

GEOGRAPHY 439: URBAN GEOGRAPHY
SPRING SEMESTER 2007
Brian J. Sommers

Class Room:	Diloreto Room 316	Office:	Diloreto Room 208014
Class Hours:	Mondays 5:00-7:50	Phone:	832-2792
Office Hours:	MWF 10:30-12:30	E-Mail:	Sommersb@ccsu.edu
	Sundays 9:00-10:00 pm online in VISTA		
	Other times are available upon request.		

INTENTIONS OF THE COURSE

This course provides students with an in-depth study of urban geography. The course examines the development of cities, urban structure, location patterns within the city, as well as urban problems and policies. The ultimate goal of this class is that students will learn how to 'read the city' from a variety of different geographic perspectives.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Through the course students will gain: 1) an understanding of concepts in urban geography and an appreciation for the 'geography' of the urban environment, 2) knowledge of the important theories and methodological approaches in urban geography, 3) an appreciation for how 'textbook' urban geography relates to the cities of Connecticut.

COURSE MATERIALS

For both the undergraduate and graduate students in the course there is a required textbook. It is Urban Geography by Kaplan, Wheeler, and Holloway. This text **is required** for all students in the course. We will be reading through the entire text and students will be asked to bring it to class each day. We will also be reading articles from the Annals of the Association of American Geographers (the Annals for short). This journal is available over the Internet via the CCSU library (see reading list). The Annals readings will supplement the textbook readings and provide examples of research related to course topics. Links to the journal articles, testing materials, and research paper assignments will be available through the course web page. All students must be able to access the web page via the CCSU Pipeline

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

The following items will form the basis of the course grading.

Participation-Participation is pretty simple to understand. You are expected to be in class. You are expected to be prepared for class and to participate actively in classroom discussions. Attendance will be taken and it will figure into your grade. Your participation in classroom discussions will also be taken into consideration for grading. Classroom discussions will be based on the assigned readings so students should come to class prepared to discuss the readings.

Exams-There will be two exams. They are required and you will receive a grade of zero for missing them without an approved university excuse. If you have such an excuse and miss an exam you will have to schedule a make-up.

Research Paper-There will be a research paper required for the course. The paper requirements are discussed on the following page of the syllabus. Students who do not submit a paper will receive a failing grade for the course.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS

For the graduate students the requirements of the course are similar to those of the undergraduates with a few important exceptions. All written work and classroom activities will be graded to a higher standard than for the undergraduates in the course. The graduate students will also be reading more extensively from the Annals. In doing so, the graduate students will be exposed to the kinds of approaches that many urban geographers consider basic to their research. The objective of this work will be to familiarize graduate students with the types of discussions/debates that one finds in current academic research in urban geography.

PAPER REQUIREMENTS

Each student will be required to prepare and submit a reasonably extensive research paper. Students should give serious consideration to a topic early in the semester. All topics **MUST BE APPROVED** by the instructor before moving ahead. The paper will be 15+ double-spaced pages in length (longer for graduate students) and will adhere to accepted standards of content and form. It should give evidence of a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter, extend well beyond the course readings, reflect a critical approach to the material, and should be fundamentally sound. **Papers without appropriate citations will be given failing grades.** For examples of proper paper formatting, as well as for the appropriate way to write citations, please use the Annals readings as a guide. There should be a limited number of web sources used. The research should not include lecture materials. The papers will be presented on May 7th. All graduate students will present their papers. Some, possibly all, of the undergraduates will be selected to present depending on the time available. The research paper is due on May 11th. **No late papers will be accepted.**

- The paper topic is due by March 12th
- Initial outline and a thorough list of resources are due by April 16th
- Presentation of paper on May 7th
- Final draft of the research paper is due on May 11th

GRADING POLICIES

Grades for the course will be based on the following grading scale.

A	93-100%	B	83-86.9%	C	73-76.9%	D	63-66.9%
A-	90-92.9%	B-	80-82.9%	C-	70-72.9%	D-	60-62.9%
B+	87-89.9%	C+	77-79.9%	D+	67-69.9%	F	Less than 60%

Please note that there will be **no extra credit** assignments, extra credit test questions, or curving of grades. Grades are updated throughout the semester. Students are welcome to discuss their current standing in the course with the instructor. The grades will be determined as follows.

