

GGR339 H1F

Urban Geography, Planning and Political Processes

Summer (May-June) 2018

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

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

Nicole Van Lier (nickie.vanlier@mail.utoronto.ca)

Timetable: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6pm – 8pm

Venue: Sidney Smith Hall 2110

Office hours: Tuesday, 5pm-6pm, Room SS 5060, 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 forces at different political 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 a 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 in-class key issues submissions and a term paper. A final exam enables students to demonstrate the knowledge they have gained over the 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 twice weekly lectures, combining a mix of theoretical and conceptual lectures and case study demonstrations. This knowledge is then developed through class

discussions, in-class key issues submissions, a term paper and a final examination. Students are also encouraged to read local, regional and national newspapers and consider their lecture themes in relation to reported urban issues. Topical urban issues and current events will be woven throughout the course 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://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/>. Where possible they will also be posted on Blackboard.

Office hours are held from 5-6pm on Tuesdays 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. For further guidance on assignments, please contact your course TAs.

Assessment

<i>Evaluation component</i>	<i>Assessment value</i>	<i>Due date</i>
Issues for Discussion	10% (1% x 10 classes)	On going
Essay Proposal	15%	May 15 th , 2018
Term Paper	40%	June 14 th , 2018
Final Exam	35%	TBA

Issues for Discussion – 10%

Students are expected to do the required readings before class 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 in hard copy. Only **one** issue per required reading is expected. For example, if two readings are required for the class, then two issues are due in at the beginning of each class – one issue for each reading. If one reading is required for the class, then one issue is due before class.

Please submit your issues for discussion typed and in hardcopy. We will not accept emailed issues in your absence, nor will we accept late issues for discussion, unless they are accompanied by a UofT doctor's note.

Issues for discussion do not need to be overly complex or long winded. If you have done your class 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 in-class 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 a bibliography of at least 4 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 May 15th, 2018. Essay topics will be set for you, and you are encouraged to use the course required and supplementary readings as a launching point for your independent research. Strong proposals will go beyond the course reading list. Please use the APA/Harvard style of referencing.

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 3,000 words, exclusive of references and any appendices. Two copies should be submitted: one hard copy will be submitted at the start of class and one electronic copy will be submitted via Turnitin. The due date is June 14th, 2018. Please use the APA/Harvard style of referencing.

You may allow yourself a discretionary a 10% (300 words) to be applied to your total word count.

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. The final class of this course will be used as a summary of learning and for exam preparation.

Late Penalty

A late penalty of 5% per day will be applied to all assignments (except issues for discussion, which will not be accept late) 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 may 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). Extensions will not be given retrospectively.

An Accessibility Services letter does not automatically translate into extensions. You must approach Dr. Spinks with your official letter, including the name and contact details for your Accessibility Services Officer, and request an extension for each assignment. Please included the name and contact information for your Accessibility Services Officer.

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

Class 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 class, except in one instance (class 11) 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 or 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.

Referencing

This course requires you to use the APA/Harvard style of referencing for all submissions. Please familiarise yourself with this style. <https://guides.library.utoronto.ca/c.php?g=251103&p=1741147>

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 or <http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>

Lecture Outline

1	Tuesday May 8th	Introduction Essay topic set
2	Thursday May 10th	Revisiting Theories Issues for discussion due
3	Tuesday May 15th	Utopia/Dystopia and Cities and Difference Issues for discussion due Essay Proposal due in
4	Thursday May 17th	Time, Space and Urban Society Discussion topic: Night-time Economy Issues for discussion due
5	Tuesday May 22 nd	Power, Networks and Sustainability in the Urban Form Discussion Topic: Adopting a Network Approach to Sustainability in Urban Development Issues for discussion due
6	Thursday May 24 th	Safety, Fear and Responses to Threat Discussion Topic: The Politics of Fear and the Practicalities of Planning Issues for discussion due
7	Tuesday May 29 th	Politicising City Space: Social Movements Discussion Topic: Occupy US

		<p>Guest lecture: Black Lives Matter, Idle No More: Demonstrations of an Urban Scale, Andrew Morgan, PhD Candidate</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
8	Thursday May 31 st	<p>Public Space and Homelessness</p> <p>Discussion Topic: Who Belongs?</p> <p>Guest lecture: Homelessness in Toronto, Ve'ahavta</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
9	Tuesday June 5 th	<p>Processes of Gentrification and Resistance</p> <p>Film: My Brooklyn (time permitting)</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
10	Thursday June 7 th	<p>Immigration, Ethnicity and the City</p> <p>Term Paper assistance</p> <p>Issues for discussion due</p>
11	Tuesday June 12 th	<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>
12	Thursday June 14 th	<p>Course review</p> <p>Term Paper due</p>

Readings

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

Lecture 1 – Introduction

Supplementary: Auerbach, G. (2012) Urban planning: Politics vs. Planning and Politicians vs. Planners. In, *Horizons in Geography / באוגרפיה / אופקים*, 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 20th, 2017.
<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2012/cd/bgrd/backgroundfile-45145.pdf>

Lecture 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* (4th 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.

Lecture 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* (2nd ed., pp. 336-343). London: Routledge.

Lecture 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), pp. 418–434.

Required: Shaw, R. (2015) Night as Fragmenting Frontier: Understanding the night that remains in an era of 24/7. In, *Geography Compass*, 9 (12), pp. 637-647.

Supplementary: 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

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.

Lecture 5 – 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.

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: 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: 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.

Lecture 6 – 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: Németh, J. and J. Hollander (2010) Security Zones and New York City's Shrinking Public Space. In, *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 34(1), pp. 20 – 34.

Supplementary: 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

Lecture 7 – 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.

Lecture 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)

Lecture 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.

Lecture 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

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.

Lecture 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: Katie, 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: Katie, 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: Katie, 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: Katie, 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.