

## GGR339 H1S

### Urban Geography, Planning and Political Processes

#### Winter 2018

**Instructor:** Dr Martine Spinks (martine.spinks@mail.utoronto.ca)

**TAs:** Shalini Mariyathas (shalini.mariyathas@mail.utoronto.ca)

Andrew Morgan (aj.morgan@mail.utoronto.ca)

**Timetable:** Winter 2018, Mondays 6pm – 8pm

**Venue:** Sidney Smith Hall 1071

**Office hours:** Monday, 5pm-6pm, Room SS 5061, or please email TAs for an appointment

#### General Description

This course investigates primarily North American urban political geography. It explores competing visions of city life and claims on urban space. The course investigates how these struggles connect to economic, social and environmental politics at different spatial scales, and considers different theoretical frameworks that geographers and planners have developed to make sense of both the persistence of old problems and the emergence of new ones.

#### Learning Objectives

The aim of the course is to provide students with comprehensive overview of the city as a multi-spatial and temporal space, and the demands different urban issues place on it. It also provides an opportunity for students to pursue key issues in-depth through a weekly submissions and a term paper. A final exam enables students to demonstrate the knowledge they have gained over the 12-week course.

By the end of the course students will be able to:

- Understand the ways spatial processes and power relations form cities and urban life.
- Appreciate the significance of the urban context as a nexus through which multiple forces and processes intersect.
- Appreciate the complexities of multi-level engagements in urban space and time.
- Identify and articulate different groups occupying the city at different layers of space and time.
- Compare and contrast theoretical frameworks that geographers and planners have developed to make sense of urban issues.
- Critically assess the political context of topical urban issues.
- Understand the importance of both successful and failed approaches to resolving urban issues.

#### Teaching & Learning Methods

The course is taught primarily through weekly lectures, combining a mix of theoretical and conceptual lectures and case study demonstrations. This knowledge is then developed through class discussions, weekly reading summaries, a term paper and a final examination. Students are also encouraged to

read local, regional and national newspapers and consider their weekly themes in relation to reported urban issues. Topical urban issues and current events will be woven throughout the weekly lectures.

Course materials including lecture slides can be downloaded from Blackboard. It is the responsibility of the student to review all relevant materials prior to lectures. Lecture slides will be posted on Blackboard before the start of each class.

Course readings are listed below. They are available through the University of Toronto website: <https://oneresearch.library.utoronto.ca/>. Where possible they will also be posted on Blackboard.

Office hours are held from 5-6pm on Mondays in room SS 5061.

Instructor-student interaction occurs in the classroom and during office hours only. Email contact is limited to questions requiring simple yes/no answers, making appointments, and dealing with emergencies. Please come to the office hours if you wish to discuss matters related to the class, or approach the Instructor or TAs after class.

### Assessment

<i>Evaluation component</i>	<i>Assessment value</i>	<i>Due date</i>
Issues for Discussion	10% (1% x 10 weeks)	On going
Essay Proposal	15%	February 5th
Term Paper	40%	March 26th
Final Exam	35%	TBA

#### Issues for Discussion – 10%

Students are expected to do the required readings before class each week and to actively engage in discussion.

To prompt participation, students are required to submit issues for possible discussion in class, which should be handed in at the beginning of each lecture. Only one issue per required reading is expected. For example, if two readings are required for the week, then two issues are due in at the beginning of each class – one issue for each reading. If one reading is required for the week, then one issue is due before class.

Please submit your issues for discussion typed and in hardcopy. These do not need to be overly complex or long winded. If you have done your weekly readings with some degree of care you can write out a question, thought, or item for debate. Students may wish to retain a copy of their issues for discussion for themselves to prompt their participation. The instructor may reference these issues and call on students to elaborate on their ideas during class discussion.

Please ensure you provide your appropriate identification on your weekly submissions. These are not anonymous. No identification = no marks.

### Essay Proposal – 15%

Students are required to submit a proposal of their term paper outlining their chosen topic and including an annotated bibliography of at least 5 peer reviewed sources. The proposal shall be 500 words, not including the bibliography, and will be submitted typed and in hard copy at the beginning of class on February 5. Essay topics will be set prior to the reading week.