Mid-Term= 200 pts Final= 200 pts Research Paper= 300 pts Participation= 200 pts

TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

The class schedule below is tentative. It may change due to any number of unforeseen circumstances or due to the rate at which we progress through the subject matter. What will not change is assignment due dates or test dates. In the event that classes are cancelled on a test day or on a due date, the materials will be due or the test held on the next class day. To access the Annals readings go to <http://library.ccsu.edu/lib/diglib.php> (the electronic resources web link at the library's web page. The Annals is a JSTOR journal. The link for JSTOR journals is to the left. From there you can search or browse individual journals or all of the JSTOR holdings. The other option is to simply go to our course web page where you will be able to access the journal articles by clicking on the URL's that appear below.

READINGS DEFINITIONS

ALL-Readings for all undergraduate and graduate students

UGA-Readings for all undergraduates in group A

UGB-Readings for all undergraduates in group B

GRAD-Readings for graduate students

READINGS-HOW TO ADVISE

When you are done with the readings you should be able to discuss the following items for the articles that you have been assigned. You should be able to discuss the theme of the article and what the author's main points are. Assuming that you are not an expert on the subject matter of the article, you should have questions too. When I ask a question everyone should not immediately try to hide and stare at their notes.

1/22 Urban Geography Basics

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 1

1/29 Evolution of Cities

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 2

UGA-[The Urbanization of the Classical World](#) Norman J. G. Pounds

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 59, No. 1. (Mar., 1969), pp. 135-157.

UGB-[The Hill Villages of England and Wales](#) Dorothy Sylvester

The Geographical Journal, Vol. 110, No. 1/3. (Jul. - Sep., 1947), pp. 76-93.

ALL-[The Preindustrial City](#), Gideon Sjoberg

The American Journal of Sociology > Vol. 60, No. 5, World Urbanism (Mar., 1955), pp. 438-445

GRAD-[Residential Patterns in Pre-Industrial Cities: Some Case Studies from 17th-Century Britain](#)

John Langton, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, No. 65 (Jul., 1975), pp. 1-27

GRAD-[Testing the Model of the Pre-Industrial City: The Case of Ante-Bellum Charleston](#)

John P. Radford, *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, (1979), pp. 392-410

2/5 The American Urban System

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 3

UGA-[Manufacturing in the American Mercantile City: 1800-1840](#) Allan Pred

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 56, No. 2. (Jun., 1966), pp. 307-338.

UGB-[Shaping the Commercial City: Retail Districts in 19th Century New York & Boston](#) Mona Domosh

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 80, No. 2. (Jun., 1990), pp. 268-284.

ALL-[Build, Therefore, Your Own World: The New England Village as Settlement Ideal](#) Joseph S. Wood

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 81, No. 1. (Mar., 1991), pp. 32-50.

GRAD-[Central Place Populations: Implications of Consumer Shopping Behavior](#), Gordon F. Mulligan

Annals of the Association of American Geographers > Vol. 74, No. 1 (Mar., 1984), pp. 44-56

GRAD-[The Spatial Uniformity of a Central Place Distribution in New England](#), Lane J. Johnson

Economic Geography > Vol. 47, No. 2 (Apr., 1971), pp. 156-170

2/12 The Global City

NEED ONE MORE

ALL-Kaplan Chapters 4 & 5

[Postmodern Urbanism](#) Michael Dear; Steven Flusty

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 88, No. 1. (Mar., 1998), pp. 50-72.

[The Flow of Information in a Global Economy](#) Ronald L. Mitchelson; James O. Wheeler

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 84, No. 1. (Mar., 1994), pp. 87-107.

[World-City Network: A New Metageography?](#) Jonathan Beaverstock; Richard Smith; Peter Taylor

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 90, No. 1 (Mar., 2000), pp. 123-134

[The Growing Localness of the Global City](#), Joseph Persky; Wim Wiewel
Economic Geography, Vol. 70, No. 2 (Apr., 1994), pp. 129-143

2/19 **No Classes-President's Day Holiday**

2/26 **The CBD and Suburban CBD's**

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 6

ALL-[Urban Structure and Land Use Decisions](#) Larry S. Bourne

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 66, No. 4. (Dec., 1976), pp. 531-547.

