



<b>SOCI 353 Urban Sociology</b>			
<b>Pre/Co-Requisites</b>	SOCI201		
<b>Instructor:</b>	Matt Patterson	<b>Lecture Location:</b>	ICT 121
<b>Phone:</b>	587-220-5037	<b>Lecture Days/Time:</b>	MWF 11:00 – 11:50 AM
<b>Email:</b>	matt.patterson@ucalgary.ca		
<b>Office:</b>	SS 916		
<b>Instructor Email Policy</b>	Please include “SOC353” in the subject of your e-mails. I aim to respond to e-mails within 24 hours during the working week. To ensure a quick response, it is best to keep e-mails simple and straight to the point. Questions about the course content and readings, concerns about grades, or any other personal issues should be dealt with in person during my office hours.		

**Course Description:**

Cities are complicated matters. It is not always clear how we should go about studying them, or even how we should define what a city is. Often the complexity of cities makes it difficult to understand and address the major social problems that face city dwellers across Canada and the world. These problems include inequality and segregation, homelessness, crime, alienation and the decline of community.

To help sift through the complexity of urban life, sociologists have developed several research perspectives that provide working definitions for cities and “toolkits” of theories and methods for studying the city. In this course you will be learning a variety of these perspectives including human ecology, interactionism, and political-economy. Each of these perspectives is based on a slightly different idea of what a city is and what is important about urban life.

The course is roughly divided into three units. The first unit will address the rise of modern cities and their impact on the way people relate to each other and form communities. The second unit will focus on the role of power and inequality within cities, including a focus on economic inequality, race and ethnicity, and housing. The final unit will focus on different dimensions of life within the modern city, including culture and consumption, behavior in public spaces, and crime.

### Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes:

- Understand major theoretical approaches to studying cities, including their strengths and weaknesses, and the types of research questions that are associated with them.
- Learn about the state of Canadian cities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century with regard to several important social issues, including the economy, inequality, race and ethnicity, crime, and more.
- Develop the ability to critically read and assess original sociological publications.

### Required Textbooks, Readings, Materials, Electronic Resources:

- Harry Hiller (editor). 2014. *Urban Canada*. Toronto: Oxford University Press. (Available in hard copy of ebook here:  
[https://www.calgarybookstore.ca/textbook\\_express.asp?mode=2&step=2&sectionIds=327839](https://www.calgarybookstore.ca/textbook_express.asp?mode=2&step=2&sectionIds=327839))
- Online articles can be accessed in D2L.

### Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights:

COMPONENT	WEIGHTING	DUE DATES/DAY
Unit Test #1	35%	<b>Mon, Oct 3</b>
Reading Response #1	5%	<b>Fri, Oct 7</b>
Unit Test #2	35%	<b>Fri, Nov 4</b>
Reading Response #2	5%	<b>Mon, Nov 14</b>
Unit Test #3	15%	<b>Wed, Dec 7</b>
Reading Response #3	5%	<b>Fri, Dec 9</b>
Total	100%	

*Note: There is no final exam in this course.*

#### Unit Tests

The unit tests will evaluate your knowledge of the lecture and reading material from each of the three units. The tests will not be cumulative but will cover all of the material from each of the respective units. All three tests will be in multiple choice format and written during class time. Each test is weighted slightly differently depending on how much material it covers. No aids are permitted during the tests.

#### Reading Responses

As part of your grade, you are required to submit a reading response for one online article in each of the three units. Response papers are graded on a pass/fail basis and can be submitted via D2L. **No extensions will be granted for this assignment.**

Responses should be between 300 to 500 words in length. In your response you should (1) briefly summarize the main argument of the reading, (2) identify the significance of the reading to urban sociology, and (3) provide some critical assessment that highlights problems or limitations with the argument or identifies new questions that are raised by the reading. Proper citation form is also expected. Any text or ideas taken from the reading or any other source must be distinguished with quotation marks and/or page numbers.

Keep in mind that all of the online articles will be covered in the unit tests. Therefore, while you will only write a response for one article per unit, you are expected to read all of the assigned articles.

**Grading Scale:**

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percent range</b>	<b>Grade Point Value</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>A+</b>	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
<b>A</b>	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
<b>A-</b>	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
<b>B+</b>	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
<b>B</b>	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
<b>B-</b>	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
<b>C+</b>	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
<b>C</b>	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
<b>C-</b>	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
<b>D+</b>	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
<b>D</b>	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
<b>F</b>	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

**Libraries & Cultural Resources**

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website, go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

## Schedule of Lectures and Readings

### Unit One: Urbanization and Community

#### Week 1: What is a City?

September 7, 9

##### Lectures:

- Introduction
- Lecture 1: What is a City?

