

## GEOG 2060A – World Cities

### Course Outline: Section 001 – Fall 2018

#### 1. Course Information

##### 1.1. Classroom Location:

SSC 2028, Tuesday from 2:30-4:30pm

##### 1.2. Contact Information:

Instructor: Dr. Gabor Sass

Office: SSC 2221

Office Hours: Mondays 12-1pm (or by appointment)

Phone: 661-2111 x82829

Email: gabor.sass@uwo.ca

#### 2. Calendar Description

##### 2.1. Course Description

A global perspective on urbanism. In each session a selected city is used to emphasize a particular urban problem, urban spatial structure or world region.

Extra Information: 2 lecture hours, 0.5 course.

Antirequisite(s): none

Prerequisite(s): none

(Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility.)

##### 2.2. Senate Regulations

Senate Regulations state, "unless you have either the requisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enroll in it, you will be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites."

#### 3. Textbook and Electronic devices

##### 3.1. Required text

Brunn S.D., J.K. Graybill, M. Hays-Mitchell, and D. J. Zeigler (eds.). 2016. *Cities of the World: Regional Patterns and Urban Development*. New York: Rowman & Littlefield [6th Edition].

- Available at Western University's Bookstore and also through multiple online sources [ISBN: 9781442249165]
- Available also as an EBook [ISBN: 9781442249172]
- Available as a 1-day loan at Weldon Library [HT151.C569 2016]

Lecture notes and other additional material will be placed on OWL Sakai in a timely fashion, available for downloading.

### 3.2. iClicker Application

This course requires that you have and bring an electronic device that can connect to the internet to class. You will use this device to download the *iClicker* app for activities such as attendance checking and answering questions assigned during class time. To download the app visit: <https://www.iclicker.com/>.

Please note: this software is free for all western students.

## 4. Course Objectives

**World Cities** is an introductory course in urban geography that will take a global perspective to consider such pertinent topics as urban planning and design, urban growth and de-growth, sustainability and resilience, poverty, violence, and socio-economic inequality. After laying the theoretical foundations to urbanization and urbanism, the course will take an around-the-world journey to highlight different opportunities and challenges of distinctive world cities such as New York and Shanghai. Students will be drawn into the course materials through lots of active learning opportunities, be allowed to experience different cultures and be challenged to imagine themselves as active participants in this vast global network of urbanized humanity.

## 5. Learning Outcomes

- You will develop a critical understanding of key urban geographical concepts related to world cities.
- You will gain a thorough knowledge of a range of issues that affect world cities from both a case specific and global perspective.
- You will be able to compare the opportunities and constraints of different cities around the world related to the global political-economy.
- You will also be able to apply broad geographic concepts to their understanding of the dynamics of world cities, such as the human-environment impact at multiple scales.

## 6. Evaluation

Evaluation Components	Percentage of Course Grade	Assignment Schedule
Attendance & Participation	10%	Weekly
Weekly quizzes	10%	Weekly
Mini-assignment	10%	Variable for each student
Research assignment – case study of a world city	20%	December 7
Mid-term exam	20%	October 23 (in class)
Final exam	30%	TBA

### 6.1. Attendance & Participation

Participation is a fundamental part of the learning environment. You will need to be present in all lectures as well as be ready to participate actively in the communal learning. There will be lots of emphasis on active learning and critical thinking. Students will get the most out of lectures by reading the material ahead of time. An individual attendance and participation grade will be awarded based on your attendance, readiness, discussion during class activities, and *iclicker* as well as other electronic forms of participation. (10%)

### 6.2. Weekly quizzes

In order to adequately prepare students for class and exams, a short quiz will be administered before each class starting the third week of classes. Students will be expected to read the relevant readings and answer 5 multiple-choice questions. Final grade will be based on the average of the 8 quizzes. (10%)

### 6.3. Mini-assignment

Students will actively collaborate in course content creation by compiling the following for a world city region selected by the instructor: 2 photographs with short descriptions of what they are showing and 4 exam questions/answers based on the course textbook for that particular world city region. (10%)

### 6.4. Research assignment

In mid-September you will be asked to choose a world city to research for the individual research assignment. You will select either one strength or one challenge for that world city and make the case for it. For example, here is one title based on a city's strength: "Ethnic and racial diversity makes Toronto one of the world's greatest cities". Select between 5-10 sources to back your claim which you should lay out in a 5-page article that will include your references, 1-2 pictures and 1-2 graphics or maps. I will be happy to go over your assignment with you at any stage of preparation. (20%)

