

COURSE OUTLINE: FALL 2023
URBAN STUDIES 253
H(3-0)

Introduction to Cities

Section	Days	Meeting Time	Location
LEC 01	Tu/Th	2:00 - 3:15	ICT 102

Instructor: Professor Byron Miller Office: Earth Sciences 328	Office hours: Tu/Th 1:30 – 2:30 and by appointment Email: Byron.Miller@ucalgary.ca
Teaching Assistant: Sally Talebloo Office: Earth Sciences 912	Office hour: Th 3:30-4:30 Email: Saloumeh.Talebloo@ucalgary.ca

Geographers recognize that injustice is manifest in many different places, including in our Department and the University of Calgary, and across many scales, including urban, regional, national, and global scales. The **Department of Geography** condemns longstanding and continuing injustices suffered on the basis of geographic location, class exploitation, and/or marginalized identity. We stand against racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism, classism, xenophobia, able-bodied normativity, mental health profiling, and other forms of prejudice. <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/news/anti-racism-statement>

Territorial Acknowledgement

The Department of Geography acknowledges and appreciates that we live on the traditional territories of the people of the Treaty 7 region in southern Alberta. The City of Calgary is also home to Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/indigenous/cultural-protocol>

Official Course Description:

A broad introductory survey, from diverse perspectives of the processes that shape cities and urban life.

Course Objectives:

By the end of this course, students will be acquainted with a broad introduction to the interdisciplinary field of Urban Studies. Students should be able to identify many of Urban Studies' most influential thinkers across the 20th and 21st centuries, including their most significant contributions on topics such as urban growth and development; social and spatial differentiation; urban cultures and societies; urban politics and governance; urban economic and political economic processes; urban design and planning; the evolution of public and private space; urban morphologies and infrastructures; urban sustainability; urban pasts and futures. Students will refine and develop new intellectual skills to interpret articles, books, and visual media more circumspectly. Finally, students will be able to suitably apply some of the ideas introduced in this course in structured exercises focused on Calgary and in an analysis of a non-documentary film.

Course Learning Outcomes:

The Department of Geography and the Urban Studies Program are committed to student knowledge and skill development. The table below lists the key learning outcomes for this course, the program-learning outcomes they facilitate and the expected level of achievement.

Course Learning Outcomes	PLO (s)	Level(s)
Analyze and write an urban film review	3,7,8	1
Plan and write an urban field report	3,6,8	1
Describe and explain the evolution, development and disruptions of pre-industrial, industrial and post-industrial urbanization and urbanism.	1,2	1
Explain and apply concepts and ideas related to urban socio-spatial processes, urban ecology and exclusion.	3,7	2
Evaluate how urban planning is influenced by factors such as political power and social and cultural differences	2	2
Describe the history and practice of urban planning and urban design and explain why they have changed	2	1
Demonstrate a proficiency in some key concepts, terms and criticisms of urban sustainability	5	2

PLOs = Program Learning Outcomes: 1 = reflect and communicate diverse human-environment perspectives, 2 = identify and explain human-environment processes, 3 = implement sampling, data collection, analyses and communication methods, 4 = analyze spatial and temporal aspects of human-environment systems, 5 = employ knowledge, arguments, and methodologies for solving human-environment problems, 6 = evaluate geospatial data and manipulate it to create cartographic products, 7 = communicate geographic concepts using oral, written, graphic, and cartographic modes, and 8 = demonstrate literacy skills. **Levels:** (1) Introductory, (2) Intermediate, (3) Advanced.

Prerequisites

No prerequisites are required.

Learning Resources

- R.T. Legates and F. Stout (2020) 7th ed. **The City Reader**, New York: Routledge. You can also use the 6th ed. but some readings will not be included.
- Additional required readings will be made available through D2L.

For additional detailed course information posted by the instructor, visit the course Desire2Learn page online at <https://d2l.ucalgary.ca/d2l/home>.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students taking online, remote and blended courses are required to have reliable access to the following technology.