Again, please ensure you provide the appropriate identification on your proposal. No identification = no marks, and no feedback.

### Term paper – 40%

The term paper will be 3000 words, exclusive of references and any appendices. It should be submitted via Turnitin and is due March 26.

### Exam – 35%

The final exam is comprehensive, and covers all aspects of the course from the readings, lectures and class discussions. It will be held during the University's official examination period.

### Late Penalty

A late penalty of 5% per day will be applied to assignments that are late by one week (defined as 7 consecutive days including weekends and holidays) or less. Assignments that are more than one week late will not be accepted and the mark will be recorded as 0.

Circumstances always arise which cause some people to legitimately miss a deadline. If you do become ill [or are otherwise incapacitated] you must inform your instructor immediately and submit a completed official UofT medical form with your assignment (note it must be filled in and signed by the attending physician, with a contact number for that physician).

### Learning Tools

#### Lectures

Lectures will be presented in class using a mix of multi-media, for example power point, online streaming, and video. Lecture slides will be uploaded to Blackboard prior to the start of each class.

#### Readings

Weekly readings are listed on the sheet below. They are divided into required and supplemental readings. The required readings are mandatory, and students are expected to do all required readings before class. Issues for discussion should be based on the required reading material. There will be no more than two required readings per week, except in one instance when four, short newspaper articles are assigned in lieu of journal articles. Supplemental readings are for the interested student to read at their own discretion. They may be a useful departure point for students beginning research for their term paper.

Readings complement lectures and are in no way a substitute for materials covered by the Instructor in class.

## Blackboard

It is your responsibility to regularly check Blackboard:

<https://portal.utoronto.ca/webapps/portal/grameset.jsp>

A valid University of Toronto email address ([your.name@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:your.name@mail.utoronto.ca) or [your.name@utoronto.ca](mailto:your.name@utoronto.ca)) is required to access to Blackboard. If you are uncertain of your email address, please reference ROSI.

## Turnitin.com

Normally, students will be required to submit their term paper to Turnitin.com for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the Turnitin.com reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University's use of the Turnitin.com service are described on the Turnitin.com website.

## Plagiarism

The University of Toronto is committed to the principles of academic integrity. Please review the University's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters.

There are many tools to help you improve your writing. Please make an appointment with your college's writing centre and check out the following website:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres/arts-and-science>

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence and we will be taking measures to identify plagiarised assignments. It is your responsibility to understand what plagiarism is and how to avoid it. Please see:

<http://www.writing.utoronto.ca/advice/using-sources/hot-not-to-plagiarize>

## Accessibility Needs

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: [Disability.services@utoronto.ca](mailto:Disability.services@utoronto.ca) or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

## Lecture Outline

1	January 8	Introduction
2	January 15	Revisiting Theories <b>Issues for discussion due</b>
3	January 22	Utopia/Dystopia and Cities and Difference <b>Issues for discussion due</b>
4	January 29	Time, Space and Urban Society

		<p>Discussion topic: Night-time Economy</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p> <p>Essay topic set</p>
5	February 5	<p>Politicising City Space: Social Movements and Occupy Us</p> <p>Guest Speaker: Andrew Morgan</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p> <p>Essay proposal due in</p>
6	February 12	<p>Power, Networks and Sustainability in the Urban Form</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Adopting a Network Approach to Sustainability in Urban Development</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
	February 19	<b>Reading week – no class</b>
7	February 26	<p>Safety, Fear and Responses to Threat</p> <p>Discussion Topic: The Politics of Fear and the Practicalities of Planning</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
8	March 5	<p>Public Space and Homelessness</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Who Belongs?</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
9	March 12	<p>Processes of Gentrification and Resistance</p> <p>Film: My Brooklyn (time permitting)</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
10	March 19	<p>Immigration, Ethnicity and the City</p> <p>Discussion topic: Poverty and Prosperity in Enclaves</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
11	March 26	<p>Urban Politics in Action: Harm Reduction in Vancouver</p> <p>Film: Fix: The Story of an Addicted City</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>

		Term paper due
12	April 2	Course review

## Readings

Readings are divided into **required** and supplemental.

