

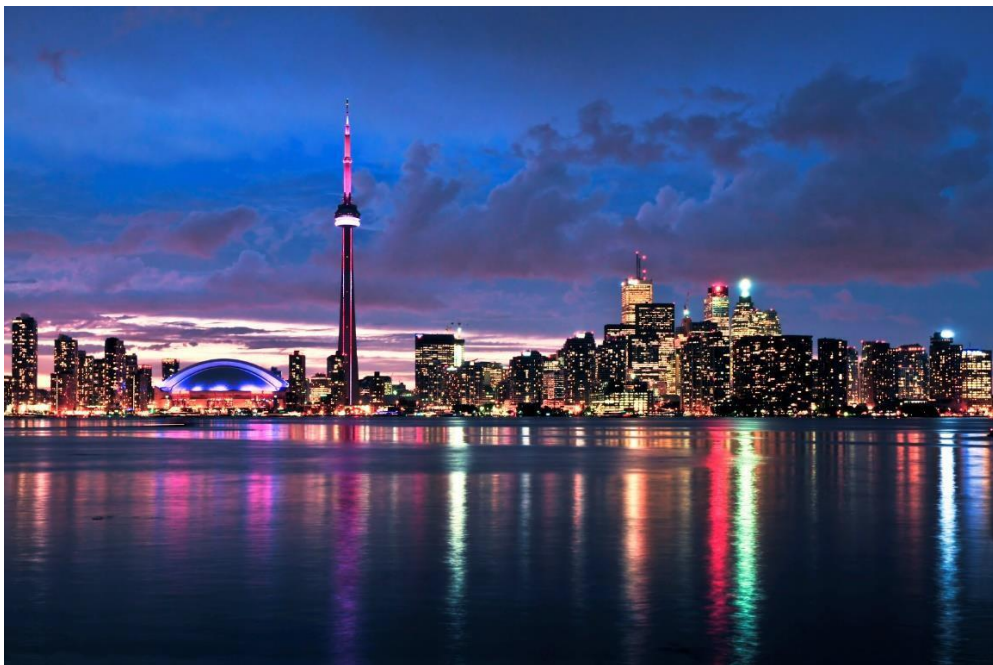
University of Toronto

# CONCEPTUALIZING CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

**COURSE OUTLINE**  
**JPF 455H1/ JPF 2430H**

2021, Thursdays, 10 am to 12 noon

Prof. Patricia McCarney, Political Science  
[patricia.mccarney@globalcities.ca](mailto:patricia.mccarney@globalcities.ca)



# TITLE OF COURSE: CITIES

JPF 455H1 / JPF 2430H

## COURSE DESCRIPTION

With 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.

## OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

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.

# SUMMARY OF COURSE SCHEDULE

UNITS	TOPICS
<b>JPH455H1/JPF2430H – Conceptualizing Cities in a Global Context</b>	
1. Sept 16	Welcome and Introduction to the Course
2. Sept 23	Conceptualizing Cities in A Global Context
3. Sept 30	Frameworks for Defining Global Cities
4. Oct 7	Early Theories of Urban Politics in North America: Elitists vs Pluralists
5. Oct 14	Current Conceptual Issues: Regimes, Governance, Multilevel Governance, Leadership and Para diplomacy
6. Oct 21	City Design Before World War II
7. Oct 28	City Design After World War II
8. Nov 4	Policy Diffusion from Cities of the South to the North
<b>Nov 8-12</b>	<b>READING WEEK</b>
9. Nov 18	Thinking About Cities in a Global Context – New Research Frontiers – <i>Student Presentations</i>
10. Nov 25	Thinking About Cities in a Global Context – New Research Frontiers – <i>Student Presentations</i>
11. Dec 2	The Shenzhen Experiment
12. Dec 9	Final Roundtable and Submission of Final Papers

# EVALUATION & MARKS BREAKDOWN

## IN-CLASS DISCUSSION 20% OF TOTAL GRADE

Contributions to the weekly discussions will be worth 20% of the grade.

## PERIODIC ASSIGNMENTS 45% OF TOTAL GRADE

For a number of units (3 in total), each student is expected to submit a short 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 fifteen points and converted into a grade for a total of 45% (15% each x 3).

**Deadlines:** Students must submit a copy of each of the three 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 35% OF TOTAL GRADE – Due December 9, 2021

Final assignment due by email on December 9, 2021

*Drawing on materials and lectures from this course that address the relationship between global issues and trends and the local, answer the following question:*

*Why study cities in a global context? This paper should include specific examples of issues and trends being considered globally and locally (for example inclusive cities and global poverty, immigration, etc., or climate change, etc.).*

Students will discuss their ideas for the final assignment in class as part of the roundtables. Students should come to the roundtable prepared to present their research outline and preliminary research. This assignment will be limited to 2000 words. A penalty of 2% per day will be enforced for any late papers.