### 6.5. Exams

There will be one two-hour mid-term exam (20%) and a three-hour final examination (30%) in Geography 2060. The mid-term will be held on October 23<sup>rd</sup> in class. The final examination will be scheduled by the Registrar during the December examination period. The examinations will include questions from material covered in lectures, discussions, assigned readings, and films. The final examination will include material from the entire term but more weight placed on the second part of the term. The format of the examinations will be a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, short answer and graphical type questions. No electronic devices (e.g. laptop computers, cell phones, etc.) will be allowed during an examination

## 6.6. Topics Covered

Date	Topic	Readings
Sept 11	Introduction to the course; What are (World) Cities?	Chapter 1 (2-46)
Sept 18	Conceptual Foundations: City function and structure; terms and definitions	Chapter 1 (2-46)
Sept 25	City Futures: Sustainability and Resilience	Chapter 13 (536-570)
Oct 2	Cities of the Greater Middle East	Chapter 7 (276-320)
Oct 9	Reading Week (no class)	
Oct 16	Cities of Europe	Chapter 5 (186-233)
Oct 23	Mid-term Exam (in class, 2 hours)	Chapters 1, 5, 7, 13
Oct 30	Cities of East Asia	Chapter 11 (456-500)
Nov 6	Cities of South(east) Asia	Chapter 9 & 10 (368-454)
Nov 13	Cities of sub-Saharan Africa	Chapter 8 (322-366)
Nov 20	Cities of Middle & South-America	Chapter 3 & 4 (96-185)
Nov 27	Cities of North-America	Chapter 2 (48-95)
Dec 4	Cities Wrap: Review	Research paper due on Dec. 7

Students are responsible for material covered in the lectures as well as the assigned chapters/sections in the text.

## 6.7. Not meeting course deadlines:

With the exception of documented illness or family death (see below), late assignments will be penalized at the rate of 10% per day of lateness. Upon presentation of legitimate documentation, a student can hand in the assignment within 2 weeks without late penalty or the mark value for the assignment will be added to the mid-term and final examinations in an equitable manner. Missed exams will result in a grade of zero unless academic accommodation is approved by Academic Counselling (see below).

### **Missed exams, tutorials, and assignment due dates because of illness or family death:**

Western's Policy on Accommodation for Illness

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_illness.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_illness.pdf).]

Western's Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must

apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

**Grades will not be adjusted on the basis of need. It is important to monitor your performance in the course. Remember: *You* are responsible for your grades in this course.**

## **7. Make-up Examinations**

Makeups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided the Academic Counselling Office and Instructor within 48 hours of the scheduled exam. For missed exams, you must take your documentation to Academic Counselling within 48 hours of the exam. Otherwise, the instructor will assign a grade of zero. The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

## **8. Use of Electronic Devices**

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

Internet enabled devices are allowed during lecture but their use should be limited to signing the *iclicker* attendance, answering *iclicker* questions, taking notes, using an internet search engine during small group work and any other instructor assigned online work.

## **9. Academic Offences**

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf).

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

## **10. Western's Commitment to Accessibility**

The Department of Geography strives at all times to provide accessibility to all faculty, staff, students and visitors in a way that respects the dignity and independence of people with disabilities.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 519-661-2147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website: [www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated\\_exams.html](http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html)

More information about "Accessibility at Western" is available at: <http://accessibility.uwo.ca>

## 11. Medical Issues

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Please go to:

[https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical\\_accommodations\\_link\\_for\\_OOR.pdf](https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/medical_accommodations_link_for_OOR.pdf) to read about the University's policy on medical accommodation. This site provides links the necessary forms. In the event of illness, you should contact Academic Counselling as soon as possible. The Academic Counsellors will determine, in consultation with the student, whether or not accommodation should be requested. They will subsequently contact the instructors in the relevant courses about the accommodation. Once the instructor has made a decision about whether to grant an accommodation, the student should contact his/her instructors to determine a new due date for tests, assignments, and exams.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

[http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical\\_accommodation.html](http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html)

## 12. Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit the site below for more information on mental health resources: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>.

## 13. Support Services

Student Support Services can be reached at: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>.

Student Development Services can be reached at: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>.

## 14. Important Dates

September 6: Classes resume

September 14: Last day to add a full course or a second term half course

October 8: Thanksgiving Holiday – Department Office Closed

October 9-13: Fall Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

November 12: Last day to drop a first term half course without penalty

November 30: Last day to drop a full course without academic penalty

December 7: Classes end

December 8 and 9: Study days

December 10-21: Examination Period

December 21: Fall term ends