

SOCI 453.1.Sociology of Third World Cities
Department of Sociology
The University of Calgary
Fall 2008

- Instructor: Zia Rahman.
 - Email: zia_soc71@yahoo.com
 - Office: Rm. 2506 F, Phone: (403) 357-3676
 - Lecture : R 11:00-13:50 Room# 2503 (Main Building)
 - Office hours: I will be available for 45 minutes after class on every Thursday.
(Students who need to consult with me are suggested to make appointments in advance via e-mail).
 - Course Duration: First lecture September 04; last lecture November 27.
(*Final Exam Date: TBA*)
- ✓ Course Outline, Lectures, and the Other Important announcements will be available through the University of Calgary Blackboard system. (Web, www.blackboard.ucalgary.ca)

 **COURSE OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES**

The world's major mega cities located in various underdeveloped countries significantly differ from the major mega cities found in developed countries, both from quantitative and qualitative perspectives. Looking at Delhi, Kolkata, Dhaka, Karachi, Nairobi, Sao Paulo, Mexico City, Lagos and Cairo, for example, some similar characteristics and features are readily identifiable. While high population growth and density, poverty, slums, traffic congestion, large informal sector, and severe pollution, representing the structural features, are typical among these cities, traditional family values, kinship, regionalism, and lack of urbanism as a whole, representing the traditional way of life, are also common in all these cities. Hence, the very definition of city seems to contradict with the key features of these cities. Thus, the main objective of this course is to look into the pattern and trend of various structural and cultural issues and to identify the main causes and consequences of those structural and cultural variables using sociological knowledge and theories.

In a broad sense, this course is an offshoot of urban sociology focusing on the issues in third world cities. Apart from an opportunity to gain familiarity with the cities located in the world's peripheral regions at a glance, sociological insights help explain various aspects of these megacities. Furthermore, this course will be a good opportunity for western students to contrast their own experiences with that of urban dwellers in the third world.

Participatory pedagogy will be stressed. Hence, to fulfill the main objective, while the instructor will sometimes lecture, students' class participations and group works are highly encouraged, recommended and desired.

✚ TEXT

Gilbert, Alan and Gugler, Joseph (1992). ***Cities, Poverty and Development, Urbanization in the Third World***. (2nd Edition). Oxford University Press

Other secondary sources such as relevant articles and documentaries available in the University of Calgary library might be consulted when applicable and will be posted to the students in advance via Blackboard.

✚ LECTURES POSTING

Brief power point lectures and or word documents will be posted in the appropriate location on the University of Calgary Blackboard Website. An effort will be made to post draft lectures at least one hour before the class.

✚ COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING:

The grade for this course will depend on the number obtained from the following categories:

1. One Mid-term exam 30%
2. Final Exam 30%
3. Group Research Project and Group Paper Presentation (20%+10%)=30%
4. Class Participation 10%

- ✓ **The materials covered in readings, lectures, group discussions and documentaries are the basis of all of the above course requirements.**

✚ SCHEDULES FOR EXAMS, HANDING PROJECTS AND FOR PRESENTATION

1. Mid-term Exam: October 16, 2008
2. Final Exam : TBA
3. Final Group Research Project (Presentation and Submission)
 - Group 1 and Group 2 and Group 3, November 13
 - Group 4 and Group 5, November 20

✚ STRUCTURE OF THE EXAMS

1. Mid-term Exam
 - Mid-term exam consists of quiz, short type questions and an essay
Time and Place: 11a.m. to 12:30p.m. (90 minutes); regular classroom i.e., 2503 (Main building)
2. Final Exam
 - Final exam consists of quiz, short type questions and an essay
Time and place: TBA

✚ STRUCTURE OF GROUP PROJECT

- Students of the class will be divided into five major groups. Each group will be assigned a name (just to identify the group) after five major sociologists—Weber, Tonnies, Simmel, Lewis Writh and Abu-Lughod. Each Group consists of a minimum 2 and maximum 3 members.
- At the very first day of the class, groups will be formed. Each Group will choose one third world city and will collect information and work on that city for the whole semester using the guidelines set by the instructor. At the end of the Semester, each group will come up with a finished paper and a class presentation following the guidelines set by the instructor.
- The paper for groups 1, 2 and 3 is due on November 13, and the groups are scheduled to present their papers on that day. Similarly, the paper for groups 4 and 5 is due on November 20, and the groups are scheduled to present their papers on that day.

LETTER GRADE ASSIGNMENT

Letter grades will be assigned based on the following scale:

A+ (95 – 100)%
 A (90- 94)% C (63-66)%
 A- (85-89) % C- (60-62) %
 B+ (80-84) % D+ (57-59) %
 B (75-79) % D (53-56) %
 B- (70-74) % D- (50-52) %
 C+ (67-69) % F (0-49) %

- ✓ In order to have a passing grade, a student must participate in all the exams, and hand in all other required papers.
- ✓ The grades for a course component may be scaled to maintain equity among sections and to conform to departmental norms.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monthly planners posted at the Blackboard location (www.blackboard.ucalgary.ca) provide a schedule for the daily progression of this course.

DEFERRALS

If 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 at:

Deferred	Final	Exam	Application:
http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/Winter2008DEFERREDFINALEXAMINATIONS.pdf			
Deferred	Term	Work	Form:
http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/files/registrar/defTW.pdf			

You must submit these deferral forms to the Social Sciences Associate Dean (Students) through the UPO office: Undergraduate Programs Office, 4th Floor, MacEwan Student Centre.

To make an appointment with the Associate Dean, phone (403) 220-8155.

Only the Associate Dean approves requests for deferrals which extend beyond the end of a term. Instructors are not involved in such decisions.

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)

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, 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.**

**APPENDIX: 1
COURSE SCHEDULE**

WEEK	DATES	TOPIC
Wk 1	Sept 04	INTRODUCTION: concept of third world, urbanization, urbanism and third world urbanization etc. Gilbert and Gugler, Introduction , pp: 1-13.
Wk2	Sept11	Development of Third World Cities: world system and Human Ecology Approach. Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 1, pp: 14-32 and other materials provided by the instructor.
Wk3	Sep 18	Development of Third World Cities, cont... Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 1, pp: 14-32 and other materials provided by the instructor.
Wk4	Sep 25	Population growth in the third world cities. Population growth, mega cities, migration, causes of migration, sources of migration, nature of migrants etc. Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 3, pp: 62-72.
Wk5	Oct 02	Population growth cont. Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 3, pp: 72-79
Wk6	Oct 09	Urban labour market, development of informal sector, woman and child labour. Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 4, pp: 87-111 and other materials provided by the instructor.
Wk 7	Oct 16	MID-TERM EXAM plus Housing crises, state's responses, segregation of housing, slum and squatter settlements. Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 5, pp: 114-130 and other materials provided by the instructor
Wk08	Oct23	Housing cont... Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 5, pp: 130-145.
Wk09	Oct 30	Social organization in the city, urbanite vs. peasant, ruralisation Vs. urbanization, role of kinship and regionalism, sub culture etc. Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 6, pp: 155-175
Wk 10	Nov 06	Politics and urban poor, political organization, politics and crime, Street protests, riots and demonstrations, political change and role of third world cities Gilbert and Gugler, chapter 7, pp: 177-192
Wk 11	Nov 13	Politics cont. pp. 192-211 plus 3 GROUP PRESENTATIONS
Wk 12	Nov 20	Cities and Environment Pollution plus 2 GROUP PRESENTATIONS
Wk13	Nov 27	TBA