

The University of Calgary
Department of Sociology

**Sociology 353
Urban Sociology
Spring 2012**

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR: Prabhjote (Jyoti) Gondek
OFFICE: SS903
OFFICE HOURS: Thursdays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. or by appointment
E-MAIL: pkgondek@ucalgary.ca
CLASS TIME: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:00–2:50 p.m.
CLASS LOCATION: ES 443

COURSE OVERVIEW & OBJECTIVES:

There are many different ways of looking at the city and understanding what it means to be 'urban'. This course is designed to provide you with a sociological perspective of urbanization, with an emphasis on how people live in urban settings.

You will be introduced to theories and key concepts within the field of urban sociology, as well as some of the important literature (both contemporary and classic). The process of urbanization will be explored from a sociological perspective to better understand concepts and trends like settlement patterns, social interactions and segregation. Because the city is where the majority of our interactions take place, this course will encourage you to consider the urban context as one where there is competition for space and competition between lifestyles. The goal is to have you look beyond the city as simply a place, focusing instead on the city as a context where many things take place.

TEXTBOOKS:

1. H. H. Hiller (Ed.). 2010. *Urban Canada* (2nd Edition). Don Mills, ON: Oxford University Press.
2. Logan, J.R., & Molotch, H.L. 2007. *Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place*. (20th Anniversary Edition). Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.

EXAMS & ASSIGNMENT:

All students are expected to complete the following course requirements:

- Mid-term exam based on assigned readings and lectures
 - Questions may include multiple choice and/or short answer.
 - Thursday, May 31, 2012 (during class)

- Analytical paper linking the Logan & Molotch book to a Calgary-based example
 - This will be a short essay of no more than five pages, dealing with issues of use value and exchange value in the Calgary context. You will be asked to demonstrate your understanding of the concepts in *Urban Fortunes* as they relate to places in Calgary.
 - More detailed instructions to be circulated by May 24, 2012.
 - Due in class on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 12:00 p.m.
 - No electronic submissions.
 - Late papers will lose 5% per day, and will not be accepted after June 22, 2012.

- Final exam based on assigned readings and lectures since the mid-term exam
 - Questions may include multiple choice and/or short answer.
 - Date of final exam to be set by Registrar (tentatively between June 25-27, 2012).
 - Please do not book vacations until we are informed of the exam date.

COURSE WEIGHTING:

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|----------------------|------------|
| • Mid-term exam: | 35% |
| • Analytical paper: | 30% |
| • <u>Final exam:</u> | <u>35%</u> |
| TOTAL: | 100% |

GRADE SCALE:

A+ = 95-100	C+ = 67-69
A = 90-94	C = 63-66
A- = 85-89	C- = 60-62
B+ = 80-84	D+ = 55-59
B = 75-79	D = 50-54
B- = 70-74	F = 49 or less

Final percentages ending in .5 or higher are automatically rounded up.

COMMUNICATION:

This course makes use of Blackboard to communicate information to students. To access Blackboard, go to: blackboard.ucalgary.ca OR my.ucalgary.ca.

To book an appointment or to ask a quick question, e-mail is a great option (pkgondek@ucalgary.ca). With e-mail, please allow at least 24 hours for me to get back to you. However, if you have a more complex question or discussion topic, please come and discuss it with me during office hours or by booking an appointment. What you can articulate in person is often more productive than the time required to delicately choose your words in an e-mail.

THINGS TO CONSIDER/HOW TO MAKE THE MOST OF THIS COURSE:

You will be tested on lecture material, as well as readings. It is important to attend classes to perform well on your exams and written assignment. Texting, e-mailing and surfing the web during class is distracting for you, your fellow students and your instructor. Please refrain from these activities during class. Take the time to complete the assigned readings prior to each class so you can ask questions and/or provide comments.

