

Cleveland State University  
Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs  
Department of Urban Studies  
Instructor: Winifred Weizer  
Office hours: UR217 By appointment

**Urban Geography (UST 290 Section 1)**  
**Spring 2004 6 – 9:50 p.m. Thursday**  
Email: [w.weizer@csuohio.edu](mailto:w.weizer@csuohio.edu) or  
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**Course Description:** This course is an introductory examination of the spatial structure of the city. It focuses on the evolution of transportation, economic forces and social processes that shaped today's city. This course is designed to assist the student who is interested in preparing for careers in local government, planning, real estate, environmental management or other areas where the structure of the city is of value.

**Course Objective:** The objective of the course is to allow the student to understand the way that the city has changed and is continuing to change. The student should have a basic understanding of the influences of politics, transportation, economics, and social forces on the form of the city after completing the course. This course will also allow the student to understand how geographical knowledge can aid in understanding and solving problems of the city.

**Course Method:** Although lectures by the instructor are the primary method used, *class discussion is not only encouraged but expected. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the material that is assigned. This means the student should stay current on reading assignments.*

**Grading Policy:** Grades are based on the results of exercises, tests, a research paper and class participation. There will be three tests given (two midterms and the final). Two exercises will be assigned at various points throughout the class. The grade will consist of the following;

Exercises (2)	20%
Midterm 1	10%
Midterm 2	15%
Final	20%
Research Paper	25%
Class participation	10%

Exam attendance is required. Makeup exams *will only be given with the prior approval* of the instructor.

**Research Paper:** UST 290 is a "Writing Across the Curriculum" course. A research paper is required for this class. The paper must be no less than 2,000 words in length (approximately 8 to 10 pages). The paper must be submitted by the draft date so that the instructor may review and comment on your paper.

*Since this is a Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) course there is an additional grading requirement set by the University. In order to receive a C or better in this course, the student must write at a satisfactory skill level (C or better). If the student's writing is weak, but shows an understanding of the course material, the student may be assigned a D, in which case WAC credit will not be received for the course.*

All submitted papers must be typewritten or word processed and double spaced. Grammar, syntax and spelling must be checked before submission. Citations are to be done using American Psychological Association (APA) format. An APA style format guide is available on-line through the CSU Library. At the Library home page, go to *Virtual Reference* and choose Citation Guides. Late papers will not be accepted without prior approval of the instructor and will be subject to a 5% grade penalty per week they are late.

In order to assist the student with staying current in their work on their paper the following due dates must be met.

**Topics:** A brief (one page) summary of the topic and the question to be researched is due on **February 5<sup>th</sup>**.

**Reference List:** A list of a minimum of 6 references that will be used in your paper is due on **February 12<sup>th</sup>**.

**Draft Due Date:** A draft of your paper is due by **February 26<sup>th</sup>** to the Instructor. This draft will be returned with a pre-grade, comments and review. This will allow the student to make any necessary corrections before the final due date. Papers may be submitted prior that date.

**Final Submission:** Papers are due by **Thursday March 25<sup>th</sup>** for final grading.

**Text:** Hartshorn, Truman Asa 1992 Interpreting the City: An Urban Geography 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition  
New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

### **Class Schedule and Readings**

**Week 1: January 22** Course Introduction. What is Urban Geography? Origin and growth of the city.

Read Chapter 1, 2, 3 and 4

**Week 2: January 29** The North American City

Read Chapter 5 and 6

*Exercise # 1 Distributed*

*January 30: Last day to drop and not have it appear on transcript.*

**Week 3: February 5** , Metropolitan dominance and Movement, Urban Physical Environment

Read Chapter 7

**TOPICS ARE DUE**

*Exercise 1 is due*

**Week 4: February 12.** City Development: Theory and Practice

*References are Due*

**Midterm #1**

Read Chapter 8

**Week 5: February 19** Central Place Theory  
Read Chapter 9

**Week 6: February 26.** Transportation Processes  
Read Chapter 10  
*Paper drafts are DUE*

**Week 7: March 4.** Transportation Processes, Perception and Quality of Life Issues  
Read Chapter 11

**Week 8: March 11** Land Use Dynamics  
Read Chapter 12

*March 15 to 19 Spring Break – No class*

**Week 9: March 25,** Housing and Neighborhoods  
*Midterm #2*  
*Final Paper is DUE*

**Week 10 April 1.** Housing and Neighborhoods  
Read Chapter 13  
April 2 – final day to drop with W on transcript

**Week 11: April 8.** Ethnicity in the City  
Read Chapter 14  
*Exercise #2 is distributed*

**Week 12: April 15** Interurban Migration and Household Change  
Read Chapter 15  
*Exercise 2 is Due*

**Week 13 April 22** Central Business District Dynamics  
Read Chapter 16 and 17

**Week 14: April 29** Metropolitan Retail Structure, The Office Function  
Read Chapter 18, 19

**Week 15: May 6** Intra-metropolitan Industrial and Wholesale Space Planning, Regulation and the Future

*Thursday May 13 Final Exam*

**Note:** Students are strongly encouraged to email the Instructor with questions or problems they may be having. I am on campus most days of the week and check my email on a daily basis. I am also willing to meet with students that may be having difficulty with the material. Please contact me to set up a specific time and place.

### **University Policies**

Students should refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin for procedures regarding add/drop and withdrawals.

### **Physically challenged/Special Needs**

Students with special needs (physical handicaps, learning disabilities, English as a second language) should identify themselves so that the appropriate arrangements can be made.