

Towson University
Department of Geography and Environmental Planning
Historical Geography of Urbanization
Geog 355.001/510.001

Fall 2007

Instructor: James M. Smith, Ph.D.
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Course Website: <http://bbweb.towson.edu>

Classroom: Li 13; time: 11-1215
Hours: T, R 10-11/or by appt.

Catalog Description: Spatial and temporal development of urbanization and urban morphology from the rise of civilization in the ancient Near East to the contemporary post-industrial city. The entire scope of urban functions is surveyed, with the emphasis on the city as a human-made environment.

Prerequisite: six units of geography or consent of instructor.

Course Objectives: In the first decade of the twenty-first century, more than half of the earth's population now lives within urban built environments. The implications of this development will have tremendous consequences for nature-society relations at all scales, and the ways in which people in different socio-cultural and regional contexts interact in conflict and cooperation. By studying cities, we study crucial aspects of our past and current condition as a species. Our main tasks:

- 1) A deeper *understanding* of how historical geographies of cities in varied regions can help us *appreciate* the contributions of different social and cultural systems to humanity's urban heritage.
- 2) The ability to *analyze* contemporary urban built environments in which we live and work.
- 3) The *application* of concepts and skills to a fieldwork project designed *to produce* an urban historical geography of a settlement or neighborhood, or paper analyzing the impacts of a particular technology or social shift on a city or urban space over time.
- 4) The *evaluation* of how cities function as urban systems of social life in capitalist societies in an era of globalization processes.

Texts and Readings:

1. Cronon, William. 1991. *Nature's Metropolis*. Chicago: W.W. Norton.
2. Short, John R. and Kim Yeong-Hyun. 1999. *Globalization and the City*. London: Pearson Prentice-Hall.
3. Articles and Book chapters listed with this syllabus and posted on BlackBoard.

Evaluation: Two midterm exams and a Final will be administered during the semester, with the dates announced at least one week in advance and listed in the syllabus. A research paper is due on **November 27**. The style guide for papers is included with this syllabus. The points system below apportions relative weight to each evaluation:

Two Midterms-100 points each

Research Paper/Fieldwork Project-200 points: Required length is a minimum of 12 pages of text for undergraduates, and 18 pages of text for graduate students

Final Exam-100 points

Total Points-500

Attendance: It is sometimes necessary to miss class due to sickness, and if you are ill (especially with contagious maladies!) it is best to stay home and recover. Nevertheless: “Students are expected to attend all classes. Consistent attendance offers the most effective opportunity for students to understand concepts, materials and expectations of those courses in which they are enrolled.” This statement of university policy reflects my own approach to attendance. In that spirit, I will hand out an attendance sheet for you to sign at the beginning of every class. Students are permitted absences based upon:

- 1) illness or injury which precludes attendance
- 2) religious observance where the nature of the observance prevents attendance
- 3) participation in university activities at the request of university authorities
- 4) compelling circumstances beyond the control of the student

Absences that do not fall into the four categories above are unexcused. Any student with 5 unexcused absences will experience a one letter drop in grade. Those with 8 unexcused absences or more will fail the course. Students requesting excused absence must provide documentation at least one week (preferably two weeks) in advance.

Cheating:

Cheating, in any form, results in failure. Since we are in a university setting, this should not be an issue. Please read the University’s Rules and Regulations for relevant information.

Note: please pay special attention to rules governing Plagiarism.

Responsibility:

The instructor assumes responsibility for informing students of any changes in class policy or exam dates. This will be done through class announcements. Each student assumes responsibility for obtaining any information. Thus, failure to attend class is not an acceptable excuse for ignorance of any changes.

Class Conduct:

In a university setting, both instructor and students are expected to uphold a professional standard of behavior. The reading of non-relevant materials (eg. newspapers), holding disruptive conversations, the use of cell phones, or any other unprofessional behavior will not be tolerated. Please respect the instructor and your colleagues. If problems persist with a particular student, s/he will be asked to leave the class session, and possibly the course. Students should read the relevant sections of the University’s Rules and Regulations.

Students with Disabilities:

If you need accommodation due to a disability, please make an appointment to see me, and bring a statement from Disability Support Services (4-2638) authorizing your accommodation.