### Week 1 – Introduction

Supplementary: Auerbach, G. (2012) Urban planning: Politics vs. Planning and Politicians vs. Planners. In, *Horizons in Geography / באוגרפיה ואופקים*, 79/80, pp. 49-69.

Supplementary: United Way and City of Toronto (2005) Strong Neighbourhoods: Responding to a Call to Action. Retrieved from the World Wide Web December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2012/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-45145.pdf>

### Week 2 – Revisiting Theories

**Required:** March, A. (2010) Practising theory: When theory affects urban planning. In, *Planning Theory*, 9(2), pp. 108-125.

Supplementary: Spinks, M. (2011) Adoption of a network approach to sustainable building standard process, not product: a response column to “A political-ecology of the built environment: LEED certification for green buildings”, Cidell, 2009, *Local Environment*, 14(7), pp. 621–633. In, *Local Environment*, 16(1), pp. 87-92.

Supplementary: Borgatti, S. and D. Halgin (2011) On Network Theory. In, *Organisation Science*, 22(5), pp. 1168-1181.

Supplementary: Hall, T. and H. Barrett (2012) *Urban Geography* (4<sup>th</sup> edition), Chapter 2, Urban Approaches, pp. 18-29. New York: Routledge

Supplementary: Amin, A. and N. Thrift (2002) *Cities: reimagining the urban*. Cambridge: Polity Press.

### Week 3 – Utopia/Dystopia and Cities of Difference

**Required:** Valentine, G. (2008). Living with difference: reflections on geographies of encounter. *Progress in Human Geography*, 32(3), 323–337.

**Required:** MacLeod G. and Ward, K. (2002). Spaces of Utopia and Dystopia: Landscaping the Contemporary City. In, *Geografiska Annaler, Series B, Human Geography*, Vol. 84, No. 3/4, Special Issue: The Dialectics of Utopia and Dystopia (2002), pp. 153-170.

<http://unit2theory.pbworks.com/f/landscaping%20the%20city.pdf>

Supplementary: Fraser, N. (2000). Rethinking recognition. *New Left Review* 3, 107–120.

Supplementary: Young, I. M. (1990). City life and difference [abridged]. In *Justice and the Politics of Difference* (pp. 226– 248, selections). Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press.

Supplementary: Jacobs, J. (1961). *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. NY: Random House.

Supplementary: Le Corbusier (2000). A contemporary city. In R.T. Le Gates and F. Stout (Eds.), *The City Reader* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., pp. 336-343). London: Routledge.

#### Week 4 – Time, Space and Urban Society

**Required:** Harvey, D. (1990) *Between Space and Time: Reflections on the Geographical Imagination*. In, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 80 (3) 418–434.

**Required:** Schwanen, T., et.al. (2012) *Rhythms of the Night: Spatiotemporal Inequalities in the Nighttime Economy*. In, *Environment and Planning A*, 44 (9), pp. 2064-2085.

Supplementary: Lovatt, Andy & O'Connor, Justin (1995) *Cities and the Night-time Economy*. *Planning Practice & Research*, 10(2), pp. 127-134 [http://www.academia.edu/4147568/Cities\\_and\\_the\\_Night-time\\_Economy](http://www.academia.edu/4147568/Cities_and_the_Night-time_Economy)

Supplementary: Rowe, et. al. (2008) *The City After Dark: cultural planning and governance of the night-time economy in Parramatta*. University of Western Sydney.

Supplementary: Hencke, D. (2013) *Space–Time Design of the Public City*. New York: Springer.

#### Week 5 – Politicising City Space: Social Movements and Occupy Us

**Required:** Pickerill, Jenny and Krinsky, John. 2012. *Why Does Occupy Matter*. In, *Social Movement Studies*. 11(3-4), pp. 279-287

**Required:** Miller, B. and Nicholls, W. (2013) *Social Movements in Urban Society: The City as A Space of Politicization*. In, *Urban Geography*, 34(4) pp. 452-473.

Supplementary: Staggenborg, Suzanne. 2008. *Social movements*. Oxford University Press: Toronto. pp.11-25.

