

GEOG 2460G – Introduction to Urban Development Course Outline: Section 001 Winter 2024

1. Course Information

*Details about the design and delivery of the course are listed below in Section 6



Classes Start	Spring Reading Week	Classes End	Study day(s)	Exam Period
January 8	February 19-23	April 8	April 9 & 10	April 11-30

January 16, 2023: Last day to add a second-term half course.

February 19, 2023: Family Day

March 7, 2023: Last day to drop a first-term half course without penalty



Course Instructor	Contact Information	Office Hours
Dr. Godwin Arku	Email within OWL Office: SSC 2427	Thursdays 9–10 AM OR By appointment

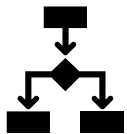
Teaching Assistants	Contact Information	Office Hours
Kavanagh Lambert	Email within OWL Office: SSC 2316	Mondays: 1:30-2:30PM OR By appointment
William Yang	Email within OWL Office: SSC 2316	Mondays 2-3pm. OR By appointment



- Office hours will be held in-person on Thursday 9-10 am or by appointment
- Students will be able to sign up for an appointment using the OWL messenger

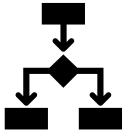
2. Calendar Description

Growth, structure, and morphology in industrial and post-industrial cities; theories of, and empirical research on, urban form and structure; land development decision making; development feasibility modelling; and urban land-use policy.



3-hour lectures, 0.5 course.

1.0 course from Geography 1100, Geography 1200A/B, Geography 1300A/B, Geography 1400F/G, Geography 1500F/G, Geography 2131A/B, Geography 2132A/B, Geography 2133A/B, Geography 2142A/B, Geography 2152F/G, Geography 2153A/B, Environmental Science 1021F/G, or Economics 1021A/B or Economics 1022A/B, or enrolment in any of the Global Development Studies or Globalization Studies modules. Prerequisite checking is the student's responsibility.



Senate Regulations state, “unless you have either the prerequisites 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

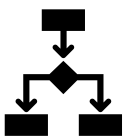


- All resources will be posted in OWL.
- This course uses a course pack that can be purchased at the bookstore. In addition to this course pack, other relevant readings will be made available on the course’s website. https://bookstore.uwo.ca/textbook-search?campus=UWO&term=W2020B&courses%5B0%5D=001_UW/GEO2460G

4. Course Objectives and Format

By completing the activities associated with the course, you will be able to:

1. Define what ‘urban’ means and catalogue key historical urban processes and changes.
2. Identify fundamental concepts and theories of urban development, distinguish how and why these concepts explain historic urban change, and recognize how these concepts help us understand contemporary urban development.
3. Compare and contrast urban areas' characteristics, development patterns, and spatial relationships from various geographical and historical contexts.
4. Have a clear knowledge of urban processes and the forces (e.g., geographical, economic, and social) that influence urban development and apply them in contemporary contexts.
5. Have a good knowledge of urbanization trends and associated problems.
6. Assess the economic feasibility of urban development projects by designing a project, determining associated costs and revenues, and building and running a return on investment (ROI) model.
7. Apply urban development concepts, skills, and understanding to real-world problems by selecting and investigating an urban development issue, conducting background research, evaluating arguments, and synthesizing findings.
8. Develop and enhance critical thinking skills, independent research, teamwork, and communication skills.



By the end of this course, you should be able to identify and critique issues surrounding urban development from a geographical perspective and understand the role that people, history, and political-economic forces play in how cities grow, change, and operate. By investigating and explaining the role that these people and processes play, you will gain an appreciation for the breadth and complexity of urban geography as well as exercise and improve your presentation and critical thinking skills.

- Attendance is required.

☒ Missed work should be completed within 48 hours.

All course material will be posted to OWL: <http://owl.uwo.ca>. Any changes will be indicated on the OWL site and discussed with the class.

Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox are the preferred browsers to optimally use OWL; update your browsers frequently. Students interested in evaluating their internet speed, please click [here](#). [Using the right browser is important, especially when using different features integrated with OWL].

If students need assistance, they can seek support on the OWL Help page. Alternatively, they can contact the Western Technology Services Helpdesk. They can be contacted by phone at 519-661-3800 or ext. 83800.

5. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- ✓ Synthesize and evaluate geographical information from diverse sources.
- ✓ Describe, explain, analyze, and interpret a range of geographical phenomena outside the classroom by engagement with people, places and environments.
- ✓ Analyze real-world problems and policy applications using geographical concepts, skills, and understanding.
- ✓ Communicate geographic ideas and understanding effectively to a variety of audiences in writing, orally, and graphically.
- ✓ Identify, analyze, and interpret spatial patterns and processes of urbanization, financial and economic aspects of urban development, and processes in urban systems and built environments.
- ✓ Develop and demonstrate applied skills in urban project design and report writing.

Geographical Skills

- ✓ Spatial thinking, spatial analysis, and spatial processes of human and/or environmental processes (e.g., cultural, social, political, economic, and scientific).

