

URBAN SOCIOLOGY
21-920-321-01

FALL 2018
T & TH (11:30-12:50pm)

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Course Objective:

This course discusses the development and importance of cities, theories of urban growth, and contemporary problems facing American cities. Throughout the course we'll draw critical relationship between social theory and the empirical world of urban experience. The course will use city as a lens to examine history, social relations, problems, and conflicts of the larger social structure in which it is located. Throughout the course city will be seen simultaneously as a social, a cultural, and a political economic phenomenon, with particular attention to the following: a) historical analysis of pre- and post-industrialization, theories of urbanization, and the place of the city in the modernizing process; b) theories of international migration and comparative immigration in global cities; c) historical changes in urban space (i.e., urban renewal, suburbanization, and "gentrification") and their relationship to wealth, poverty, and homelessness in American society; d) the city as a locus of ethnic, racial, gender, and class relations, interactions, and conflicts; e) urban poverty, housing, segregation policies; f) strategies of urban "revitalization" and the future of the "postmodern" city; g) globalization and economic restructuring in contemporary cities in the U.S. and abroad.

Learning Objectives:

Students will be able to:

- Read critically and develop coherent arguments and questions
- Work cooperatively in groups to write, synthesize, and produce oral presentations
- Analyze quantitative and qualitative data using the U.S. Census, demographics, and empirical studies in interdisciplinary fields of social science
- Implement research skills using a wide range of sources from research database, policy reports, and electronic and medial resources
- Evaluate information from various sources to broaden knowledge base
- Co-construct knowledge and content by drawing from students' diverse experiences and backgrounds
- Engage in discussion of civic responsibility and ethical dilemma of social inequality

Required Text:

Gottdiener and Hutchinson (2010). "The New Urban Sociology" (Fifth Edition).

Desmond (2016). “Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City”

Rothstein (2017). “The Color of Law”

Articles on Blackboard (BB)

All journal articles and reading assignments noted in the syllabus are placed on Blackboard (BB)—PDF Files are available to download if you are registered for the course.

Grading:

Class Presentation (10%)

Class Quizzes (20%)

Midterm Exam: (30%)

Final Exam (40%)

ATTENDANCE NOTE: All students are expected to attend classes, arrive on time, and participate in class discussions. Attendance is tracked using Qwickly Attendance via Blackboard. The link is available on the lefthand side of the BlackBoard website on the student’s Urban Sociology class page (“Attendance” tab). Students are required to access the course Blackboard website and enter the four-digit code within the first 15 minutes of class in order to be considered on time and present. Checking in after the 15 minute mark will result in an automatic absent mark for the class. Students should not, under any circumstance, sign into class if they are not present in the class. Late marks are given to students based on previous attendance and the instructors’ discretion.

Students are expected to read all course material prior to class and be fully prepared to discuss the readings. Excessive absence and lateness will lead to a failing grade.

Group Presentation (10%)

In addition to class participation, each student will be assigned to a group presentation. Each group will consist of four to five students. Each group is responsible for presenting one of the required journal and/or chapter readings outlining discussion questions for the entire class. Most of these presentations will be on Thursday. The main task of the group is to summarize the article/ chapter and draw critical relationship between class readings/ discussion of the week and the assigned reading. ALL group members are responsible for reading the article and developing the CONTENT of the presentation, as well as making the PRESENTATION. However, each member of the group will be responsible for delivering specific part of the presentation: 1) Visual and Power Point Presentation; 2) Content manager (1-2 persons); 3) Developing relationship between weekly readings and journal articles/ chapters; 4) Discussion Questions and be a discussant. This division of labor ensures that all of the members will be an active participant in the group and be held accountable.

This will be closely advised by TA & Professor and each group is required to visit her/him during office hours and get guidance on their presentations.

Class Quizzes (20%)

During the semester, there will be a total of 4 quizzes (each quiz is worth 5%, therefore, a total of 20% of your final grade). Each quiz will cover reading materials outlined in the syllabus. All quizzes will be on BB and will be taken on-line.

Midterm Exam (30%)

Midterm exam will be administered in class. All students are expected to take the exam in class at the given date & time. Please plan accordingly.

Final Exam (40%)

Final exam will be administered in class. All students are expected to take the exam in class at the given date & time. Please plan accordingly.