##### Readings:

- Hiller, Introduction: Urbanization and the City

#### Week 2: Urbanization in Historical and Canadian Perspective

September 12, 14, 16

##### Lectures:

- Lecture 2: Urbanization in Historical Perspective
- Lecture 3: Canadian Urbanization

##### Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 1: Canadian Urbanization in Historical and Global Perspective
- Hiller, Chapter 2: The Dynamics of Canadian Urbanization
- Florida, Richard, Andrés Rodríguez-Pose, and Michael Storper. 2021. "Cities in a post-COVID world." *Urban Studies* (see D2L)

#### Week 3: Classical Perspectives on Cities

September 19, 21, 23

##### Lectures:

- Lecture 4: The Chicago School
- Lecture 5: Can Community Exist in a Big City?

##### Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 3: Analyzing and Interpreting the City: Theory and Method
- Simmel, Georg. 1906. "The Metropolis and Mental Life" (See D2L)

#### Week 4: Networks and Ethnography

September 26, 28

##### Lectures:

- Lecture 6: Networks and Ethnography

##### Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 5: Social Ties and Community in Urban Places
- Zhang, Min, Weiping Wu, and Weijing Zhong. 2018. "Agency and social construction of space under top-down planning: Resettled rural residents in China." *Urban Studies* 55(7): 1541-60. (See D2L)

*National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (No Lecture)*

*September 30th*

## Unit Two: Power and Inequality

### Week 5: Urban Political-Economy

October 3, 5, 7

#### Lectures:

- Lecture 7: Urban Political-Economy

#### Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 12: The New Urban Political Economy
- Hyde, Zachary. 2022. "Giving back to get ahead: Altruism as a developer strategy of accumulation through affordable housing policy in Toronto and Vancouver." *Geoforum* 134: 187-196. (See D2L)

#### Test:

- Test #1 in-class on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### Assignment:

- Reading Response #1 due by Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM.

### *Thanksgiving Monday (No Lecture)*

October 10<sup>th</sup>

### Week 6: Globalization and Inequality

October 12, 14

#### Lectures:

- Lecture 8: Cities in the Global Economy
- Lecture 9: Inequality in Cities

#### Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 7: Urban Inequality and Urban Social Movements
- Hulchanski, J. David. 2010. "The Three Cities within Toronto: Income Polarization among Toronto's Neighbourhoods, 1970-2005." Available here: <http://www.urbancentre.utoronto.ca/pdfs/curp/tnrn/Three-Cities-Within-Toronto-2010-Final.pdf>
- Herbert, Claire W. 2018. "Like a Good Neighbor, Squatters Are There: Property and Neighborhood Stability in the Context of Urban Decline." *City & Community* 17(1): 236-258. (See D2L)

### Week 7: Housing, Segregation, and Gentrification

October 17, 19, 21

#### Lectures:

- Lecture 10: Housing and Segregation
- Lecture 11: Gentrification

#### Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 14: Housing and Homelessness: Sociological Factors
- Hiller, Chapter 11: Gender and the City: Urban Restructuring, Social Exclusion, and Democratic Participation
- Lauster, Nathanael. 2016. *The Death and Life of the Single-Family House*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, Pp. 1-8, 40-56. (See D2L)

Lectures:

- Lecture 12: Race and Ethnicity

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 8 – Immigration and Race in the City
- Murphy, Demetrius Miles. 2022. "Aquilombamento, Entrepreneurial Black Placemaking in an Anti-Black City." *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity* 8(2): 235-49. (See D2L)

Lectures:

- Lecture 13: Indigenous Peoples

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 9: Aboriginal Peoples in Urban Areas

Test:

- Test #2 in-class on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>

Mid-Term Break

November 7 – 11

Unit Three: Life in the City

Lectures:

- Lecture 14: Culture and Consumerism
- Lecture 15: Arts and the Creative Economy

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 13: Consumer Culture, City Space, and Urban Life
- Currid, Elizabeth. 2009. "Bohemia as Subculture; Bohemia as Industry." *Journal of Planning Literature* 23(4): 368-382.

Assignment:

- Reading Response #2 due by Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM.

Lectures:

- Lecture 16: Interactions in Public
- Lecture 17: The End of Public Space

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 6: Urban Public Spaces: Streets, Strangership, and Securitization
- Nejad, Sarem and Ryan Walker. 2018. "Contemporary Urban Indigenous Placemaking in Canada." Pp. 223-251 in Elizabeth Grant, Kelly Greenop, Albert L. Refiti, and Daniel J. Glenn (eds.) *The Handbook of Contemporary Indigenous Architecture*. Springer. (See D2L)

Lectures:

- Lecture 18: Crime and Cities
- Lecture 19: Policing

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 10: Big Cities, Social Pathology, and Crime

Assignment:

- Term paper due by Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 11:59 PM.
- Herring, Chris. 2019. "Complaint-Oriented Policing: Regulating Homelessness in Public Space." *American Sociological Review* 84(5):769-800. (See D2L)

Week 13: Conclusion

Lectures:

- Lecture 20: Review and Conclusion

Test:

- Test #3 in-class on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>

Assignment:

- Reading Response #3 due by Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM.

