and instruments.

REFLECTION PAPER SUBMISSION

- Purcell, M. (2006) "Urban democracy and the local trap". *Urban Studies* 43(11): 1921–1941.
- Choriantopoulos, I., Tselepi, N. (2017) "Austerity urbanism: Rescaling and collaborative governance policies in Athens", *European Urban and Regional Studies*. Online first: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0969776417733309>
- McFarlane, C. (2012) "Rethinking informality: Politics, crisis, and the city". *Planning Theory & Practice* 13(1): 89–108.

WEEKS 8 - 9 (March 4 – 8 / March 11 - 15)

Contesting Urban Crisis: Forms and axes of contestation. Emergent strategies.

Week 8

- Mayer, M. (2009) "The 'Right to the City' in the context of shifting mottos of urban social movements", *City* 13(2-3): 362-374.
- Marcuse, P. (2009) "From critical urban theory to the right to the city", *City* 13(2-3): 185-197.
- Eckardt, F. (2015) "City and crisis: Learning from urban theory", in F. Eckardt, J.R. Sanchez (eds) *City of Crisis: The multiple contestations of Southern European Cities*, [transcript]: 11 30.

THE RESEARCH PROJECT OUTLINE SUBMISSION (1 PAGE): Week 9

Week 9

- Mahon, R. (2005) "Rescaling Social Reproduction: Childcare in Toronto/Canada and Stockholm/Sweden" *IJURR* 29(2): 341-357.
- Arampatzi, A. (2017) "Contentious spatialities in an era of austerity: Everyday politics and 'struggle communities' in Athens, Greece", *Political Geography* 60: 47 – 56.
- Bayat, A. (2000) "From 'Dangerous Classes' to 'Quiet Rebels': Politics of the Urban Subaltern in the Global South", *International Sociology* 15(3): 533 – 557.

WEEK 10 (March 18 - 22)

South-North/West-East Divide: Global uneven development. Neoliberalisms. Varieties of urbanisation.

- Peck, J., Theodore, N., Brenner, N. (2009) "Neoliberal Urbanism: Models, Moments, Mutations", *SAIS Review of International Affairs* 29(1): 49-66
- Schindler, S. (2017) "Towards a paradigm of Southern urbanism". *City* 21(1): 47-64.
- Bayat, A. (2012) "Politics in the City-Inside-Out", *City & Society* 24(2): 110–128.

Also see (Brenner, N. (2013) "Theses on urbanization". *Public Culture* 25(1): 85–114) from Week 3.

WEEK 11 (March 25 - 29)

Urban Crises Compared I: Forms of crises. Political-economic consequences/responses.

- Peck, J. (2015) "Cities beyond compare?". *Regional Studies* 49(1): 160–182.
- Bulkeley, H., Luque-Ayala, A., McFarlane, C., MacLeod, G. (2016) "Enhancing urban autonomy: Towards a new political project for cities". *Urban Studies* 55(4): 702 – 719.
- Martí-Costa, M., Tomàs, M. (2017) "Urban governance in Spain: From democratic transition to austerity policies", *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2107 - 2122.

Also see (Bayırbağ, M.K, Penpecioglu, M. (2017) "Urban Crisis: Limits to Governance of Alienation". *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2056-2071) from Week 4.

WEEK 12 (April 1 - 5)

Urban Crises Compared 2: Forms of contestation. Quo Vadis?

- Arampatzi, A. (2017) “The spatiality of counter-austerity politics in Athens, Greece: Emergent ‘urban solidarity spaces’”, *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2155 - 2171.
- Blanco, I., León, M. (2017) “Social innovation, reciprocity and contentious politics: Facing the socio-urban crisis in Ciutat Meridiana, Barcelona”, *Urban Studies* 54(9): 2172 – 2188.
- Bayat, A (2007). “Radical Religion and the Habitus of the Dispossessed: Does Islamic Militancy Have an Urban Ecology?”, *IJURR* 31(3): 579 – 590.

WEEK 13 (April 8 - 9)

Review

FINAL PAPER SUBMISSION (April 12 - 27)

Academic Accommodations

Requests for Academic Accommodation

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

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact your 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 more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Religious obligation

Please contact your 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 more details, visit the Equity Services website: carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation or contact your PMC coordinator to send your instructor your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term. You must also contact the PMC 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 your instructor as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. carleton.ca/pmc

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 its 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: carleton.ca/sexual-violence-support

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 must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your 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>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit: students.carleton.ca/course-outline

Plagiarism

The University Senate defines plagiarism as “presenting, whether intentional 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 which cannot be resolved directly with the course’s instructor. The Associate Deans of the Faculty conduct 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 may include a mark of zero for the plagiarized work or a final grade of "F" for the course. Student or professor materials created for this course (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the author(s). They are intended for personal use and may not be reproduced or redistributed without prior written consent of the author(s).

Submission and Return of Term Work

Papers must be submitted directly to the instructor according to the instructions in the course outline and will not be date-stamped in the departmental office. Late assignments may be submitted to the drop box in the corridor outside B640 Loeb. Assignments will be retrieved every business day at **4 p.m.**, stamped with that day's date, and then distributed to the instructor. For essays not returned in class please attach a **stamped, self-addressed envelope** if you wish to have your assignment returned by mail. Final exams are intended solely for the purpose of evaluation and will not be returned.

Grading

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor, subject to the approval of the faculty Dean. Final standing in courses will be shown by alphabetical grades. The system of grades used, with corresponding grade points is:

Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale	Percentage	Letter grade	12-point scale
90-100	A+	12	67-69	C+	6
85-89	A	11	63-66	C	5
80-84	A-	10	60-62	C-	4
77-79	B+	9	57-59	D+	3
73-76	B	8	53-56	D	2
70-72	B-	7	50-52	D-	1

Approval of 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 an instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until they have been approved by the Dean.

Carleton E-mail Accounts

All email communication to students from the Department of Political Science will be via official Carleton university e-mail accounts and/or cuLearn. As important course and University information is distributed this way, it is the student's responsibility to monitor their Carleton and cuLearn accounts.

Carleton Political Science Society

"The Carleton Political Science Society (CPSS) has made its mission to provide a social environment for politically inclined students and faculty. By hosting social events, including Model Parliament, debates, professional development sessions and more, CPSS aims to involve all political science students at Carleton University. Our mandate is to arrange social and academic activities in order to instill a sense of belonging within the Department and the larger University community. Members can benefit through our networking opportunities, academic engagement initiatives and numerous events which aim to complement both academic and social life at Carleton University. To find out more, visit us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CarletonPoliticalScienceSociety/> and our website <https://carletonpss.com/>, or stop by our office in Loeb D688!"

Official Course Outline

The course outline posted to the Political Science website is the official course outline.