Supplementary: Lightbody, James. *City Politics, Canada. “Social movements, leadership, and the policy agenda”* (pp.304-312). Peterborough: Broadview Press.

#### Week 6 – Power, Networks and Sustainability in the Urban Form

**Required:** Gordon, D. (2015) *Lament for a network? Cities and networked climate governance in Canada*. In: *Environment and Planning C: Government and Policy*, vol. 34, 3: pp. 529-545.

**Required:** While, A., Jonas, A. E. G. and Gibbs, D. (2004), The environment and the entrepreneurial city: searching for the urban 'sustainability fix' in Manchester and Leeds. In, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 28 (3), pp. 549–569.

Supplementary: Spinks, M. (2013) 'Understanding and actioning BRE environmental assessment method: a socio-technical approach'. In, *Local Environment*, 22(1), pp. 131-148.

Supplementary: Wolch, J. J. Byrne and J. Newell (2014) Urban green space, public health, and environmental justice: The challenge of making cities 'just green enough'. In, *Landscape and Urban Planning*, Volume 125, pp. 234-244.

Supplementary: Savan, B., C. Gore and A. Morgan (2004) Shifts in Environmental Governance in Canada: How are Citizen Environment Groups to Respond? In, *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*, 22(4), pp. 605-619

Supplementary: Estimating the urban metabolism of canadian cities: greater Toronto area assessment <http://www.nrcresearchpress.com/doi/pdf/10.1139/I02-105?download=true&>

Supplementary: Rydon, Y. and M. Pennington (2000) Public Participation and Local Environmental Planning: The collective action problem and the potential of social capital. In, *Local Environment* 5(2), pp. 153-169.

#### Week 7 - Safety, Fear and Responses to Threat

**Required:** Tiesdell, S. and T. Oc (1999) The Fortress, the panoptic, the regulatory and the animated: planning and urban design approaches to safer city centres. In, *Landscape Research*, 24(3), pp. 265-283.

**Required:** Coaffee, J. and P. Rogers (2008) Rebordering the City for New Security Challenges: From Counter-terrorism to Community Resilience. In, *Space and Polity* 12(1), pp. 101-118.

Supplementary: Sandberg, L. and M. Rönnblom (2015) 'I don't think we'll ever be finished with this': Fear and safety in policy and practice. In, *Urban Studies*, 52(14), pp. 2664-2679.

Supplementary: Davis, M. (1990) *Fortress LA*, N. Kleniewski (ed.), *Cities and Society*, pp.267-283.

Supplementary: Coaffee, J., O'Hare, P. and M. Hawkesworth (2009) The Visibility of (In)security: The Aesthetics of Planning Urban Defences Against Terrorism. In, *Security Dialogue*, 40(4-5), pp. 489-511

Supplementary: Coaffee, J. (2016) *Terrorism, Risk and the Global City: Towards Urban Resilience*. Routledge: New York

#### Week 8 – Public Space and Homelessness

**Required:** M Crawford (1995) Contesting the public realm: Struggles over public space in Los Angeles. In, *Journal of Architectural Education* 49(1), 4-9

**Required:** Amster, R. (2003) Patterns of Exclusion: Sanitizing Space, Criminalizing Homelessness. In, *Race, Security & Social Movements*, 30, No. 1 (91), pp. 195-221



Supplementary: Mitchell, D. (1997). The annihilation of space by law: the roots and implications of anti-homeless laws in the United States. *Antipode*, 29(3), 303–335.

Supplementary: Blomley, N. (2010). The right to pass freely: Circulation, begging, and the bounded self. *Social and Legal Studies* 19 (3), pp. 331-350.

Supplementary: Mitchell, D. The End of Public Space? People's Park, Definitions of the Public, and Democracy (1995) In, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 85 (1)

### Week 9 – Processes of Gentrification and Resistance

**Required:** Ley, D. and C. Dobson (2008) Are There Limits to Gentrification? The Contexts of Impeded Gentrification in Vancouver. In, 45(12), pp. 2471-2498.

**Required:** Shaw, K. (2008) Gentrification: What It Is, Why It Is, and What Can Be Done about It. In, *Geography Compass* 2(5), pp. 1697–1728.