COURSE SCHEDULE & READINGS:

All readings below are from the Hiller textbook, with the addition of the Logan & Molotch book for the May 24 class.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Chapter/Book</u>
May 10, 2012	Introduction to Urbanization What is Urban Sociology?	Book Introduction
May 15, 2012	History of Urbanization	Chapter 1
May 17, 2012	History of Canadian Urbanization Theory & Methods – Chicago School	Chapter 2 Chapter 3
May 22, 2012	Theory & Methods – 5 Models	Chapter 3
May 24, 2012	Political Economy	Chapter 11 <i>Urban Fortunes</i>
May 29, 2012	Urban Inequality	Chapters 6, 9
May 31, 2012	MID-TERM EXAM In-Class Film	
June 5, 2012	Race, Ethnicity & Gender in Cities	Chapter 7, 8, 10

June 7, 2012	Social Interaction	Chapter 5
June 12, 2012	Sociology of Housing	Chapter 13
June 14, 2012	City as Commodity	Chapter 12
June 19, 2012	Urban & Rural: Any Common Ground? ANALYTICAL PAPER DUE	Chapter 4
June 21, 2012	Urban Form	Chapters 14, 15
June 25-27, 2012	FINAL EXAM (exact date TBD)	

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Emergency evacuations:

In the case of fire or other emergency evacuation of this classroom/lab, please proceed to the assembly point by Professional Faculties Bldg. Food Court

Deferrals:

If at all possible you must provide *advance* notice to the instructor if you are unable to take a test or pass in an assignment or essay on time. All requests for deferral of a course component due to health reasons must be accompanied by written documentation as outlined in the University Calendar and should be obtained while the student has the physical or emotional problem rather than after recovery. Deferrals will be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferral. Deferrals will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

If you have missed a test for a legitimate reason, the instructor can require you to write a “make up” test as close in time to the original test as possible or can choose to transfer the percentage weight to another course component. If the instructor schedules a “make up” test for you, its date and location will be at the convenience of the Sociology Department.

Please note that requests to defer a final examination or to defer term work past the end of a term go through the Undergraduate Programs Office (UPO) and must be processed by the deadlines that are established in the U of C Calendar. You can find the forms you need online:

Deferred Final Exam Application:

http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/APP%20FOR%20DF%20EXAM_0.pdf

Deferred Term Work Form:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf>

You must submit these deferral forms to the Faculty of Arts Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre. Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions. To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Ethics Research:

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 Departmental Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Academic Misconduct:

Plagiarism, cheating and other academic misconduct are regarded as serious academic offences. Students are advised to consult the University Calendar which presents a Statement of Intellectual Honesty and definitions and penalties associated with cheating, plagiarism, and other academic misconduct.

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIP):

FOIP legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place, e.g., outside an instructor's office or the Department main office. Written assignments must be returned to students individually, during class, or during the instructor's office hours; if a student is unable to pick up her/his assignment s/he may provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment.

Safewalk:

The University of Calgary provides a "safe walk" service to any location on Campus, including the LRT, parking lots, bus zones, and campus housing. For Campus Security/Safewalk call 220-5333. Campus Security can also be contacted from any of the "Help" phones located around Campus.

Academic Accommodation:

Students with a disability, who require academic accommodation, need to register with the Disability Resource Centre (MC 295, phone 220-8237). Academic accommodation letters need to be provided to course instructors no later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of class. **It is a student's responsibility to register with the Disability Resource Centre and to request academic accommodation, if required.**

Handing in papers outside of class, return of final papers, and release of final grades:

1. When students are unable to submit papers in class, they should make arrangements to hand in their papers directly to the instructor or teaching assistant. Papers will not be accepted in the main Sociology Department office.
2. Final papers will not be returned through the main Sociology Department office. The Freedom of Information and Privacy (FOIP) legislation disallows the practice of having students retrieve assignments from a public place (i.e. outside an instructor's office, the department office etc.) Students who want their final papers returned by mail must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper. Otherwise final papers will be available for pick-up only during the instructor's office hours at the end of this term or at the beginning of the next term.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are available only online.