# READING LIST

UNITS	TOPICS
<b>JPF455H1/JPF2430H – Conceptualizing Cities in a Global Context</b>	
1. Sept 16	<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE</b>
2. Sept 23	<p><b>CONCEPTUALIZING CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT</b></p> <p>No readings or Assignment are due for this unit. Students are encouraged to consult the following websites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UN Habitat <a href="http://www.unhabitat.org">www.unhabitat.org</a></li> <li>• UN Sustainable Development Goals <a href="http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/">http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/</a></li> <li>• UN World Cities Reports <a href="http://wcr.unhabitat.org/">http://wcr.unhabitat.org/</a></li> <li>• World Bank Urban Development Site. <a href="http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/urbandevelopment">http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/urbandevelopment</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested Reading:</b> Sassen, S. (2002). Locating cities on global circuits. <i>Environment and Urbanization</i>, 14(1), 13</p>
3. Sept. 30	<p><b>FRAMEWORKS FOR DEFINING GLOBAL CITIES</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sassen, Saskia (2001). <i>The Global City</i>; New York, London, Tokyo. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ. (Chapter One: Overview, pp. 3-15).</li> <li>• Beaverstock, J.V.; Smith, R.G. and Taylor, P.J. (2000) 'World city network: A new metageography?' <i>Annals of The Association of American Geographers</i>, 90(1): 123-134.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friedmann, J. (1986). 'The world city hypothesis', <i>Development and Change</i>, 17: 69-83.</li> <li>• Hall, Peter. (2001). "Global City-Regions in the Twenty-first Century" in Allen J. Scott (ed.) <i>Global City-Regions: Trends, Theory, Policy</i>. Oxford: Oxford University Press.</li> <li>• Sassen, Saskia (2005) <a href="http://www.saskiasassen.com/pdfs/publications/the-global-city-brown.pdf">http://www.saskiasassen.com/pdfs/publications/the-global-city-brown.pdf</a></li> </ul> <p>It is recommended that students review the Globalization and World Cities Study Group and Network at <a href="http://lboro.ac.uk/gawc">http://lboro.ac.uk/gawc</a>. 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.</p> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT</b> How is the term "Global City" defined? How useful is this concept in thinking about cities globally and in measuring and ranking cities worldwide?</p>

4. Oct 7	<p><b>EARLY THEORIES OF URBAN POLITICS IN NORTH AMERICA: ELITISTS VS. PLURALISTS</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dahl, Robert A. (1961). "The Ambiguity of Leadership" Chapter 8 in <i>Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City</i> New Haven: Yale University Press, pp. 89-103.</li> <li>• Hunter, Floyd. (1953). "The Structure of Power in Regional City" Chapter 4 in <i>Community Power Structure. A Study of Decision-Makers</i> Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 60-113.</li> <li>• Rae, Douglas. (2003). "A City After Urbanism" in Douglas Rae, <i>City, Urbanism and Its End</i> New Haven: Yale University Press, 393-432. [E-book available from Robarts library]</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggested Reading:</b> David Maraniss. (2015). <i>Once in a Great City. A Detroit Story</i>. New York: Simon and Schuster, pp. 367-76.</p>
5. Oct 14	<p><b>CURRENT CONCEPTUAL ISSUES: REGIMES, GOVERNANCE, MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND PARADIPLMACY</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Barber, Bernard. (2013). TED Talk, "Why mayors should rule the world", see at: <a href="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</a></li> <li>• Horak, Martin. (2012). "Conclusion: Understanding Multilevel Governance in Canada's Cities" in Martin Horak and Robert Young, eds. <i>Sites of Governance. Multilevel Governance and Policy Making in Canada's Big Cities</i>. Montreal and Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 339-70.</li> <li>• Mossberger, Karen. (2009). "Urban Regime Analysis:" Chapter 3 in Jonathan Davies and David Imbroscio, eds. <i>Theories of Urban Politics</i> 2nd Edition. London: Sage, 40-54.</li> <li>• Pierre, Jon. (2011). "The Challenge of Urban Governance" in <i>The Politics of Urban Governance</i> London: Palgrave, Chapter 2, pp. 10-28.</li> <li>• Stren, Richard and Abigail Friendly (2019) "Toronto and Sao Paulo: Cities and International Diplomacy" <i>Urban Affairs Review</i>, 55 (2), pp. 375-404.</li> <li>• Urbaniak, Tom. (2014). "Studying Mayoral Leadership in Canada and the United States" <i>International Journal of Canadian Studies</i> Vol 49, 205-27. [Download from Robarts Library]</li> </ul> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT</b> 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?</p>
6. Oct 21	<p><b>CITY DESIGN BEFORE WORLD WAR II</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Francoise Choay: <i>The Modern City: Planning in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century</i>. Studio Vista; London, 1977: pages 7 – 110</li> <li>• Le Corbusier: "The Radiant City"; Orion Press, 1967, pages 112 – 142.</li> </ul>