**IMPORTANT POLICIES AND INFORMATION**

**Absence From a Mid-term Examination**

Students who are absent from a scheduled term test or quiz for legitimate reasons are responsible for contacting the instructor via email within 48 hours of the missed test to discuss alternative arrangements. A copy of that email may be requested as proof of the attempt to contact the instructor.

**Deferred Term Work Form:** Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out by the student and submitted, along with any supporting documentation, to the instructor. The form is available at: [https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22\\_deferral-of-term-work\\_lapseGrade.pdf](https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/sites/default/files/teams/14/P22_deferral-of-term-work_lapseGrade.pdf)

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the instructor will email the form to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre ([ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)) for approval by the Associate Dean.

**Deferral of a Final Examination**

Deferral of a final examination can be granted for reasons of illness, domestic affliction, and unforeseen circumstances, as well as to those with three (3) final exams scheduled within a 24-hour period. Deferred final exams will not be granted to those who sit the exam, who have made travel arrangements that conflict with their exam, or who have misread the examination timetable. The decision to allow a deferred final exam rests not with the instructor but with Enrolment Services. Instructors should, however, be notified if you will be absent during the examination. The Application for Deferred Final Exam, deadlines, requirements and submission instructions can be found on the Enrolment Services website at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/exams/deferred-exams>.

### **Reappraisal of Grades:**

*For Reappraisal of Graded Term Work, see Calendar I.2*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-2.html>

*For Reappraisal of Final Grade, see Calendar I.3*

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/i-3.html>

### **Academic Misconduct:**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behavior that compromises proper assessment of students' academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

Student committing academic misconduct during the final exam will not receive a passing grade for the course.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, Procedure and Academic Integrity, please visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k-3.html>

### **Plagiarism And Other Forms Of Academic Misconduct**

Academic misconduct in any form (e.g. cheating, plagiarism) is a serious academic offence that can lead to disciplinary probation, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students are expected to be familiar with the standards surrounding academic honesty; these can be found in the University of Calgary calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>. Such offences will be taken seriously and reported immediately, as required by Faculty of Arts policy.

### **Recording of Lectures:**

Recording of lectures is prohibited, except for audio recordings authorized as an accommodation by SAS or an audio recording for individual private study and only with the written permission of the instructor. Any unauthorized electronic or mechanical recording of lectures, their transcription, copying, or distribution, constitutes academic misconduct. See <https://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/e-6.html>.

### **Academic Accommodations:**

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services. SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/accommodation-students-disabilities-procedure>

### **Research Ethics**

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subject research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics



approval is required.

### **Instructor Intellectual Property**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP) Act:**

Personal information is collected in accordance with FOIP. Assignments can only be returned to the student and will be accessible only to authorized faculty and staff. For more information, see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy>

### **Copyright Legislation:**

See the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy> Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

### **Evacuation Assembly Points**

In the event of an emergency evacuation from class, students are required to gather in designated assembly points. Please check the list found at <https://www.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points> and note the assembly point nearest to your classroom.

### **Important Dates:**

Please check: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/academic-schedule.html>.

### **Faculty of Arts Program Advising and Student Information Resources**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The Arts Students' Centre is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS102, call them at 403-220-3580, or email them at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>, which has detailed information on common academic concerns, including program planning and advice.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them in the MacKimmie Tower.

### **Important Contact Information**

Campus Security and Safewalk (24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year)  
Phone: 403-220-5333

Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Students' Union Representatives  
Phone: 403-220-6551  
Email: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca),  
[arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)  
Students' Union URL: [www.su.ucalgary.ca](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca)

Graduate Students' Association  
Phone: 403-220-5997  
Email: [askgsa@ucalgary.ca](mailto:askgsa@ucalgary.ca)  
URL: [www.ucalgary.ca/gsa](http://www.ucalgary.ca/gsa)

Student Ombudsman  
Phone: 403-220-6420  
Email: [ombuds@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ombuds@ucalgary.ca)

### **Campus 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 excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through the following resources:

*SU Wellness Centre:* <http://www.ucalgary.ca/wellnesscentre/>

*Student Wellness Services:*  
<https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>

*Campus Mental Health Strategy website:* <https://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>.