Generic Skills

- ✓ Literature and secondary data sources: search and retrieval of information, a meta-analysis of published data, synthesis of information sources and literature, and annotated bibliographies.
- ✓ Critical and reflective reading, listening, and thinking.
- ✓ Writing – practice writing essays and reports.
- ✓ Visual presentation and graphical design: graphical design and production of maps, diagrams, presentations, posters, and web-based media.
- ✓ Oral communication/presentation: structured class discussions (seminars, small-group interaction, and debates), and individual and group presentations.
- ✓ Project planning, management, and design: time management, independent major project, and research proposals.
- ✓ Inter-personal skills: leadership and team facilitation.



6. Course Content and Schedule

Date	Topic	Readings
Jan 11	Course Overview Introductory lecture – concepts etc.	Filion & Bunting, course pack, pp. 1-14
Jan 18	Evolution and development of Canadian urban systems – historical and contemporary trends Guest Speaker: TBD Lab: Detailed information session on the term project Forum Topic #1 posting:	Hillier, course pack, pp. 27-43; 44-67; Filion, course pack, 68-85; Vinodrai, course pack, 86-106
Jan 25	The origins and growth of cities – a historical overview of urbanization in the US. Guest Lecturer: Dr Richard Sadler Detailed information Part 1 of the term project Responses to Forum Topic #1 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, January 25 Forum Topic #2 posting	Knox & McCarthy, Ch. 3 & 4
Feb 1	Models and Theories of Urban Spatial Structure, including: Sjobergs’s pre-industrial city model; Burgess concentric zone model; Hoyt’s model of urban structure; Harris and Ullman’s multiple nuclei model; and the Bid-Rent theory of urban land use. Introduction to Part 2 of the term project Responses to Forum Topic #2 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, February 1 Forum Topic #3 posting	Knox & McCarthy, Ch. 3 & 4
Feb 8	Urbanization within a Global Context Midterm Review Guest Speaker: TBD Term Project: Part 1 Due Responses to Forum Topic #3 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, February 8 Forum Topic #4 posting	Cardenas & Kelly, course pack, pp. 109-125 Harris & Keil, course pack, pp. 126-144 Ogunyankin & Buckley, course pack, pp. 144-160
Feb 15	Mid Term Examination	
	Responses to Forum #4 Topic must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, February 15.	

Date	Topic	Readings
Feb 22	Spring Reading Break	
	Forum Topic #5 posting	
Feb 29	Urban Development Process: “city makers”	Knox & McCarthy, Ch. 8
	Competing interest among development actors	
	Introduction to Part 3 of the term project	
	Term Project: Part 2 Due	
	Responses to Forum Topic #5 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, Feb 29	
March 7	Neighbourhood change, residential structure, gentrification, migration, and filtering Guest Speaker: TBA	Lynch & Pottie-Sherman, course pack, pp. 163-179; Harris, course pack, pp. 180-197
	Help with the term project	
	Responses to Forum Topic #6 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, March 7	
	Forum Topic #7 posting	
March 14	Urban Planning – history and contemporary issues of city planning	Knox & McCarthy, Ch. 10
	Responses to Forum Topic #7 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, March 14	
	Forum Topic #8 posting	
March 21	Urban development and entrepreneurial policies: re-imagining and re-placing the urban	Bain, course pack, pp. 198-211
	Guest Lecture— Dr. Evan Cleave	
	Responses to Forum Topic #8 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, March 21 Forum Topic #9 posting	
March 28	Contemporary Urban Development Issues - Future Planning, Smart Cities, Smart Growth	
	Guest Speaker: Dr Merlin Chatwin	
	Term Project: Part 3 Due Responses to Forum Topic #9 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, March 28	

Date	Topic	Readings
	Forum Topic #10 posting	
April 4	Urban Policy and Governance	Donald & Gray, course pack, pp. 214-227.
	Exam Review and Tips	
	Responses to Forum Topic #10 must be posted by 11:55 pm on Thursday, April 4	

7. Communication



- Students should check the OWL site every 24 – 48 hours
- A weekly update will be provided on the OWL announcements
- Students should email their instructor(s) and teaching assistant(s) using OWL “messages”
- For any other communication, the centrally administered **email account** provided to students will be considered the individual’s official university email address. It is the responsibility of the account holder to ensure that email received from the University at his/her official university address is attended to in a timely manner. You can read about the privacy and security of the UWO email accounts [here](#).
- Emails will be monitored daily; students will receive a response in 24 – 48 hours
- This course will use Microsoft Teams for discussions
- This course will use the OWL forum for discussions
- Students should post all course-related content on the discussion forum so that everyone can access answers to questions
- The discussion forums will be monitored daily by instructors or teaching assistants

8. Evaluation

Below is the evaluation breakdown for the course. Any deviations will be communicated.

