CITIES
COURSE OUTLINE
JPF 455Y / JPF 2430Y

2020-2021, Thursdays, 10 am to 12 noon
(Toronto time)
Online
Via Zoom

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OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

With now over half of the population on this planet being urban, the significance of improving our understanding of cities in a global context has never been greater. This course is designed to improve awareness of cities as approached by different disciplines and in different international contexts. The course will introduce theoretical frameworks for understanding city development and then move to the key issues and challenges confronting cities globally. The role of cities as new sites of governance in a global context will be examined through the lens of these core challenges. More generally, the course will explore cities and global change; cities and urban design; cities and social justice; cities and climate change; cities and poverty; state reform and city politics; cities and citizenship; cities and immigration; cities and economic development; cities and governance; and, cities and the political-economy of urban space.

By bringing together leading faculty members on campus and experts in the field who focus on cities in their work, be it within Political Science, Planning, Urban Design, Architecture, Environment and Health, Management, Geography or Social Work, the course will explore, through different disciplinary perspectives, just how the study of cities is evolving for a renewed understanding of the subject, for research and for teaching at the University of Toronto.

The course design is undertaken also in recognition of the importance of bringing together area studies, where the study of cities of Latin America, Asia and Africa, are brought together in comparative context with the study of cities of Europe and North America.

STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE

The course will be offered as a combined fourth year and graduate level course. This offering has been selected in order to accommodate senior undergraduate and graduate students from different departments like Political Science, History, Literature, Geography, Sociology, and Economics as well as students from specific programmes like the design programmes of the Daniels Faculty of Architecture.

The course will be structured as a mixed format—offering students lectures, power-point presentations, city photographs and images, data tables, web-links to international agencies and related reports. Case Studies will be appended to a number of units as illustrations of lecture material.

As a cross-disciplinary course, the aim will be to improve understanding of different disciplinary approaches to the study of cities and consider common veins which run through these approaches and require improved understanding, deeper investigation, and
future collaborative work. While disciplinary focus will propel the course, the intent is to bridge traditional disciplinary divides which have tended to obscure significant discourse on cities. This will be achieved in part again by course design wherein panel discussions, guest instructors leading seminar discussions and cross disciplinary faculty will help us to identify and address inter-disciplinary links, divides and areas of resonance in the urban field.

The course will also involve invited guests, urban specialists and practitioners from outside the university to help bridge students and faculty to the broader academic and city community. By mixing formats which include for example lectures, panel discussions, and student only seminars (for discussion and debate on readings and arguments posed by lectures and panellists), the course will allow for movement in our ideas which govern the study of cities.

The course will be organized according to units, each with core and optional reading lists; discussion questions for consideration; and periodic assignments. The units are structured according to four parts to the course, detailed as follows:
## SUMMARY OF COURSE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>TOPICS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART 1: INTRODUCTION - CONCEPTUALIZING CITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Sep 17</td>
<td>Welcome and Introduction to the Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sep 24</td>
<td>Conceptualizing Cities in a Global Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Oct 1</td>
<td>Frameworks for Defining Global Cities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Oct 8</td>
<td>Early Theories of Urban Politics in North America: Elitists vs Pluralists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Oct 15</td>
<td>City Design Before World War II</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Oct 22</td>
<td>City Design After World War II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART 2: THE CORE ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FACING CITIES GLOBALLY</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Oct 29</td>
<td>Cities and Post COVID Recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Nov 5</td>
<td>Cities and Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nov 9-13</strong></td>
<td><strong>READING WEEK</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Nov 26</td>
<td>Property Markets and City Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Dec 3</td>
<td>Canadian City Managers: Leadership in the Shadows</td>
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<tr>
<td>12. Jan 7</td>
<td>Pluralism and the Form of the City</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Jan 14</td>
<td>Cities and Governance – An African Perspective</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. Jan 21</td>
<td>Cities and Poverty: Housing, Basic Services, and Infrastructure Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>15. Jan 28</td>
<td>Decentralization and Local Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Feb 4</td>
<td>An effort to design a “smart” urban precinct in Toronto that did not succeed</td>
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<tr>
<td>17. Feb 11</td>
<td>Cities and Federalism in Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Feb 15-19</strong></td>
<td><strong>READING WEEK</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PART 3: INTER-DISCIPLINARY ROUNDTABLES – STUDENTS AND FACULTY – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>23. April 1</td>
<td>Final Seminar Discussion: The Cities Agenda 2020-2030</td>
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</tbody>
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EVALUATION & MARKS BREAKDOWN

IN-CLASS DISCUSSION 20% OF TOTAL GRADE
Contributions to the weekly discussions will be worth 20% of the grade (10% per term - Total 20%).

