

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY
LEVIN COLLEGE OF URBAN AFFAIRS
URBAN STUDIES PROGRAM

SUMMER, 2004

UST 301: URBAN SPATIAL STRUCTURE

MEETING TIME: Tues. and Thurs. 6:00 pm-10:00 pm

MEETING PLACE: 106 Urban Building

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Virginia Benson

OFFICE: 221 Urban Building

OFFICE HOURS: 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Mon. – Thurs. or by appointment

OFFICE PHONE: (216) 687-2164, E-MAIL: Virginia@urban.csuohio.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The notion of urban spatial structure has become very important to understanding urbanization and society in the twenty-first century. The urban systems model aids in comprehending the interactive nature of the physical urban landscape as well as interpreting social institutions that operate within the city. Employing various theoretical frameworks improves 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. Globalization and the world of large cities will be emphasized.

The use of the systems approach provides a method of organizing the many diverse aspects of urban life in a fast-changing world. This course will examine the urban milieu applying the systems approach to the analysis of urban space as it relates to economics, politics, ecology and sociology in world cities.

COURSE GRADING: In addition to the course text, the students may 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 exams. The midterm will count for 25%, class discussion 10%, short essay papers 25% and the final exam 40% of the grade for the course. Class attendance is expected, particularly since this is an intensive six-week course.

COURSE TEXT:

Lo, Fu-chen and Yue-man Yueng. Globalization and the World of Large Cities.

New York: The United Nations University Press, 1998.

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WEEK ONE – Introduction to the course, reading assignments, paper assignments.

Lecture on Urban spatial systems as they relate to economic systems.

Systems, cycles, stages, modeling

Rostow's Model, Migration Models

Discussion of Chapters 1,2,3 in Text

Paper One Due Thursday.

WEEK TWO – Lecture on economic systems; the impact of changes on the urban system.(Capitalism, Socialism, Command Economies)

Discussion of Chapters 4,5,6 in Text

Transportation Models, Location Models

Paper Two Due Thursday

WEEK THREE – Lecture on urban political systems.

Globalization, Political Models (Democracy, Dictatorships)

Discussion of Chapters 7,8,9 in Text

Paper Three Due Thursday.

WEEK FOUR – Lecture on urban land development, idealistic models

Discussion of Chapters 10,11,12,13 in Text

MIDTERM EXAM.

Paper Four Due Thursday.

WEEK FIVE – Return of MIDTERM EXAM and discussion.

Lecture on social and cultural systems, education, media

Discussion of urban futures in America, Chap. 14,15,16,17,18.

Paper Five Due Thursday.

WEEK SIX – Lecture on global urban futures.

FINAL EXAM on Thursday, July 1st

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Paper Topics

Choose five (5) topics for your papers.

The papers should be handed in on Thursday each week. They may be no more than 3 pages long and you may use the Internet or any other source for your information but please completely cite your sources.

Transportation System in Mexico

The Media in South Africa

The Criminal Justice System in Poland

Religious Practices in Australia

Futuristic Housing

Taxation in Vietnam

Environmental Threats in Brazil

Political Leadership in India

The Hospital System in Egypt

Educational System in North Korea

Health System in Canada