

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**SOCIOLOGY 353:01
URBAN SOCIOLOGY**

COURSE OUTLINE

Winter 2009

Class Meets TR 2:00-3:15

Location: ST148

Instructor: Dr. H. Hiller

Office Hours: TR 11:00-12:00, or by appointment

Office: SS 1056

Office Phone: 403-220-6048

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Teaching Assistant: Emily Harrison

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Office: SS 943

Office Hours: TR 3:30-4:30, or by appointment

Sociology department website: <http://www.soci.ucalgary.ca>

Click “Course Outlines” to find the course outline for this course or use the course Blackboard site.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. To introduce theory and concepts appropriate to the field of urban sociology and to develop a familiarity with the core literature within the subdiscipline.
2. To understand the process of urbanization (e.g., historical trends, ecological distributions, interaction patterns) and its implications from a sociological perspective.
3. To grapple with the significance and impact of urbanization on the student's present and future social life.

TEXTBOOKS

Harry H. Hiller (ed.), *Urban Canada: Sociological Perspectives*. Oxford University Press, 2005. There are additional readings from Bluestone, Stevenson and Williams bundled with this text in the bookstore so be sure to buy the book from the bookstore if you want all the readings.

Douglas E. Morris, *It's a Sprawl World After All*. New World Publishers, 2005. (This book is related to the essay assignment).

ASA URBAN SOCIOLOGY WEBSITE: <http://www.commurb.org/>

This is the website of the Community and Urban Sociology Section of the ASA and is interesting to browse. If specific readings from this website are required, you will be informed.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. All students will write the Mid-term Examination on March 3. The exam will be based on lectures and the readings listed on the course schedule or as assigned.
2. All students will write an Urban Analytical Essay which will be **due in class on April 7**. *Papers will also be accepted in class on April 2*. Late papers will be penalized. This will be a concise 5 page essay which will allow you to be reflective and analytical about cities based on your reading of Morris. The assignment will have very clear requirements which will be made known on the course Blackboard site by January 20. All questions pertaining to this assignment should be directed to the Teaching Assistant who will be in charge of the evaluation of all essays.
3. Final Examination: All students will write the Final Examination which will be based on lectures and readings listed on the course schedule or as assigned. This exam will be scheduled by the Registrar and focuses on material since the mid-term examination.

COURSE WEIGHTS

Mid-term Examination =	30 points
Term Paper =	30 points
Final Examination =	40 points

Total Points = 100 points

The Professor will inform you of the letter grade equivalents of points obtained in each assignment.

COURSE SCHEDULE

The topic schedule is meant to be a guide of what is to be covered though there may be some adjustments of precise dates.

All references to readings from specific chapters refer to the Hiller text

* denotes reading available in the Library reserve reading room

++ denotes readings bundled with the text

January 15	Urban Sociology as a Field of Study Book Introduction p.1-8
January 20, 22	Origins and Development of Urbanization Chapter 1
January 27, 29, Feb.3 Use	Approaches to the Study of Urban Areas Chapters 3, 4, 11 ++ Bundled Reading: Bluestone. Stevenson and Williams on Land Controls p. 451-462 (not on reserve but bundled with text)
February 5, 10	Urbanization in Developing Countries * Reserve Reading #1: Mark Gottdiener and Ray Hutchison “Third World Urbanization”
February 12, 24, 26	Urbanization in Canada and the United States Chapter 2 and 13 * Reserve Reading #2: Mercer and England, “Canadian Cities in Continental Context” Week of February 15 Reading Week – no classes
March 3	<u>Mid-term Examination</u>
March 5, 10	Urban Ecological Patterns and Urban Change Chapter 14 * Reserve Reading #3: Hiller and Moylan, “Mega-Events and Community Obsolescence.”
March 12, 17, 19	Urban Areal Differentiation and Stratification Chapters 6, 8, 9
March 24, 26	Urbanization and Social Interaction Chapters 5 and 7
March 31, April 2	The Sociology of Housing Gendered Urbanization Chapter 10
April 2 and 7	Urban Analytical Essay due

April 7, 9 Urban Planning and Participation
April 14, 16 Urban Livability and Sustainability
 Chapter 12
 ++ Bundled Reading: Bluestone, Stevenson and Williams on
 Sprawl and Smart Growth p. 462-479

April 16 Last Day of Class

Date: TBA **Final Examination** scheduled by Registrar

Course Policies

Use of Email: Email can be a useful way to communicate with the professor or teaching assistant. However, *e-mail should not be considered a substitute for direct conversation, particularly on substantive matters. Course personnel are very interested in having contact with students, so discussions in person are preferable.* A less preferable alternative is the telephone but sometimes it works well. *In general, anything that requires more than a couple of sentences in reply should not be sent by email.* Appointments outside of regular office hours should be made by e-mail since the professor seldom has his calendar in class.

Exam Policies: You must provide advance notice to the instructor if you are unable to take an exam. All requests for deferral of an examination 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. Deferred exams may be allowed in the following circumstances: illness, domestic affliction or religious conviction. If you have missed an exam for a legitimate reason, a “make up” exam will be scheduled by the Sociology Department at a time and place determined by the Department rather than at the student’s convenience. There is no guarantee that the format or content of the examination will be similar to the exam given at the original time. Travel arrangements and misreading of the syllabus are not valid reasons for requesting a deferred exam. Deferred exams will not be granted if it is determined that just cause is not shown by the student.

Ethics in 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 and Plagiarism: Cheating is regarded as a serious academic offense. 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. Using material from any source should be clearly indicated through the use of quotation marks if the material is used verbatim plus

the reference should be exact and clear (eg. Smith 1998:266) including appropriate page number(s). If the ideas come from a source, even if it is not verbatim, the same citation method should be used. Learn to summarize material in your own words and then reference the source.

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, telephone 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 Papers, and Release of Final Grades

1. Students are expected to submit papers in class rather than at the Sociology Department Office.
2. Papers will not be returned through the Sociology Department main office. The Freedom of Information and Protection of 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 papers returned outside of class or by appointment must do so by mail and must attach a stamped, self-addressed envelope with the paper.
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology department. They are only available online.

USE OF BLACKBOARD: This course uses Blackboard online which requires log-on through “*My University of Calgary*”. Occasional notices, assignments, and reminders will be posted on this site. Any students with questions about how this works or with access difficulties should contact the IT Support Centre, (403) 220-5555, itsupport@ucalgary.ca Math Sciences 7th Floor, or Information Commons MacKimmie Library, 2nd Floor.