PERIODIC ASSIGNMENTS 60% OF TOTAL GRADE
For a number of units (6 in total), each student is expected to submit a short one-page assignment. The assignment must be submitted by email on the day that topic is indicated and addressed on the course schedule. Assignments should be typed using 12-point font, Times New Roman and one-inch margins (2 pages double spaced or one page single spaced). Page length does not include title page, graphs, tables, charts, endnotes or bibliography. Assignment questions for these particular units are provided in the reading list attached. Each assignment will be graded out of ten points and converted into a grade for a total of 60% (10% each x 6).

Deadlines: Students must submit a copy of each of the six periodic assignments at the beginning of the class on the date it is due by email (in Word). The assignment shall be emailed to all three instructors by no later than 9:30 am before the class it is due for. Emails are on the cover sheet of this course outline.

Since these assignments are the basis for in-class discussion, students cannot receive an extension without penalty. The late penalty is 5% per day for one week. No papers will be accepted after one week. This penalty commences at the end of class after 12:00 pm.

FINAL ASSIGNMENT 20% OF TOTAL GRADE – Due April 1, 2021
UNITS #18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 (on February 25th, March 4th, March 11th, March 18th and March 25th) will be conducted as roundtables on new research frontiers. These Units, with scheduled class presentations, will assist students in the final assignment due by email to all three instructors on April 1, 2021.

This assignment is not a traditional research essay but is a research outline. This assignment should address the following five components:
1. What do you consider to be the single most pressing research issue on cities in the next decade?
2. Provide solid rationale as to why you believe this to be the priority issue
3. How would you frame a research agenda to address this priority issue for cities in a global context? What research questions would you identify in order to best address this issue?
4. What city (or cities) would you propose as a case study or (case studies) to illustrate the importance of this research? Why? Explain your rationale for this choice of case study.
5. Create an annotated bibliography of four core references (not from this reading list) that help to frame and inform this research agenda.

Students will discuss their ideas in class as part of the roundtables with the three instructors. Students should come to the roundtable prepared to present their preliminary research outline, and present the five components listed above. This assignment will be limited to 2000 words. A penalty of 2% per day will be enforced for any late papers.
# READING LIST

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</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>FRAMEWORKS FOR DEFINING GLOBAL CITIES</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1. Sept 17**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE**

No readings or Assignment are due for this unit. Students are encouraged to consult the following websites:

**Suggested Reading:**

**2. Sept 24**

**CONCEPTUALIZING CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT**

**Required Readings:**

**Suggested Readings:**

It is recommended that students review the Globalization and World Cities Study Group and Network at [http://lboro.ac.uk/gawc](http://lboro.ac.uk/gawc). This site is an excellent resource on global cities, as it has a range of on-line papers, as well as other relevant data sources.

**ASSIGNMENT**

How is the term “Global City” defined? How useful is this concept in thinking about cities globally and in measuring and ranking cities worldwide?
**4. Oct 8 EARLY THEORIES OF URBAN POLITICS IN NORTH AMERICA: ELITISTS VS. PLURALISTS**

**Required Readings:**


**Suggested Reading:**


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**5. Oct 15 CITY DESIGN BEFORE WORLD WAR II**

**Required Readings:**


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**6. Oct 22 CITY DESIGN AFTER WORLD WAR II**

**Required Readings:**


**ASSIGNMENT**

Identify three issues that distinguish approaches to City Design before and after World War II
### PART 2: THE CORE ISSUES AND CHALLENGES FACING CITIES GLOBALLY

#### 7. Oct 29
**CITIES AND POST COVID RECOVERY**

Required Reading: To be Advised

#### 8. Nov 5
**CITIES AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Required Readings:

#### NOV 9-13
**READING WEEK**

#### 9. Nov 19
**CURRENT CONCEPTUAL ISSUES: REGIMES, GOVERNANCE, MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND PARADIPLOMACY**

Required Readings:
- Barber, Bernard. (2013). TED Talk, "Why mayors should rule the world", see at: [http://www.ted.com/talks/benjamin_barber_why_mayors_should_rule_the_world](http://www.ted.com/talks/benjamin_barber_why_mayors_should_rule_the_world)

**ASSIGNMENT**

Explain the notion of governance at the local level. Do you think it is a useful concept? Why (or why not)? And do you agree with Barber that mayors should be ruling the world?