Academic Standards Committee statement:

This course may be repeated only once without the prior permission of the Academic Standards Committee.

Course Introduction:

Urban historical geography provides a vital 'space-time' set of perspectives on the built environments which are now home to more than half of the population of the earth. Our course will analyze the development of cities: the factors in their birth and growth (and in some cases, decline), their internal morphology and how intrinsic and extrinsic forces frame these processes, and the characteristics of cities in different cultural, economic and political contexts. Consequently, this course will engage with the following questions, among others:

1. What is a city and how did cities develop in the ancient world from the earliest urban settlements in Mesopotamia, Egypt, India and China?
2. What factors account for urban location and morphology? How do site, situation and routes of trade frame the development of cities?
3. How has the Western city changed in connection with shifts in economic systems and technology from Roman times, through the medieval period to the emergence of mercantile and industrial capitalism?
4. How does the place of an urban center in the world system of political-economy affect its past emergence, current issues and future prospects?
5. What accounts for the profound changes witnessed in the Baltimore region over the last two centuries? We will also analyze other North American cities such as New York, Chicago and Los Angeles.
6. How did social and cultural forces impact the development of cities in Asia, Africa and Latin America? Beijing, Xi'an, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Mumbai, Singapore, Cairo and Sao Paolo are explored in this connection.
7. How do such phenomena as social geography and natural hazards intermesh given current and expected changes in global climate?
8. How have neoliberal policies of states and the interests of transnational corporations (policies popularly termed 'globalization') economically, socially and culturally impacted cities in the First World, formerly centralized 'transitional' economies and the Global South?

While our major focus is the Western city, we will also read materials analyzing cities in Japan, China, India, Egypt, and Brazil, as noted above. Likewise, globalization processes have produced a complex array of geographies, and these political, economic and cultural processes that produce the social and built environment of urban regions can be analyzed using a geographical approach.

List of Assigned Readings:

1. Guide to Economic Geography (PDF). Ch. 7 of *AP Guide to Human Geography*.
2. Sjoberg, Gideon. 1968. The Origin and Evolution of Cities. In *Cities: A Scientific American Book*. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. pp. 25-39.
3. Lamberg-Karlovsky, C.C. and Lamberg-Karlovsky, Martha. 1973. An Early City in Iran. In *Cities: Their Origin, Growth and Human Impact*. San Francisco: W.H. Freeman and Company. pp. 28-37.

4. Tuan, Yi-Fu. 1979. The City: Its Distance from Nature. *Ekistics* 46(278): 313-318.
5. Thomas, C.G. 1982. Toward a Broader Definition of Ekistics: Hellenic Settlements. *Ekistics* 49(295): 256-261.
6. Carcopino, Jerome. [1940]1968. Daily Life in Ancient Rome (Ch.1-The Extent and Population of the City). E.O. Lorimer, translator. New Haven CT and London: Yale University Press.
7. Lilley, Keith D. 2002. *Urban Life in the Middle Ages 1000-1450*.
8. Gernet, Jacques. 1962. Ch.1 of *Daily Life in China on the Eve of the Mongol Invasion, 1250-1276*.
9. Xi'an
10. Safran, Janina M. 2005. The Sacred and Profane in Islamic Cordoba. *Comparative Islamic Studies* 1(1): 21-41.
11. Lawrence, Henry W. 1988. Origins of the Tree-Lined Boulevard. *Geographical Review* 78(4): 355-374.
12. Lawrence, Henry W. 1993. The Greening of the Squares of London: Transformation of Urban Landscapes and Ideals. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 83(1): 90-118.
13. Brodeur, David D. 1967. Evolution of the New England Town Common, 1630-1966. *Professional Geographer* 19(6): 313-318.
14. Beijing/Tokyo. TBA
15. Sao Paulo. TBA
16. Harvey, David. 2000. The Spaces of Utopia (Ch. 8, pp. 133-156) in *Spaces of Hope*. Berkeley CA: University of California Press.
17. Dear, Michael and Flusty, Steven. 1998. Postmodern Urbanism. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 88 (1): 50-72.