ALL-[Land Rent Modelling Exercise \(See Course Materials Folder\)](#)

3/5 **Industrialization and the City**

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 7

Landscapes of production, flexible production, circuits of capital, basic vs. nonbasic sectors

UGA-[Postindustrial Butte](#), William Wyckoff, *Geographical Review*, 85(4), 1995, pp. 478-496

UGB-[Manufacturing Plant Closure Selections within Firms](#), Howard A. Stafford

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 81, No. 1 (Mar., 1991), pp. 51-65

ALL-[Introduction: The Global Geography of Contemporary Capitalism](#) , Richard Peet

Economic Geography, Vol. 59, No. 2, (Apr., 1983), pp. 105-111

GRAD-[Restructuring in U.S. Manufacturing: The Decline of Monopoly Capitalism](#)

Julie Graham; Katherine Gibson; Ronald Horvath; Don M. Shakow

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 78, No. 3 (Sep., 1988), pp. 473-490

GRAD-[Profitability and Accumulation](#), Michael Webber; S.P.H. Foot

Economic Geography, Vol. 64, No. 4 (Oct., 1988), pp. 335-351

3/12 **Analytical Approaches to Land Use, Land Value, and Industrial Structure**

UGA-

UGB-

ALL-

GRAD-

GRAD-

MID-TERM EXAM AVAILABLE ON VISTA AT _____

3/19 **SPRING BREAK**

3/26 **Urban Social Geography**

ALL-Kaplan Chapters 8 &10

UGA-

UGB-

ALL-

GRAD-

GRAD-

[The Gentrification of Harlem?](#) Richard Schaffer; Neil Smith

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 76, No. 3. (Sep., 1986), pp. 347-365.

[The Ghettoization of Paradise](#) Larry Ford; Ernst Griffin

Geographical Review, Vol. 69, No. 2. (Apr., 1979), pp. 140-158.

[Residential Location of the Service-Dependent Poor](#) Jennifer R. Wolch

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 70, No. 3. (Sep., 1980), pp. 330-341.

[Some Limitations of Factorial Ecologies and Social Area Analysis](#) R. J. Johnston

Economic Geography, Vol. 47, Supplement: Comparative Factorial Ecology. (Jun., 1971), pp. 314-323.

[Suburban Pink Collar Ghettos: The Spatial Entrapment of Women?](#) Kim V.L. England

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 83, No. 2. (Jun., 1993), pp. 225-242.

4/2 Urban Residential Patterns (Paper Topic Due)

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 9

UGA-

UGB-

ALL-

GRAD-

GRAD-

Residential Structure of Midwestern Cities John S. Adams

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 60, No. 1. (Mar., 1970), pp. 37-62.

Gentrification and Uneven Development Neil Smith

Economic Geography, Vol. 58, No. 2. (Apr., 1982), pp. 139-155.

Presidential Address: The Meaning of Housing in America John S. Adams

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 74, No. 4. (Dec., 1984), pp. 515-526.

How and Why Phoenix Households Changed: 1970-1980 Patricia Gober

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 76, No. 4. (Dec., 1986), pp. 536-549.

4/9 Ethnicity, Immigration and the City

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 11

UGA-

UGB-

ALL-

GRAD-

GRAD-

The Emergence of Central Immigrant Ghettos in American Cities: 1840-1920 David Ward

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 58, No. 2. (Jun., 1968), pp. 343-359.

Jewish Immigrants and the Garment Industry of Toronto, 1901-1931 Daniel Hiebert

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 83, No. 2. (Jun., 1993), pp. 243-271.

Linkage between Immigration and Internal Migration in Large Metropolitan Areas in the U.S.

Richard Wright; Michael Reibel, *Economic Geography*, Vol. 73, No. 2. (Apr., 1997), pp. 234-254.

The Globeville Neighborhood in Denver Daniel F. Doeppers

Geographical Review, Vol. 57, No. 4. (Oct., 1967), pp. 506-522.

4/16 NO CLASS

4/23 The City in the Developed World

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 14

UGA-

UGB-

ALL-

GRAD-

GRAD-

4/30 The City in Less Developed Countries

ALL-Kaplan Chapter 15 & 16

UGA-

UGB-

ALL-

GRAD-

GRAD-

[Some Generalizations Concerning Primate Cities](#) Arnold S. Linsky

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 55, No. 3. (Sep., 1965), pp. 506-513.

[Interdependent Urbanization in an Urban World: An Historical Overview](#) David Clark

The Geographical Journal, Vol. 164, No. 1. (Mar., 1998), pp. 85-95.

[The Role of Urban Squatter Settlements](#) Richard Ulack

Annals of the Association of American Geographers, Vol. 68, No. 4. (Dec., 1978), pp. 535-550.

5/7 PAPER PRESENTATIONS

5/11 READING DAY-RESEARCH PAPER DUE DATE

5/14 FINAL EXAM