#### 10. Nov 26
**PROPERTY MARKETS AND CITY BUILDING – A PRIVATE SECTOR PERSPECTIVE**

#### 11. Dec 3
**CANADIAN CITY MANAGERS: LEADERSHIP IN THE SHADOWS**

Required Reading:

#### 12. Jan 7
**PLURALISM AND THE FORM OF THE CITY**
<table>
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</tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ASSIGNMENT**

What are the three key challenges for planners in addressing slums in the world’s poorest cities? Identify and discuss each challenge and describe potential solutions in confronting these challenges.

In cities of developing countries, why is decentralization important? And how does decentralization relate to democratization?
### 16. Feb 4
**AN EFFORT TO DESIGN A “SMART” URBAN PRECINCT IN TORONTO THAT DID NOT SUCCEED**

**ASSIGNMENT**
Identify three issues that arise specifically from the idea of a “smart city”. Indicate how you think the pursuit of each of those issues will play out in urban areas generally.

### 17. Feb 11
**CITIES AND FEDERALISM IN CANADA**

**Required Reading:**

### Feb 15-19
**READING WEEK**

#### PART 3: INTER-DISCIPLINARY ROUNDTABLE – STUDENTS AND FACULTY – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS

18. Feb 25
**THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS** Student Presentations

Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.

19. Mar 4
**THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS** Student Presentations

Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.

20. Mar 11
**THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS** Student Presentations

Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.

21. Mar 18
**THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS** Student Presentations

Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.

22. Mar 25
**THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS** Student Presentations

Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.

23. April 1
**FINAL SEMINAR DISCUSSION: THE CITIES AGENDA 2020-2030**

**Final Assignment Due:** What do you consider to be the single most pressing research issue on cities in the next decade? Provide solid rationale as to why you believe this to be the priority issue. How would you frame a research agenda to address this priority issue for cities in a global context? What research questions would you identify in order to best address this issue? What city (or cities) would you propose as a case study or (case studies) to illustrate the importance of this research? Why? Explain your rationale for this choice of case study.

(See detailed assignment in course outline)
FURTHER READINGS:

CONCEPTUALIZING CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

- Van Vliet W. "Cities in a globalizing world: from engines of growth to agents of change." Environment and Urbanization, Volume 14, Number 1, 1 April 2002, pp. 31-40(10).

FRAMEWORKS FOR DEFINING GLOBAL CITIES

DESIGN AND CONTEMPORARY URBANISM

- Baird, George: Public Space; Cultural/Political Theory Street Photography, SUN Publishers, Amsterdam, 2011.
- Koolhaas, R: "Junkspace" in Koolhaas, R: Content, Taschen, Koln, 2004,
- Saunders, Doug: Arrival City, Knopf Canada, Toronto, 2011

SUSTAINABLE CITIES: GLOBAL AND LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

- Building Safer; Cities: The Future of Disaster Risk; Disaster Risk Management Series No. 3; A. Kreimer, M. Arnold, and A. Carlin, eds.; The World Bank, 2003; Table 8.1, p. 103.
- McCarney, P. "Climate Governance" chapter in Climate Adaption in Global Cities: Building Governance for Climate Resilience Washington: World Bank 2011
- McCarney, P. "Cities and Governance: Coming To Terms With Climate Challenges” Chapter in: Climate Governance Joerg Knieling and Walter Leal Filho (eds.) Springer 2011
- McCarney, P. "Urban Land and Climate Strategies” Lead Author with HildaBlanco, Susan Parnell, Marco Schmidt and Karen Seto Chapter 8 in Climate Change and Cities: First


CITIES AND POVERTY: HOUSING, BASIC SERVICES AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

- Saunders, Doug: Arrival City, Knopf Canada, Toronto, 2011

CITIES AND DIVERSITY: MIGRATION AND THE GLOBAL CONNECTIVITY OF CITIES


CITIES AT RISK: SAFETY AND SECURITY ISSUES

• Mike Davis, "Fortress Los Angeles: the militarization of urban space", in Michael Sorkin (eds), Variations on a theme park. New York: Hill and Wang, 1992

CITIES AND GOVERNANCE
• Neptis Foundation's analysis of the Growth Plan see: http://www.neptis.org/library/show.cfm?id=83&cat_id=11
• O’Flynn, Patrick and Tim Mau (2014) “A demographic and career profile of municipal CAOs in Canada: Implications for local governance” Canadian Public Administration (March) 154-70.

METROPOLITAN GOVERNANCE


