Geosciences 372: Urban Issues
P. Gaubatz
Spring 2007

Time & Location: MWF 11:15-12:05, Morrill 136

Office: 229 Morrill II
Office Hours: Mon & Wed, 2:30-3:30
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Course Description:

This course focuses on contemporary urban issues in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. We will begin with a survey of the cities of Asia, Africa and Latin America as they have developed from traditional forms to the modern metropolises which now house three out of every five of the world's urban dwellers. We will focus upon the role of culture, society, economy and politics in shaping urban landscapes. Special topics will include issues such as the persistence of traditional forms (both physical and social) in contemporary cities, the role of economic globalization in urbanization, and the impacts of contemporary urban planning and development strategies on urban form and functions.

Course requirements include one short paper, two exams, in-class projects, and reading assignments.

Course Overview:

For first exam:
Part One: Historical: Urban Traditions of Asia, Africa & Latin America
Colonial Cities

For second exam:
Part Two: Contemporary Third World Cities: Theories & Issues
Part Three: Contemporary Third World Cities: Planning & Policy

Course Requirements and Structure:

This course will consist of lectures, reading, in-class group projects, two research papers and two exams. There will be no final exam. Grades will be weighted as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 exams</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 6-8 pg. paper</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 reading due dates</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 in-class projects</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>1000</td>
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Projects: ***NOTE: there will be no make-ups for in-class projects.***

In-class projects. There will be 4 in-class group projects during the course of the semester. Each will take one class session to complete. In-class projects will not be announced ahead of time.

Paper:

Compare & contrast three different cities' experiences with one of the contemporary themes discussed in the course (eg - migration, housing, development zones, gender inequality etc.)

There is a more detailed assignment sheet at the end of the syllabus.

Due: Friday, April 27, 2007.
Exams:

There will be two essay-type exams. There will be no make-ups for exams unless arranged before the exam. Exam Dates: Monday, March 12, 2007 & Wednesday, May 9, 2007.

Reading Assignments:

Each week’s reading assignment will include a short written assignment. Students should write about one page per assignment. The written assignments for the first half of the semester will be due on Friday, March 9, 2007. The written assignments for the second half of the semester will be due on Monday, May 7, 2007. Some of the questions from the reading assignments will appear on the exams.

Readings:

There are four required books for this course available at Jeffrey Amherst Books:

Drakakis-Smith, David (2000) Third World Cities (Routledge)

Late Policies:

Whenever you know you will miss a due date, please inform me ahead of time or as soon as possible. You can leave a message on my voicemail at 545-0768 24 hours a day.

Exams: No make-ups for unexcused absences. If extraordinary circumstances arise, you must contact me ahead of time to arrange to take the exam outside of class.

Papers: Due in class on the due date. After the class session on the due date, -5%. Thereafter, -5% for each day overdue, to a maximum of one week late (Saturday and Sunday count as one day). If you need to turn in a paper late you may turn it in at the Geosciences Department Office, 233 Morrill II. If you turn in a late paper in the main Geosciences office (Morrill 2-233) ask a staff person to sign & date the paper before you put it in my mailbox.

Reading Assignments: 1 point per day for a maximum of one week after the due date.

In-class assignments: no make-ups.

Students are responsible for keeping track of due dates. Changes in due dates will be announced in class as necessary.
Geosciences 372 - Urban Issues  
Paper Assignment  
Spring 2007

Due: Friday, April 27, 2007.

This paper is worth 20% of your grade (200 points).

**Topic:** Compare and contrast three different cities’ experiences with one of the contemporary themes discussed in the course. In most cases, the three cities should be in three different countries.

**Themes:** Sample themes (others are possible): population & migration, primate cities, urban systems, squatter settlements, housing, informal economy, international investment, transnational corporations, development zones, transportation, water supply, environmental issues, gender issues, historic preservation.

**Sources:** In your paper, you MUST use citations for all material which is not your own observations. Papers without adequate citations will be returned to the students for re-writes. See style sheet for guidelines.

**Format requirements:**

1. Typed, double-spaced text (6-8 pages of text)
2. Citations for all ideas, information and quotes which are not your own. This means there must be in-text citations for every paragraph which is not your own thought, not just for quotes. Papers without proper citations will be penalized.
3. List of sources (bibliography). A minimum of 5 sources is appropriate for this paper. Only one source may be an encyclopedia.
4. Six maps. For each of the three cities, there should be a "locator map" of the country with a dot showing where the city is, and at least one city-plan type map or diagram illustrating the topic of the paper. More maps are possible, of course. Base maps can be xeroxed but must include your own added shading or other markings (unaltered xeroxes are not acceptable). There should be references to the maps (such as: see Map 1) within the body of the text of the paper. Maps and other illustrations do not count in the page numbers for the assignment.