Tentative Schedule:

Date	Topic	Readings
Week 1: 28/30 Aug.	Introduction Evolution of urban centers	Economic Geog. PDF #1, 2
Week 2: 4/6 Sept.	Evolution, cont'd Greek urban forms& life	#3-5
Week 3: 11/13 Sept.	Greek forms, cont'd The Roman city	#6
Week 4: 18/20 Sept.	Roman city, cont'd Medieval and Renaissance Europe	# 7 & Lecture
Week 5: 25/27 Sept.	The Chinese City: Xi'an & Hangzhou The Islamic City: Cordoba	#8 & 9 # 10
Week 6: 3/5 Oct.	Midterm 1 Early Modern: London and Paris to 1800	#11, 12
Week 7: 10/12 Oct.	Colonial America to 1800	#13 & Lecture
Week 8: 17/19 Oct.	The Industrial Revolution in US and W Europe:	Cronon

	Spatial Forms (Models of Urban Morphology) The Industrial Revolution: Mass consumption Case: Chicago	
Week 9: 24/26 Oct.	Cities of East Asia: Beijing and Tokyo Cities of South/SE Asia: Mumbai and Singapore (SE Asian City Model)	#14 & Lecture
Week 10: 31 Oct./2 Nov.	Latin American Urban Forms: Sao Paulo Chicago cont'd	#15, Lecture & Cronon
Week 11: 7/9 Nov.	Chicago and its template; The Chicago School of Social Research Midterm 2	Cronon & Lecture
Week 12: 14/16 Nov.	The Rust Belt: Baltimore and Cleveland The Suburb and New Urbanism	Lecture & #16
Week 13: 20 Nov.	Globalization and the Urbanization of the Earth's Surface	Short and Kim
Week 14: 27/29 Nov.	Post-Industrial Patterns: Commodification and Gentrification	Short and Kim
Week 15: 4/6 Dec.	Globalization, conc. Contemporary Debates in Urban Geography: Chicago or Los Angeles?	Short and Kim #17
Comprehensive Final:	Date TBA	

Bibliography Part I, Classic Sources: Students are wise to begin their search for research materials and topics through engagement with these sources. This list is a mere taste of some of the classical and contemporary sources in the field.

Burgess, E.W. 1925. The Growth of the City: An Introduction to a Research Project. In *The City*. Robert E. Park, E.W. Burgess and R.D. McKenzie, eds. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. 47-62.

Carter, Harold. 1983. *An Introduction to Urban Historical Geography*. London: Edward Arnold.

Christaller, Walter. 1933. *Central Places in Southern Germany*. Translated by W.C. Baskin, 1966. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall.

Davies, Norman. 1996. *Europe: A History*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Edwards, Mike. 2000. Indus Civilization. *National Geographic*. 197 (6): 108-131.

Girouard, Mark. *Cities and People*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Hammond, Mason. 1972. *The City in the Ancient World*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press.

- Hodge, Peter. 1972. *Roman Towns*. London: Longmans.
- Jacobs, Jane. 1969. *The Economy of Cities*. New York: Random House.
- Jefferson, Mark. 1939. The Law of the Primate City. *Geographical Review*. 29: 226-232.
- Johnson, Jotham. 1973. The Slow Death of a City. In *Cities: Their Origin, Growth and Human Impact*. Kingsley Davis, ed. San Francisco: WH Freeman. pp. 58-61.
- Kostof, Spiro. 1991. *The City Shaped: Urban Patterns and Meanings Through History*. London: Bulfinch.
- Losch, August. 1938. *The Economics of Location*. Translated by W. H. Woglom, 1954. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Millon, Rene. 1994. Teotihuacan. *Scientific American Special Issue: Ancient Cities*. 5(1): 20-55.
- Morris, A.E.J. 1994. *History of Urban Form: Before the Industrial Revolution*. New York: Wiley.
- Mumford, Lewis. 1961. *The City in History: Its Origins, Its Transformations and Its Prospects*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich.
- Palen, John. 1997. *The Urban World*. New York: McGraw-Hill.
- Park, Robert E. 1925. The City: Suggestions for the Investigation of Human Behavior in the Urban Environment. In *Race and Culture: The Collected Papers of Robert Ezra Park, Volume II*. Chicago: The Free Press. 1-46.
- Pounds, Norman. 1990. *An Historical Geography of Europe*. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Rorig, Fritz. 1967. *The Medieval Town*. Berkeley: University of California Press.
- Sjoberg, Gideon. 1960. *The Preindustrial City: Past and Present*. New York: The Free Press.
- Stambaugh, John E. 1988. *The Ancient Roman City*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Taylor, Griffith. 1949. *Urban Geography: A Study of Site, Evolution, Pattern and Town Classification in Villages, Towns and Cities*. London: Methuen.
- Vance, James. 1990. *The Continuing City: Urban Morphology in Western Civilization*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press.
- Wheatley, Paul. 1971. *The Pivot of the Four Quarters*. Chicago: Aldine Publishing.