Assessment	Format	Weighting	Due Date
Selection of Term Project	OWL Messaging to TAs	1%	January 25, 2024 (email the TAs)
Term Project: Part 1	OWL Assignment Tab	7%	February 8, 2024
Term Project: Part 2	OWL Assignment Tab	7%	Feb 29, 2024
Term Project: Part 3	OWL Assignment Tab	30%	March 28, 2024
Forum Discussions	OWL Forums	2.5%	Various Dates
Course Reflection	OWL Assignment	2.5%	March 21, 2024
Midterm Examination	OWL Test Tab	20%	February 15, 2024
Final Examination	OWL Test Tab	30%	TBD – April, 2024



The evaluation methods described in the course outline are essential requirements for the course.

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

- All assignments are due at 11:55 pm EST unless otherwise specified
- Virtual proctoring will be used over Zoom
- Written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin (statement in policies below)
- Rubrics will be used to evaluate assessments and will be posted with the instructions
- After an assessment is returned, students should wait 24 hours to digest feedback before contacting their evaluator; to ensure a timely response, reach out within 7 days

Click [here](#) for a detailed and comprehensive set of policies and regulations concerning examinations and grading. The table below outlines the University-wide grade descriptors.

A+	90-100	One could scarcely expect better from a student at this level
A	80-89	Superior work, which is clearly above-average
B	70-79	Good work, meeting all requirements, and eminently satisfactory
C	60-69	Competent work, meeting requirements
D	50-59	Fair work, minimally acceptable
F	below 50	Fail

Information about late or missed evaluations:

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC, see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): <https://studentservices.uwo.ca> under the Medical Documentation heading 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. The instructor or department cannot grant academic accommodation.

- Late assessments without illness self-reports will be subject to a late penalty of 5% per day
- Late assessments with illness self-reports should be submitted within 24 hours of submission of the last illness self-report
- An assessment cannot be submitted after it has been returned to the class
- If the short examination is missed with a sufficient reason, a comparative alternative assessment will be given based on the discretion of the course instructor. The format and content of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

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

9. Accommodation Policies

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD), which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Consideration for Student Absence

The University recognizes that a student's ability to meet their academic responsibilities may, on occasion, be impaired by medical illness. Illness may be acute (short term), or it may be chronic (long term), or chronic with acute episodes. The University further recognizes that medical situations are deeply personal and respects the need for privacy and confidentiality in these matters. However, in order to ensure fairness and consistency for all students, academic accommodation for work representing 10% or more of the student's overall grade in the course shall be granted only in those cases where there is documentation indicating that the student was seriously affected by illness and could not reasonably be expected to meet their academic responsibilities.

Policy on Academic Consideration for Medical Illness - Undergraduate Students

Student Medical Certificate (SMC)

Religious Accommodation

Students should consult the University's list of recognized religious holidays, and should give reasonable notice in writing, prior to the holiday, to the Instructor and an Academic Counsellor if their course requirements will be affected by a religious observance. Additional information is given in the [Western Multicultural Calendar](#).

10. Make-up Examinations

Make-ups will be granted with approved documentation only. All documentation for missed exams must be provided to the Academic Counselling Office within 48 hours of the scheduled 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.

11. Use of Electronic Devices

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

12. How to Be Successful in this Class:

Students enrolled in this class should understand the level of autonomy and self-discipline required to be successful.



1. Invest in a planner or application to keep track of your courses. Populate all your deadlines at the start of the term and schedule time at the start of each week to get organized and manage your time.
2. Make it a daily habit to log onto OWL to ensure you have seen everything posted to help you succeed in this class.
3. Follow weekly checklists created on OWL, or create your own to help you stay on track.
4. Take notes as you go through the lesson material. Keeping handwritten notes or even notes on a regular Word document will help you learn more effectively.
5. Connect with others. Try forming a study group and meeting on a weekly basis for study and peer support.
6. Do not be afraid to ask questions. If you are struggling with a topic, check the online discussion boards or contact your instructor(s) and/or teaching assistant(s).
7. Reward yourself for successes. It seems easier to motivate ourselves, knowing that there is something waiting for us at the end of the task.

13. Continuity of Education Plan (in-person class pivoting to online learning)

In the event of a COVID-19 resurgence during the course that necessitates the university to direct courses move away from face-to-face interaction, all remaining course content will be delivered entirely online, either synchronously (i.e., at the times indicated in the timetable) or asynchronously (e.g., posted on OWL for students to view at their convenience). The grading scheme will **not** change. Any remaining assessments will also be conducted online as determined by the course instructor.

14. 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.

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>).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

15. Western's Commitment to Accessibility

The Department of Geography and Environment 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

questions regarding an accommodation. [Information regarding accommodation of exams](#) is available on the Registrar's website.

More information about "[Accessibility at Western](#)" is available.

16. Mental Health

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit Western's [Health and Wellness website](#) for more information on mental health resources.

17. Support Services

[Western's Support Services](#)
[Student Development Centre](#)

18. Important Dates

Monday, January 8: Classes resume

Tuesday, January 16: Last day to add a second term half course

Monday, February 19: Family Day – Department Office Closed

February 17 to February 25: Spring Reading Week (No classes; Department Office open)

Thursday, March 7: Last day to drop a second term half course without academic penalty

Friday, March 29: Good Friday – Department Office Closed

Monday, April 8: Classes end

April 9 and 10: Study days

April 11-30: Examination Period