Week	Date	Course Outline: Lecture Themes	Required Reading	Class Presentation
Part I Urban Sociology: Theoretical and Historical Context				
Week 1	9/4	Introduction and Overview	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 1-13)	
	9/6	Urbanism, Modernism, & Urban Sociology	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 13-23)	
Week 2	9/11	Urban Life: Historical Perspective	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 41-49)	
	9/13	The Rise of Urban Sociology	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 49-61) Wirth (1938). "Urbanism as a way of life" The American Journal of Sociology, Vol 44. No. 1 (Jul 1938)	Group 1-- Presentation
Week 3	9/18	Chicago School of Sociology	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 61-67)	
	9/20	Human and Urban Ecological Model	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 67-78) Burgess (1925). "The growth of the city: An introduction to a research project." In R. Park E. Burgess, and R. McKenzie, eds., The City. Chicago University of Chicago Press.	Group 2-- Presentation
QUIZ # 1	Due 9/24		Readings for PT I: Weeks 1-3	
Part II Urban and Suburb Housing Policies & Development in the United States			READING TEXT: EVICTED (by Mathew Desmond)	
Week 4	9/25	Contested City, Racial Inequality, and Urban Space	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 79-90)	
	9/27	Urban Political Economy & Residential Segregation	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 91-103) Desmond (PT ONE: pg. 1-107)	Group 3-- Presentation
Week 5	10/2	Stages of	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 105-116)	

		Capitalism and Urbanization in the United States		
	10/4	Rise of the Metropolis	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg.116-128) Desmond (PT TWO: pg. 111-203)	Group 4-- Presentation
Week 6	10/9	Suburbanization in the United States	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 129-145) Desmond (PT THREE: pg. 207-292)	
MIDTERM EXAM	10/11	MIDTERM	MIDTERM IN CLASS: PT 1-2	
Part III Rise of Metropolis: Racial & Economic Stratification, Demographics				
Week 7	10/16	Suburbanization and the Effects of Racial & Housing Policies	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 145-157) http://www.antibiaslaw.com/map-data-tool/segregated-really-segregated-or-ultra-segregated-0	
	10/18	Beyond Suburbia: Development of Sunbelt and Snowbelt	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 159-170) Lake & Cutter (1980). "A Typology of Black Suburbanization in New Jersey since 1970" Geographical Review 70(2), 167-181.	Group 5— Presentation
Week 8	10/23	Class & Racial Stratification	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 170-177) "On Trump & Election" Ta-Nehisi Coates, Speech given at Inbound 2016, Jan 13, 2017 https://www.theatlantic.com/author/ta-nehisi-coates/	
	10/25	Racial Segregation & Government Policies	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 177-184) "The case for reparations" Ta-Nehisi Coates, In Atlantic Monthly, June 2014 https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/arc	Group 6-- Presentation

			hive/2014/06/the-case-for-reparations/361631/	
Week 9	10/30	Immigration and Cities: Ethnicity and Race	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 184-189)	
	11/01	Voluntary and Involuntary Migration	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 189-193) Waldinger (1989). "Immigration and Urban Change" Annual Review of Sociology, Vol 15, 211-232.	Group 7-- Presentation
QUIZ # 2	Due 11/5		Readings for PT III: Weeks 7-9	
Part IV Urban Space: Segregation, Poverty, Social Problems			READING TEXT: THE COLOR OF LAW (by Richard Rothstein)	
Week 10	11/6	Social Networks and Communities	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 195-207)	
	11/8	Metropolitan Problems	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 207-217) Rothstein (Chapters 1-4)	Group 8-- Presentation
Week 11	11/13	Urban Issues of Racism, Poverty, Housing	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 219-234)	
	11/15	Crime and Fiscal Crisis	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 235-241) Rothstein (Chapter 5-8)	Group 9-- Presentation
Week 12	11/20	Metropolitan Problems and Social Protest: A case of Newark	Rothstein (Chapter 9-12) Film: Revolution "67	
QUIZ # 3	Due 11/26		Readings for PT IV: Weeks 10-12	
	11/22	THANKSGIVING	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
Part V				

Globalization, Migration, and Urbanization: A Comparative Study				
Week 13	11/27	Urbanization in Global Context	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 243-255)	
	11/29	Global Cities & Economic Restructuring	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 256-274) Yasmin Hussain and Paul Baggulay, "Citizenship, Ethnicity and Identity: British Pakistanis after the 2001 Riots," <i>Sociology</i> 39/3 (July 2005): 407-425.	Group 10-- Presentation
Week 14	12/4	Urbanization in Developing World	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 275-290)	
	12/6	Globalization and Urbanization in the Developing Nations	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 292-300) Loren B. Landau, "Inclusion in Shifting Sands: Rethinking Mobility and Belonging in African Cities," in Caroline Wanjiku Kihato et al, <i>Urban Diversity. Space, Culture and Inclusive Pluralism in Cities Worldwide</i> (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010): 169-186.	Group 11— Presentation
Week 15	12/11	Environment Issues and Metropolitan planning	Gottdiener & Hutchinson (pg. 301-310)	
QUIZ # 4	Due 12/14		Readings for PT V: Weeks 13-15	