

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY  
MAXINE GOODMAN LEVIN COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS  
UNDERGRADUATE URBAN STUDIES PROGRAM

FALL SEMESTER, 2004

UST 301 - URBAN SPATIAL STRUCTURE

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Virginia Benson

Office: UR 221

Phone: (216) 687-2164

E-mail: [virginia@wolf.csuohio.edu](mailto:virginia@wolf.csuohio.edu)

**COURSE MEETING TIMES: Monday, Wednesday, 1:30 p.m.- 2:50 a.m., Fridays the class will not meet, it is a Library Day**

COURSE LOCATION: UR 106

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

The notion of urban spatial structure has become very important to understanding urbanization and society at the end of the twentieth century. The urban systems model aids in comprehending the interactive nature of the physical urban landscape as well as interpreting the social institutions that operate within the city. Employing the systems concept as well as other theoretical frameworks will improve the ability to predict and plan for the future. This course is designed to give the student an overview of the various systems operating within the urban and regional structure and to apply these models to urbanism around the globe.

#### COURSE GRADING

In addition to the course text, the student will be assigned outside readings or receive handouts in the class. All information disseminated in class, through lectures by the instructor or visiting speakers, films and assigned readings will form the basis for the exams.

Grades will be determined by the midterm exam (25%) class discussion (7%), short essay papers (28%, 2 pts per paper) and the final exam (40%). The class discussion will allow the instructor the opportunity to determine what students have learned in the first half so it is important to participate especially in the review period. For this reason, class attendance is expected unless excused for sufficient reason.

#### COURSE TEXT:

Fu-Chen Lo and Yue-Man Yeung (ed.) Globalization and the World of Large Cities, 2d Edition  
New York: United Nations University Press, 2003.

Handouts may be provided by the instructor.

## COURSE OUTLINE

Each of the 15 weeks of the course will focus on a particular urban system and a particular region of the world.

Week One: Introduction, Framework for Study  
Chapter 1 in Text World Cities in a World System

Week Two: Migration, Settlement Systems and Globalization in  
**North American City System**, Chap. 2 Where We Stand: A Decade of World City Research

Week Three: Chapter 3 in Text, World Cities and Territorial States: The Rise and Fall of Their Mutuality, **North American City System**

Week Four: **European City System** Chap. 4 On Concentration and Centrality in the Global City

Week Five: Chapter 5 in Text, Cities in Global Matrices: Toward Mapping the World- System's City System, **European City System**

Week Six: Chap. 6. World Cities, Multinational Corporations, and Urban Hierarchy: The Case of United States **T**

## MIDTERM EXAM

Week Seven Chap. 7 Transport and the World City Paradigm, **South American City System**

Week Eight: Chap 8 World City Hypothesis: Reflections from the Periphery, **African City System**

Week Nine: Chap. 9 Global Logics in the Caribbean City System: The Case of Miami, **Central American City System**

Week Ten: Chap 10 Comparing Chicago, NYC and LA: Testing World City Hypotheses  
**Islamic City System**

Week Eleven: Chap 11 Going Global in Semi-Periphery: World Cities/ Political Projects, Toronto

Week Twelve: Chap. 12 Cultural Theory/Social Practice, Chap 13 Global-Local Connection  
**Southeast Asian City System**

Week Thirteen: Chapter 14 Disappearance of World Cities and Globalization of Local Politics  
Chapter 15 World Cities and Global Communities: The Municipal Foreign Policy Movement and New

## Roles for Cities, **Pacific-Asian City System**

Week Fourteen: Chap.16 The Environmental Problematic in World Cities Chap 17 The Successful Management and Administration of World Cities: Mission Impossible?

Week Fifteen: Wrap-up and Review for Final Exam.

### COURSE WRITING ASSIGNMENTS

This class **will not meet** on Fridays but students will be expected to go to the Library and research a topic and write a short (3 pp.) essay on one of the topics designated below for each week of the session (a total of 14 such essays). These essays will be handed in on Mondays and will be graded and returned to the student on Wednesdays. The papers must be typed and all research materials should be completely cited at the end of the paper. Internet sources may be used but must be completely cited. The essay paper topics are listed below.

Week One - No paper due

Week Two - The Canal Era in the United States ( the first paper will be due Wed., the 3<sup>rd</sup>, due to the Labor Day holiday)

Week Three - The Transportation System in Mexico

Week Four - The English School System

Week Five - - The Criminal Justice System in Poland

Week Six – The Health Care System in Canada

Week Seven – Environmental Threats in Latin America

Midterm Break – no paper due for Week Eight

Week Nine -The Hospital System in Egypt

Week Ten - The Media in South Africa

Week Eleven - Religious Practice in Australia

Week Twelve - Camping Out in Japan

Week Thirteen - Political Leadership in the Former Soviet Union

4

Week Fourteen – The Agricultural System of India

Week Fifteen – Futuristic Housing Ideas