

GEOG 3300-01: Urban Geography

Spring 2016, CRN# 11401, 3 Credit Hours

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:30 to 4:45 PM, Kennesaw Hall 1103

First Day of Class: January 12

Last Day of Class: April 28

Official Final Exam Time: Tuesday, May 3, 3:30-5:30 PM

Instructor: Paul N. McDaniel, PhD

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Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (or by appointment). I encourage you to email me as I will check my email several times each week-day to answer questions, clarify lectures and other course components, and to make appointments. If you want a faster response, please email me directly, rather than through D2L message, because I have more immediate access to email.

This course syllabus is a general plan for the course; deviations announced to the class by the instructor may be necessary.

Required Readings:

- *Urban Geography*, 3rd edition, by David H. Kaplan, Steven R. Holloway, and James O. Wheeler, from Wiley Publishing. ISBN: 978-1-118-57385-3. This textbook is available in both print and electronic formats.
- Book Review book selection (you choose one book from a list of recommended books. The list is posted on D2L).
- Other readings: To add further context to textbook concepts, class discussions, and ongoing current events, a select set of supplemental readings may be made available at the discretion of the instructor. These readings may be drawn from newspapers, magazines, academic journals, etc., and would be made available online on D2L.

Official Course Catalog Description:

An analysis of the location and distribution of urban centers, urban land uses and the geographical aspects of general urban issues. **Prerequisites:** GEOG 1101 or GEOG 2105.

Course Goals:

This course offers a comprehensive treatment of urban geography, fully exploring the origins and development of cities. It focuses on uncovering the excitement and richness found in cities, while tackling a wide variety of urban challenges. The course also covers the Urban Geography field, both as it has evolved and as it exists today, and includes the most current research in urban studies, introducing elements of urban theory and methodology, and addresses the urban experience as a global one.

The formal goals of this course are to:

- 1) Help students conduct urban-geographic research and develop methodological approaches that address the spatial organization of cities;

- 2) Help students learn and utilize an analytical framework for interpreting and understanding urbanization at a range of scales—from the local to the global;
- 3) Expose students to urban-geographic literatures published in a variety of venues and from a wide range of scholarly vantage points and develop their critical thinking and reading skills while doing so.

A more informal account of course goals: We live in a fascinating urban environment! By the end of this class you should be able to analyze this environment and interpret your findings using a range of frameworks and scholarly debates, and to put our urban environment into context.

Grade Breakdown:

| Grade Component | Points | Percent |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| Participation | 50 | 10% |
| Book Review Essay | 50 | 10% |
| Research Paper | 100 | 20% |
| Exam 1 | 100 | 20% |
| Exam 2 | 100 | 20% |
| Exam 3 (Final Exam) | 100 | 20% |
| COURSE TOTAL | 500 | 100% |

Exams: Three exams each worth 20 percent of the final course grade.

Exam #1 covers Chapters 1-4. Exam #2 covers Chapters 5-12. Exam #3 covers Chapter 13-15. Exams will be completed outside of class online via the D2L course site. Exams cover readings for the chapters specified, in-class lectures/discussions, and any ancillary materials as indicated in class. Test format may consist of a combination of multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank, identification, and short essay questions.

Book Review Essay (10 percent of total course grade): Select one book from the “Urban Geography / Urban Studies Book Recommendations” list available on D2L. Read the book and write a review of the book. Your review should be no more than 5 pages (Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, one-inch margins, including appropriate reference citations as necessary in a consistent citation format) and should critically connect your thoughts upon reading the book you chose with relevant readings and concepts from the course textbook and class lectures/discussions. Remember, you are not simply writing a summary of the book, but rather a critical review and analysis, synthesizing what you have learned in the class with what you learned from your selected book. Please consult the KSU Writing Center if you need assistance with writing an essay.

Research Paper (20 percent of total course grade): This research paper/term paper semester project gives you the opportunity to respond qualitatively to cumulative course content by responding to a set of prompts and exercises. A full project description with prompts and detailed instructions will be provided in a separate handout early in the semester, but basically for this paper you should choose at least one of the three “landscapes” (economic, social, or political) presented in parts 2, 3, and 4 in the text and discussed in class to critically examine one metropolitan region of your choosing (i.e., the Atlanta metro area, another metro area, or a combination of two or more distinct metro areas for a comparative approach) through the lenses of at least one of those three “landscapes”. You may choose one metropolitan region or conduct a comparative analysis between two distinct metropolitan regions but still through at least one of the three “landscapes”. Your paper should be no more than 10 pages (Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, one-inch margins, including appropriate reference

citations as necessary in a consistent citation format). Please consult the KSU Writing Center if you need assistance with writing a research paper.

Participation (10 percent of total course grade): Active participation in class including attending class (attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester) and participating in class discussions and all other components of the course is important.