Wittfogel, Karl. 1957. *Oriental Despotism: A Comparative Study of Total Power*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press.

Woolley, C. Leonard. 1930. *Ur of the Chaldees: A Record of Seven Years of Excavation*.

Bibliography, Part II: Contemporary Issues:

Abrahamson, Mark. 1996. *Urban Enclaves: Identity and Place in America*. New York: St. Martin's Press.

Airriess, Christopher A. 2002. Creating Vietnamese Landscapes and Place in New Orleans. In *Geographical Identities of Ethnic America: Race, Space and Place*. Kate A. Berry and Martha L. Henderson, eds. Reno and Las Vegas: University of Nevada Press. 228-254.

Allen, James P. and Eugene Turner. 1996. Ethnic Diversity and Segregation in the New Los Angeles. In *EthniCity: Geographic Perspectives on Ethnic Change in Modern Cities*. Curtis C. Roseman, Hans Dieter Laux and Gunter Thieme, eds. Lanham MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers. 1-29.

Anderson, Kay J. 1987. The Idea of Chinatown: The Power of Place and Institutional Practice in the Making of a Racial Category. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*. 77 (4): 580-598.

Berry, Brian J.L. 1999. Beyond Postmodernism. *Urban Geography* 20: 289-290.

Berry, Kate and Martha L. Henderson. 2002. Introduction to *Geographical Identities of Ethnic America: Race, Space and Place*. Reno Nevada: University of Nevada Press. 1-14.

Dear, Michael and Steven Flusty. 1998. Postmodern Urbanism. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 88: 50-72.

Dunn, Kevin M. 1998. Rethinking Ethnic Concentration: The Case of Cabramatta, Sydney. *Urban Studies*. 35 (3): 503-527.

Kaplan, David H. 1998. The Creation of an Ethnic Economy: Indochinese Business Expansion in Saint Paul. *Economic Geography*. 214-233.

Kaplan, D. (1998): 'The Spatial Structure of Urban Ethnic Economies', *Urban Geography*. 19(6): 489-501.

Kaplan, David H. and Steven R. Holloway. 1998. *Segregation in Cities*. Washington DC: The Association of American Geographers.

Ley, David. 1973. *The Black Inner City as Frontier Outpost: Images and Behavior of a Philadelphia Neighborhood*. Washington DC: Association of American Geographers.

Li, Wei. 1998. Anatomy of a New Ethnic Settlement: The Chinese *Ethnoburb* in Los Angeles. *Urban Studies*. 35 (3): 479-501.

Light, Ivan and Steven J. Gold. 2000. *Ethnic Economies*. San Diego CA: Academic Press.

Ong Paul, Edna Bonacich and Lucie Cheng. 1994. The Political Economy of Capitalist Restructuring and the New Asian Immigration. In *The New Asian Immigration in Los Angeles and Global Restructuring*. Paul Ong, Edna Bonacich and Lucie Cheng, eds. Philadelphia PA: Temple University Press. 3-35.

Smith, M. P. (2001): *Transnational Urbanism: Locating Globalization*. Malden MA: Blackwell.

Weightman, Barbara. 1996. Changing Religious Landscapes in Los Angeles. *Journal of Cultural Geography*. 1-20.

Wood, Joseph J. 1997. Vietnamese-American Place-making in Northern Virginia. *Geographical Review*. 87(1): 58-72.

Zelinsky, Wilbur and Barrett A. Lee. 1998. "Heterolocalism: An Alternative Model of the Sociospatial Behavior of Immigrant Ethnic Communities" *International Journal of Population Geography* 4: 1- 18.