7. Oct 28	<p><b>CITY DESIGN AFTER WORLD WAR II</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thomas H. O'Connor: "The Urban Renewal Chronicle: The Politics of Urban Renewal in Boston" and Chester W. Hartman: "Lessons for Urban Planners", both in Sean Fisher, Carolyn Hughes, editors: <i>The Last Tenement: Confronting Community and Urban Renewal in Boston's West End</i>, Bostonian Society, Boston, 1992: pages 60 – 79</li> <li>• Jane Jacobs: Introduction, Chapter 21 "The uses of sidewalk safety" and Chapter 22 "The kind of problem a cities is" in "The Death and Life of Great American Cities": Pelican Books Harmondsworth, 1964, pp. 13-65 and 442-462.</li> <li>• Colin Rowe: <i>As I Was Saying</i>, MIT Press, Cambridge, 1995; "The Present Urban Predicament", pages 165 – 220</li> <li>• Rem Koolhaas: "What Ever Happened to Urbanism", in <i>S,M,L,XL</i>, The Monacelli Press, New York, 1995, pp. 961-971.</li> <li>• Matthew Soules: Chapter 1 "Finance Capitalism and Architecture" in "Icebergs, Zombies and the Ultra Thin – Architecture and Capitalism in the Twenty-First Century" pp. 33-49.</li> </ul> <p><b>ASSIGNMENT</b> Identify three issues that distinguish approaches to City Design before and after World War II</p>
8. Nov 4	<p><b>POLICY DIFFUSION FROM CITIES OF THE SOUTH TO THE NORTH</b></p> <p><b>Required Readings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diane Stone, Osmany Porto de Oliveira, Leslie A. Pal (2020), "Transnational Policy Transfer: The Circulation of Ideas, Power and Development Models". <i>Policy and Society</i>, 39 (1), 1-18</li> <li>• Osmany Porto de Oliveira (2020). "Policy Ambassadors: Human Agency in the Transnationalization of Brazilian Social Policies" <i>Policy and Society</i>, 39 (1), 53-69</li> </ul>
<b>NOV 8-12</b>	<b>READING WEEK</b>
9. Nov 18	<p><b>THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS</b> Student Presentations</p> <p>Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.</p>
10. Nov 25	<p><b>THINKING ABOUT CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT – NEW RESEARCH FRONTIERS</b> Student Presentations</p> <p>Interdisciplinary Roundtable with Students in preparation of final assignment.</p>
11. Dec 2	<p><b>THE SHENZHEN EXPERIMENT</b></p> <p><b>Suggested Reading</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juan Du. (2020). "The Shenzhen Experiment: The Story of China's Instant City" Harvard University Press</li> </ul>
12. Dec 9	<p><b>FINAL ROUNDTABLE AND SUBMISSION OF FINAL PAPER</b></p> <p><b>Final Assignment Due (As per course outline)</b></p>



# FURTHER READINGS:

## CONCEPTUALIZING CITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT

- Cities and Global Governance – New Sites for International Relations (eds. Patricia McCarney with Amen, Toly and Segbers). Surrey, England: Ashgate 2011.
- Clark, C. (2003). *Urban World / Global City*, 2nd edition, London: Routledge
- Davis, D. (2005) 'Cities in global context: A brief intellectual history', *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 29(1): 92-109.
- Glaeser, Edward: *The Triumph of the City*, Penguin Press, New York, 2011
- Hall, P. (1998) *Cities and Civilization*. New York: Pantheon.
- Hall, P. (1999) 'Mega-cities, world cities and global cities,' Megacities Lecture, available at [http://www.megacities.nl/lecture\\_hall.htm](http://www.megacities.nl/lecture_hall.htm)
- J.R. Short and Y. Kim. *Globalization and the City*. Longman, Essex, 1999.
- Sassen, S. (2006) *Cities in a World Economy* Pine Forge Press, updated 3rd ed.
- Robinson, Jennifer. (2006) *Ordinary Cities. Between Modernity and Development*. New York: Routledge.
- Sassen, S. (2008) *Territory, Authority, Rights: From Medieval to Global Assemblages* Princeton University Press, updated 2nd ed. (1st ed. 2006)
- Smart, A., and Smart, J. (2003) 'Urbanization and the global perspective', *Annual Review of anthropology*, 32: 263-85.
- 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