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Webcam (built in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built in or external) or headset with microphone
- Broadband internet connection

Grading (Weighting)

1. Midterm Examination: 25%
2. Final Examination: 25%
3. Film Analysis: 25%
4. Calgary Analysis: 25%

Other Grading Information

- Late assignment policy: All assignments must be completed in full and on time. Late assignments will be penalized 5% per day late.
- Writing competency: On take-home written assignments, writing competency (organization, grammar, spelling, word choice, etc.) will count for 20% of the grade. The Writing Centre (part of the Student Success Centre <http://www.ucalgary.ca/ssc/>) can help you with any writing questions you might have.
- Mid-Term Examination: The exam will be mixed format, e.g., multiple choice, true-false, short answer, essay, and will take place in-class on October 19.
- Final Examination: There is a final examination for this course. It will be scheduled by the Registrar's Office during the final exam period; date and time will likely be announced in October. The exam will be mixed format, e.g., multiple choice, true-false, short answer, essay.
- The Film Analysis will be due no later than the beginning of class on November 7.
- The Calgary Analysis will be due no later than the beginning of class on December 5.
- Grading Components: A passing grade on any particular component of this course is not essential in order to pass the course as a whole.

Exemptions to the Examination and Tests Regulations

Instructors follow university regulations regarding Examinations and Tests, which are specified in the University Calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/g.html.

Grading System

Grading Distribution:

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. A+ (98-100) | 5. B (82-84.9) | 9. C- (62-69.9) |
| 2. A (92-97.9) | 6. B- (78-81.9) | 10. D+ (58-61.9) |
| 3. A- (88-91.9) | 7. C+ (75-77.9) | 11. D (52-57.9) |
| 4. B+ (85-87.9) | 8. C (70-74.9) | 12. F (0-51.9) |

If you know you will miss a required component of the course, please contact Professor Miller as soon as possible. In the event that you miss a midterm or any course work due to illness, you must provide a valid reason with supporting documentation such as a medical note or statutory

declaration: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html> Please refer to <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/appeals/student-faq> for frequently asked questions concerning the provision of a medical note/statutory declaration. Professor Miller will make accommodations, as appropriate.

Supplementary Fees

There are no supplementary fees for this course.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Principles of Conduct

The University Calendar includes a statement on the principles of conduct expected of all members of the university community (including students, faculty, administrators, any category of staff, practicum supervisors, and volunteers), whether on or off university property. This statement applies in all situations where members of the university community are acting in their university capacities. All members of the university community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the principles of conduct statement, which is available at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html.

Plagiarism, Cheating, and Student Misconduct

The University of Calgary is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect.

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 at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html. 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 adequate citation, and (3) using work completed for another course. Such activities will not be tolerated in this course, and students suspected of academic misconduct will be dealt with according to the procedures outlined in the calendar at: www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Information on Instructor Intellectual Property can be found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/Intellectual%20Property%20Policy.pdf>

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) legislation in Alberta disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, such as outside an instructor's office, the department office, etc. Term assignments will be graded on D2L using the Dropbox function.

Human subjects

Students will not participate as research subjects or as researchers on human subjects.

Posting of Grades and Picking-up of Assignments

Graded assignments will be returned by the instructor or teaching assistant personally during scheduled lecture or laboratory periods, unless they are made available electronically through the course D2L webpage. Grades and assignments will not be available at the Department of Geography's main office.

Academic Accommodations

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations, according to the university policies and procedures listed in the University Calendar.

The student accommodation policy can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf.

Students needing an accommodation because of a disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>

Students needing an accommodation based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need, preferably in writing to their instructor or the Department Head (email: david.goldblum@ucalgary.ca).

Documentation for Absences or Missed Course Assessments

Students who are absent from class assessments (tests, participation activities, or other assignments) should inform the instructor as soon as possible. Instructors may request that evidence in the form of documentation be provided. If the reason provided for the absence is acceptable, instructors may decide that any arrangements made can take forms other than make-up tests or assignments. For example, the weight of a missed grade may be added to another assignment or test. For information on possible forms of documentation, including statutory declarations, please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/m-1.html>

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf and requirements of the copyright act <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html> to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Act.

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that student mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness, and academic success and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive supports when needed. We encourage you to explore the mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support, or skills-building available through the SU Wellness Centre (Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy website (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Contact Information for Student and Faculty Representation

- Student Union VP Academic 403-220-3911, suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
- Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts – 403-220-3913, arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca
- Student Ombuds Office information can be found at: www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/

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 station, 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.