

**GEOGRAPHY 565
H(3-0) Area II****Urban Political Geography**

Instructor: Byron Miller
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Room: ES328 **Tel No:** 220-7321
Office hours: MW 2-3, TTh 2:30-3:30 and
by appointment

Official Course Description:

This is an advanced course surveying core theories of urban politics and their relationship to space, place, and territory. The first half of the course will introduce major theories of and debates over the nature of urban politics. The second half of the course will address specific urban political issues, processes and policies, such as social and environmental justice: neoliberalism and governmentality; the rescaling of urban governance; public versus private space; the politics of suburbanization; urban social movements; and the future of urban governance.

Course objectives

The objective of this course is to provide students with a broad understanding of the political forces shaping North American cities, their relationship to the changing nature of urban space, and the possibilities for building more just and public cities.

Prerequisite:

Geography 351 or 451

Supplementary Fees: (*field trips etc*). N/A

Text(s)/Readings:

All course reading will be posted to Blackboard. In addition to the required readings, some optional readings are listed on this syllabus so that you can further explore topics of particular interest to you. Some, but not all of the optional readings will be posted to Blackboard.

Grading (Weighting):

Components must total 100% (*In calculating the final grade, the term work should count for not less than 50%. Any tests carried out during the last two weeks (14 days before end of lectures) may not account for more than 10% of the final grade, except in the case of take home examinations or projects*).

State whether: *There is no final examination for this course OR whether the final examination will be OR will not be scheduled by the Registrar's Office and whether or not it is essential to pass all elements/components to pass the course as a whole.*

Assignments and Grading:

All assignments must be completed. Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day late. On take-home, written assignments writing competency (organization, grammar, spelling, word choice etc) will count for 20% of the grade. The Writing Centre at SS110 can help you with any writing difficulties you might have.

Grades will be based on:

Midterm Exam	100 points
Final Exam	100
Term Paper	100
Class Participation*	<u>30</u>
	330 total points

*class participation points will be based on student performance in class discussion, or on the average of the exams and term paper, whichever is higher.

All exams will be take-home and open-book, they must be turned in typed. The midterm exam will be available on Blackboard on Thursday February 28, and will be due in class on Monday March 3. The final exam will be available on Blackboard on Thursday April 17, and will be due at my office on Monday April 21 by 5pm.

The term paper assignment will be a literature research paper of ten to twelve pages, plus bibliography. Details of the term paper assignment will be posted on Blackboard before reading week. It will be due at my office no later than Friday April 25 at 5pm. (You may of course turn the paper in earlier).

Grades will be based on the following grading scale:

A+ (99-100) **A** (92-98.9); **A-** (88-91.9); **B+** (85-87.9); **B** (82-84.9); **B-** (78-81.9); **C+** (75-77.9); **C** (70-74.9); **C-** (62-69.9); **D+** (58-61.9); **D** (55-57.9); **F** (0-54.9)

For additional detailed course information posted by the Instructor see Blackboard at:
<http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/>

Plagiarism

Academic dishonesty is not an acceptable activity at the University of Calgary and students are **strongly advised** to read the Student Misconduct section in the University Calendar. Quite often, students are unaware of what constitutes academic dishonesty or plagiarism. The most common are 1) presenting another student's work as your own 2) presenting an author's work or ideas as your own without proper referencing and 3) using work completed for another course. This activity will not be tolerated in this course and students conducting themselves in this manner will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar.

Disability Resource Centre Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

Re: Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

- Assignments will be handed back only in class or by the Professor at pre-arranged time(s).
- To receive your assignment back via mail, please include an appropriately sized self-addressed, stamped envelope with your assignment when handing in to the professor.
- Posting of grades will be at the discretion of each Professor and, if posted, they will be scrambled. Grades will **not** be available at Geography's main office.

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- SU VP Academic Phone: 220-3911 and e-mail: suypaca@ucalgary.ca
- SU Faculty Rep. Phone: 220-3913 and e-mail: socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Campus Safewalk

Campus Security, in partnership with the Students' Union, provides the Safewalk service, 24 hours a day, to any location on Campus including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones and University residences. Contact Campus Security at 220-5333 or use a help phone, and Safewalkers or a Campus Security officer will accompany you to your Campus destination.