Tentative Course Schedule (Please read the designated reading for a particular week by the beginning of that week to be able to fully participate in class discussions/activities):

| Week | Required Reading, General Topics for the Week, and Items Due |
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| Part I: Introduction to Cities and Urban Geography | |
| Week 1: January 12 & 14 | Chapter 1. An Introduction to the Changing Field of Urban Geography. January 12: First Day of Class |
| Week 2: January 19 & 21 | Chapter 2. The Origins and Development of Cities. January 19: Guest Speaker from KSU Writing Center January 21: By this date, please inform instructor in writing (email or D2L message) of your book selection for the book review essay assignment due in April. A list of books to choose from is available on D2L. |
| Part II: Metropolitan Systems | |
| Week 3: January 26 & 28 | Chapter 3. The Evolution of the American Urban System. January 28: By this date, please submit a brief one paragraph description via D2L dropbox of your intended focus topic for your research paper that is due the last day of class. |
| Week 4: February 2 & 4 | Chapter 4. Globalization and the Urban System. February 4: Exam #1 covering Chapters 1-4. |
| Part III: The Economic Landscape of the City | |
| Week 5: February 9 & 11 | Chapter 5. Urban Land Use, the Central Business District, and the Growth of Suburbs. |
| Week 6: February 16 & 18 | Chapter 6. Landscapes of Production. |
| Part IV: The Social Landscape of the City | |
| Week 7: February 23 & 25 | Chapter 7. Foundations of Urban Social Landscapes. |

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| Week 8: March 1 & 3 | Chapter 8. Urban Housing Markets: Sprawl, Blight, and Regeneration. March 2 is last day to withdraw without academic penalty. |
| Week 9: March 8 & 10 | Chapter 9. Segregation, Race, and Urban Poverty. |
| Week 10: March 15 & 17 | Chapter 10. Immigration, Ethnicity, and Urbanism. March 16-19: Dr. McDaniel at Urban Affairs Association conference in San Diego. |
| Part V: The Political Landscape of the City | |
| Week 11: March 22 & 24 | Chapter 11. Metropolitan Governance and Fragmentation. |
| Week 12: March 29 & 31 | Chapter 12. Planning the Better City. March 31: Exam #2 covering Chapters 5-12. March 30-April 2: Dr. McDaniel at American Association of Geographers conference in San Francisco. |
| Week 13: April 5 & 7 | Spring Break – No Classes |
| Part VI: Cities Around the World | |
| Week 14: April 12 & 14 | Chapter 13. Cities in the Developed World. April 14: Book Review Essay due, submit electronically via dropbox on D2L. |
| Week 15: April 19 & 21 | Chapter 14. Cities in the Less Developed World. |
| Week 16: April 26 & 28 | Chapter 15: Regional Variations in Urban Structure and Form in the Less Developed World. April 28: Research paper due, submit electronically via dropbox on D2L. April 28: Last Day of Class. |
| Final Exam (Exam 2) | Official Final Exam Time: Tuesday, May 3, 3:30-5:30 PM. Exam #3 covering Chapters 13-15. |

Academic Integrity:

Every KSU student is responsible for upholding the provisions of the Student Code of Conduct, as published in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs and is also available here:

<http://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/>

Section II of the Student Code of Conduct addresses the University's policy on academic honesty, including provisions regarding plagiarism and cheating, unauthorized access to University materials, misrepresentation/falsification of University records or academic work, malicious removal, retention, or

destruction of library materials, malicious or intentional misuse of computer facilities and/or service, and misuse of student identification cards. Incidents of alleged academic misconduct will be handled through the established procedures of the University Judiciary Program, which includes either an “informal” resolution by a faculty member, resulting in a grade adjustment, or a formal hearing procedure, which may subject a student to the Code of Conduct’s minimum one semester suspension requirement.

*Note on Plagiarism: Please do not copy any sentences or paragraphs directly from books, journal articles, lectures, newspaper articles, websites, or other people’s work. This kind of action is considered as plagiarism. Please write in your own words or using appropriate citations and give credit and attribution to other people’s work and ideas. Please give the source of each citation, and list it in the References section of your paper. For more information, please see: **Why is cheating/plagiarism wrong and what will happen if I’m accused of academic misconduct?:** <http://web.kennesaw.edu/scai/content/why-cheatingplagiarism-wrong-and-what-will-happen-if-i%E2%80%99m-accused-academic-misconduct>*

Office of the Registrar: <http://www.kennesaw.edu/registrar/policies/>

ADA Statement: http://www.kennesaw.edu/stu_dev/dsss/dsss.html. Any student with a documented disability needing academic adjustments is requested to notify the instructor as early in the semester as possible. Verification from KSU Student Disability Services is required. All discussions will remain confidential.

KSU Library Services:

The KSU Library System assists all students, faculty and staff with their research, including using library databases to find articles, accessing books and other materials in our catalog, and for specialized research needs. Librarians are available for in-person walk-up assistance at library help desks, one-on-one research appointments, and 24x7 via library chat. For more information on library locations, hours, and how to access our services please visit <http://library.kennesaw.edu/>.

KSU Writing Center:

The KSU Writing Center helps students in all majors improve their writing. Experienced, friendly writing assistants help with topic development, revision, research, documentation, grammar, and more. For more information or to make an appointment, visit <http://writingcenter.kennesaw.edu/> or stop by English Building, Room 242 (Kennesaw campus) or Building A, Room 184 (Marietta campus).

KSU Education Abroad, Division of Global Affairs:

Kennesaw State University offers more than two-dozen faculty-led study abroad programs in 30+ countries, as well as many foreign exchange and international internship opportunities. Regardless of what field of study or country you are passionate about, there is an education abroad program for you! The information and resources on this site will help guide you through the entire education abroad experience: <http://dga.kennesaw.edu/educationabroad/>.