Bibliography, Part III: Historical and Contemporary Geography of U.S. Cities

Atlas of Early American History: The Revolutionary Era, 1760-1790. 1976. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Borchert, J.R. 1967. American Metropolitan Evolution. *Geographical Review* 57: 301-332.

Meyer, D.R. 1980. A Dynamic Model of the Integration of Frontier Urban Places into the United States System of Cities. *Economic Geography* 56: 120-140.

Style Guide for Research Papers

Manuscript Format

All pages must be typed, using a 12 point font. Acceptable styles are Times New Roman, Arial and Garamond, or a font style that closely approximates these fonts in readability. The text and endnotes should be double-spaced while the bibliography and figure titles should be single spaced. Direct quotes from a text should be in 10 point font with compressed margins. Paper should be 8-1/2 x 11 inch.

Margins must be one inch on left, top and bottom..

Assemble manuscript as follows, starting each section on a new page: 1) Title page 2) Text 3) Notes 4) Bibliography.

Title Page

The title page should include the full title of the paper, four-five inches down from the top of the page. Your name should be centered three inches from the bottom of the page with the date underneath.

Text

General Style

Spell out numbers one to ten. Use “1,000” instead of 1000; % instead of percent. Write out years in full: “1991-1995”, not 1991-95.

*****There should be NO extra spacing between paragraphs.

Text Citations

Citations should contain the author’s surname and the year of publication, with no punctuation: (Smith 2006). Include page numbers when referring to a specific passage: (Smith 2006, 301-303).

For works by two authors, include both author’s surnames: (Smith and Guarnizo 2006). For works with three or more authors, use “et al.”: (Smith et al. 2006).

When citing multiple works, order by date, with the earliest listed first. Separate references with semicolons: (Agnew 1989; Smith et al. 2000; Toal and Dalby 2004).

Subheadings

Primary (level one) subheadings should be typed in bold, in mixed case, at the left margin. Secondary (level two) subheadings should be typed in italics in mixed case, at the left margin. Tertiary (level three) subheadings should be typed in italics, in mixed case, indented five spaces from the left margin.

Notes

Use endnotes only when absolutely necessary. Identify notes in the text by superscript numerals. Notes should be typed double-spaced and placed in a separate **Notes** section at the end of the paper (preceding the bibliography). Begin each note with a superscript numeral.

Bibliography

Each reference cited in the text must be listed in the bibliography, and vice versa.

Verify all entries against original sources, especially titles, issue numbers and pages. A complete reference includes author, date of publication, title of work and publication information. Journal articles and book chapters should specify page numbers of the article/chapter. Books should contain publisher name and place of publication.

Figures and Tables

All figures and tables should be numbered (eg. Figure 1, Figure2; Table 1, Table 2), and clearly referenced in the text. They should appear as soon as possible after the reference, or as appendices. Maps can be labeled as maps or as figures, according to preference.

Format of Bibliography

The bibliography should begin on a separate page following the text (and notes, if any) under the heading **Bibliography**.

Flush the entries to the left. Citations should be single spaced with two spaces between citations.

Book titles should be in italics, with all words capitalized except for articles, conjunctions and prepositions. Include place of publication and publisher for all books cited.

Journal titles should be in italics.

Capitalize all words except for articles, conjunctions and prepositions in journal article and book chapter titles. Include volume and page numbers for all articles; include page numbers for all chapters.

Movie titles should be capitalized except for articles, conjunctions and prepositions. Include the production company and the name of the director.

BOOKS

Smith, Michael P. 2001. *Transnational Urbanism: Locating Globalization*. New York: Routledge.

BOOK CHAPTERS

Smith, James M. 2006. Little Tokyo: Historical and Contemporary Japanese American Identities. In *Race, Ethnicity and Place in a Changing America*, eds. John Frazier and Eugene Tetty-Fio, pp. 301-309.

ARTICLES

Agnew, John A. 1994. The Territorial Trap: The Geographical Assumptions of International Relations Theory. *Review of International Political Economy* 1: 53-80.

Multiple authors:

Agnew, John A. and Stuart Corbridge. 1995. *Mastering Space: Hegemony, Territory and International Political Economy*. New York: Routledge.

For three or more authors, the designation et al. is acceptable.

