GEO 3UR3

URBAN SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY

School of Geography and Earth Sciences, McMaster University, fall 2017

Instructor: Dr. Richard Harris (harrisr@mcmaster.ca) Ext. 27216
Office hours (GSB 216): t.b.a. & by appt.

TAs: Geoff Rose (BSB 338; ext. 20440; roseg@mcmaster.ca)
Ashleigh Patterson (BSB 324; ext.28617; pattea@mcmaster.ca)

Lecture Hours: M. 2:30 – 4:20 p.m. Location: DSB AB102

Tutorials – #4: Tues. 9:30 a.m. (BSB238A); #3: Tues 3:30 p.m. (KTH B102)
#1: Wed. 9:30 (MDCL 1115) NOTE: Tutorials will last 50 minutes.

This course asks you to think about where different types of people live within urban areas, why, and with what consequences. It emphasizes Canadian and U.S. metropolitan areas.

Purposes

(i) To present and discuss the tools that researchers have developed in order to understand the residential geography of cities
(ii) To indicate and debate how this residential geography matters for our everyday lives
(iii) To enable you to connect the subject of this course with current issues and events.

Instruction

This course consists of both lectures and tutorials. Each week, students are expected to attend lectures, which will emphasize general concepts, issues, and questions. Tutorials will be used for a variety of purposes, including discussion of readings, as well as preparation for (and handing back) class assignments. Lecture notes will be available in advance on Avenue to Learn.

Readings

There is no conventional textbook or course pack for this course. The required book, which will be the basis for an assignment AND for some tutorials, is Richard Florida, The New Urban Crisis, available in the bookstore. A list of other required readings will be handed out separately. Some will be made available on A2L while others will be available online, sometimes through the library website.
# Lecture Schedule

This is the order in which topics will be covered; lectures may sometimes lag behind schedule, hence the planned ‘overflow time’ in week 12.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Week / Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 11</td>
<td>1. Introduction to themes and issues</td>
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<td>Sept. 18</td>
<td>2. Contexts: crisis and inequality</td>
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<td>Sept. 25</td>
<td>3. The significance of segregation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>4. The significance of segregation</td>
<td>(1st. assignment due)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>MIDTERM BREAK</td>
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<td>Oct. 16</td>
<td>5. Measurement: statistics</td>
<td>(assignment returned in class)</td>
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<td>Oct. 23</td>
<td><strong>Midterm</strong></td>
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<td>6. Who is segregated? Class, ethnicity, race and, gender</td>
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<td>Oct. 30</td>
<td>7. Long run trends in social segregation</td>
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<td>Nov. 6</td>
<td>8. Causes of segregation: choices and constraints</td>
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<td>Nov. 13</td>
<td>9. Measures &amp; patterns of residential differentiation</td>
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<td>Nov. 20</td>
<td>10. Causes of patterns: suburbanisation and gentrification</td>
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<td>Nov. 27</td>
<td>11. Effects of suburbanization and gentrification</td>
<td>(2nd. assignment due)</td>
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<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td>12. Overflow time, and wrap-up</td>
<td>(assignment returned?)</td>
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## Evaluation and grading

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<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment # 1 The Segregation Game</td>
<td>Oct. 2</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignment # 2 The New Urban Crisis</td>
<td>Nov.27</td>
<td>30%</td>
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**(Assignments due in lecture, or in departmental dropbox by 4:30 p.m.)**

- Attendance & participation in tutorials: continuous, 10%
- Midterm (in class): Oct.23, 15%
- Final exam: exam period, 30%
Course Policies

1. Contact with the instructor and TAs

For issues relating to course assignments, you should contact your TA first. For issues relating to lecture content and exams, you should contact me first. I am available to meet with you after class or by appointment. Both myself, and your TA, will attempt to respond to your e-mail within 24-48 hours (excluding weekends and holidays).

In general, it is unreasonable to expect an immediate response to e-mail queries. This means you cannot rely on last minute help to complete assignments or prepare for exams. Plan accordingly.

2. Missed exams and late assignments

Missing the midterm exam will result in a grade of zero. Late assignments will incur a penalty of five percent for each day an assignment is late, up to a maximum of five days, after which time it will not be graded.

Exceptions will be made for missed exams and late assignments if evidence of a medical or family emergency is provided. All documentation relating to medical and family emergencies is to be submitted either through the online medical form (MSAF), or to the associate dean’s office in the faculty of social science.

3. Academic accommodation of students with disabilities

The University is committed to ensuring that students with disabilities are accommodated in accordance with the terms of the Ontario Human Rights Code, and that they are encouraged to reach their full academic potential. The university also believes that the process of accommodation should occur in a climate of understanding and mutual respect, protecting the privacy, confidentiality, comfort, autonomy and self-esteem of students with disabilities. Academic accommodations can be arranged through Student Accessibility Services (formerly Centre for Student Development) (MUSC B 107). I am strongly supportive of these objectives, and am happy to meet individually with students to discuss accommodation needs.

4. Grade appeals

Every effort will be made to grade your assignments and exams in a fair manner that accurately reflects the quality of your work. Remember that satisfactory completion of the assignment does not, in itself, imply a high grade. We are looking for demonstrated comprehension of material, critical and original thinking, as well as clear and concise writing and organization of work, appropriate referencing, good spelling, grammar, and punctuation.

If you feel that your assignment or midterm has been graded unfairly, return it to your TA with a
written list of specific concerns. The work in question must be returned to the TA within 2 weeks of the date that the work was returned to you (this is the date that the assignment was made available to you – if you do not collect the assignment in a timely manner your opportunity to appeal a grade will lapse).

5. Academic dishonesty

Academic dishonesty consists of misrepresentation by deception or by other fraudulent means and can result in serious consequences, e.g. the grade of zero on an assignment, loss of credit with a notation on the transcript (notation reads: "Grade of F assigned for academic dishonesty"), and/or suspension or expulsion from the university. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. For information on the various kinds of academic dishonesty please refer to the Academic Integrity Policy: http://www.mcmaster.ca/univsec/policy/AcademicIntegrity.pdf

The following illustrates only three forms of academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism (e.g. submission of work that is not one's own or for which other credit has been obtained);
- Improper collaboration in group-work;
- Copying or using unauthorized aids in tests and examinations.

If you have any questions or uncertainties regarding appropriate and ethical practices in relation to work for this course, please contact me or your TA.

*The University may change the dates and deadlines for any or all courses in extreme circumstances. If either type of modification becomes necessary, reasonable notice and communication with the students will be given with explanation and the opportunity to comment on changes. It is the responsibility of the student to check their McMaster email and course websites weekly during the term and to note any changes*