- Amin, A., and Graham, S. (1997) 'The ordinary city', *Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers*, 22(4): 411-429
- Beaverstock, J.V and Taylor, P.J. (1999). A Roster of World Cities. *Cities*, Vol. 16, No. 6, pp. 445-458.
- Clark, C. (2003) "The Future Urban World" in *Urban World / Global City*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, London: Routledge, pp. 191-216.
- Grant, R and Nijman, J. (2002) "Globalization and the Corporate Geography of Cities in the Less-Developed World." *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 92 (2), 2002, 320-340.
- Hamnett, C. (1995) 'Controlling space: global cities', in J. Allen and C. Hamnett (eds.) *A Shrinking World? Global Unevenness and Inequality*, Oxford: Oxford University Press and the Open University, pp. 103-142
- Saito, A., & Thornley, A. (2003). Shifts in Tokyo's world city status and the urban planning response. *Urban Studies*, 40(4), 665-685.
- Scott, Allen J., John Agnew, Edward W. Soja and Michael Storper. 2001. "Global City-Regions" Ch. 1 (pp. 11-30) in Allen J. Scott (ed.) *Global City-Regions: Trends, Theory, Policy* (Oxford: Oxford University Press).
- Scott, A. (2001). Globalisation and the rise of city-regions, *European Planning Studies*, 9(7): 813-826.
- Shatkin, G (2006) 'Global cities of the south: emerging perspectives on growth and inequality. *Cities*, 24, (1), 1-15

## DESIGN AND CONTEMPORARY URBANISM

- Baird, George: "An Open Letter to Rem Koolhaas" in Harvard Design Magazine, Fall, 2007
- Baird, George: Public Space; Cultural/Political Theory Street Photography, SUN Publishers, Amsterdam, 2011.
- Baird, George: "Studies on Urban Morphology in North America", in Merlin, P.: Morphologie urbaine et parcellaire, Presses Universitaires de Vincennes, 1988
- Baird, George: "The New Urbanism and Public Space", in Haas, Tigran: The New Urbanism and Beyond, Rizzoli, New York, 2007
- Baird, George: "Theory: Vacant Lots in Toronto"; in Vacant Lottery, Myers, B. and Baird, G. (editors), Vacant Lottery, Design Quarterly No: 108, Walker Art Centre, Minneapolis, 1978
- Baird, George: The Space of Appearance, MIT Press, Cambridge, 1995
- Glaeser, Edward: The Triumph of the City, Penguin Press, New York, 2011
- Jacobs, Jane: The Death and Life of Great American Cities, Random House, New York, 1992
- Jameson, Fredric: "Future City" in New Left Review 21, May-June, 2003  
<http://www.newleftreview.org/?view=2449>
- Jane Jacobs, "Visual Order, It's Limitations and Possibilities", in *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, Random House, New York, 1961, pp. 372-379 (in the Vintage Books edition, 1992).
- Koolhaas, R. and Mau, B.: SMLXL, Monacelli Press, New York, 1995
- Koolhaas, R: "Junkspace" in Koolhaas, R: Content, Taschen, Koln, 2004,
- Le Corbusier: The City of Tomorrow, The Architectural Press, London, 1947
- Rem Koolhaas, "What Ever Happened to Urbanism", in *S,M,L,XL*, The Monacelli Press, New York, 1995, pp. 961-971.
- Rowe, Colin and Koetter, Fred: Collage City, MIT Press, Cambridge, 1978
- Saunders, Doug: Arrival City, Knopf Canada, Toronto, 2011
- Sitte, Camillo: The Art of Building Cities, Reinhold Publishers, New York, 1945

## METROPOLITAN GOVERNANCE

- Frisken, Frances. 2001. "The Toronto story: Sober reflections on fifty years of experiments with regional governance." *Journal of Urban Affairs* 23 (5): 513–541.
- Katz, Bruce and Jennifer Bradley. 2013. The Metropolitan Revolution. How Cities and Metros Are Fixing Our Broken Politics and Fragile Economy. Washington: Brookings Institution Press.
- Keil, R. (2000) 'Governance Restructuring in Los Angeles and Toronto: Amalgamation or Secession?' *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 24(4), December: 758–781.
- OECD. (2001). Cities for citizens: Improving Metropolitan Governance OECD Publications Service, Paris.
- Razin, Eran, and Patrick J. Smith, eds. 2006. *Metropolitan governing: Canadian cases, comparative lessons*. Jerusalem: The Hebrew University Magnes Press.
- Stren, R. & Cameron, R. (2005), Metropolitan Governance: An introduction; *Public Admin. & Dev.* 25, 317–327.