Film: *My Brooklyn*. 2012. (dir. K. Anderson and A. Dean)

Supplementary: Slater, T. (2006) The eviction of critical perspectives from gentrification research. In, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 30(4), pp. 737-757.

Supplementary: Ley, D. (1986) Alternative Explanations for Inner-City Gentrification: A Canadian Assessment. In, *Annals of the Association of American Geographers*, 76 (4), pp. 521-535.

Supplementary: Walks, R. A. and Maaranen, R. (2008) Gentrification, Social Mix, and Social Polarization: Testing the Linkages in Large Canadian Cities. In, *Urban Geography* , 29(4), pp. 293-326.

### Week 10 - Immigration, Ethnicity and the City

**Required:** Walks, R. A. and Bourne, L. S. (2006), Ghettos in Canada's cities? Racial segregation, ethnic enclaves and poverty concentration in Canadian urban areas. In, *The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien*, 50, pp. 273–297

**Required:** Lin, J. (1998) Globalization and the Revalorizing of Ethnic Places in Immigration Gateway Cities. In, *Urban Affairs Review*, 34(2), pp. 313-339.

Supplementary: Karam, R. (2017) Rust Belt Revitalization, Immigration, and Islam: Toward a Better Understanding of Mosques in Declining Urban Neighborhoods. In, *City and Community*, 16(3), pp. 257-262.

Supplementary: Siemiatycki, M. and E. Isin (1998), Immigration, diversity and urban citizenship in Toronto. In, *Canadian Journal of Regional Science*, 20 (1-2), pp.73-107.  
[http://oro.open.ac.uk/15385/1/Isin\\_and\\_Siemiatycki\\_1998.pdf](http://oro.open.ac.uk/15385/1/Isin_and_Siemiatycki_1998.pdf)

Supplementary: Ley, D. and Murphy, P. (2001) Immigration in gateway cities: Sydney and Vancouver in comparative perspective. In, *Progress in Planning*, 55 (3), pp. 119-194.

Supplementary: Hiebert, D. (2000), Immigration and the changing Canadian city. In, *The Canadian Geographer / Le Géographe canadien*, 44, pp. 25–43.

### Week 11 - Urban Politics in Action: Harm Reduction

Nb: Do not submit issues for discussion for all four articles. Instead, write one issue for discussion based on the information covered in the four articles

**Required:** Katic, G., & Fenn, S. (2014a, September 5). Vancouver's Addiction Ambitions, Revisited. Retrieved December 14, 2017, from <http://thetyee.ca/News/2014/09/05/The-Four-Pillars-Revisited>

**Required:** Katic, G., & Fenn, S. (2014b, September 19). The Methadone Split: Cracks in Vancouver's Treatment Pillar. Retrieved December 14, 2017, from <http://thetyee.ca/News/2014/09/19/Methadone-Split>

**Required:** Katic, G., & Fenn, S. (2014c, September 26). In Surrey, "Harm Reduction" Drug Approaches a Hard Sell. Retrieved December 14, 2017, from <http://thetyee.ca/News/2014/09/26/Surrey-HarmReduction-Drug>

**Required:** Katic, G., & Fenn, S. (2014d, October 3). In Vancouver and Seattle, Winding down the War on Drugs. Retrieved December 14, 2017, from <http://thetyee.ca/News/2014/10/03/Vancouver-SeattleWar-on-Drugs/>

Film: *Fix: The Story of an Addicted City*. 2002. (dir. N. Wild).

Supplementary: Lupick T. (2018 – forthcoming) *Fighting for Space: How a Group of Drug Users Transformed One City's Struggle with Addiction*. Arsenal Pulp Press

Supplementary: Smith, H. (2003) Planning, policy and polarisation in Vancouver's downtown eastside. In, *Tijdschrift voor economische en sociale geografie (Dutch Journal of Economic and Social Geography)*, 94(4), pp. 496–509.

Supplementary: McCann, E. (2008) Expertise, Truth, and Urban Policy Mobilities: Global Circuits of Knowledge in the Development of Vancouver, Canada's 'four Pillar' Drug Strategy. In, *Environment and Planning A*, 40(4), pp. 885-904.