JPG1428H: Managing Urban Ecosystems
DRAFT Syllabus

Winter 2020
Fridays 10-12

Instructor
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Course Description
This reading seminar focuses on the different ways people interact with and manage urban ecosystems. The course begins by exploring the characterization of cities as ecosystems. We will then examine the socio-ecological research and management goals that draw on and build from an urban ecosystem perspective. Management of urban climates, hydrology, and vegetation will be explored. The role of municipal policy, built form, residents and other key actors will be examined in-depth. Throughout the course, issues associated with bridging knowledge gaps between the social and natural sciences, unique characteristics of urban ecosystems, and the role of specific decision-makers will be considered.

Course Requirements
Weekly required readings should be completed prior to the class. You will be required to write four short readings responses over the course of the term.

Students are also required to write a paper proposal (2 to 3 pages) and a final paper (20 pages), exploring a theoretical and/or empirical aspect of urban ecosystem management. Another option for the paper is to complete a case study/comparative study of management plan(s) or policy implementation. The final requirement is to give a presentation of your paper topic at the end of the course.

Evaluation
The final grade will be based on the following factors:
Class participation (attendance, class discussion) 20%
Four reading responses (due 8 pm the night before class) 10%
Paper proposal (due 4th week of class) 10%
Final paper (due 1 week after class ends) 50%
Paper presentation (week 11 or 12) 10%

Late Penalty A penalty of 5% of the total mark for the assignment will be applied per day, up to 7 days (including weekends and holidays), after which assignments will not be marked.

Extension and Academic Accommodation Requests
Requests for assignment extensions must be made to the instructor as soon as possible, preferably prior to the due date. Proper documentation must be provided at the time of the request. See below for information about extensions beyond the normal term.
Topics Covered through Weekly Readings and Discussion

Week 1. Introduction

Week 2. What is a socio-ecological urban ecosystem?

http://www.jstor.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/stable/2678637


http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/01695347/v27i0003/179_tfacdue.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/01695347/v27i0005/255_eauesmcorah.xml


Week 3. Urban Ecosystem Services and Disservices

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/09218009/v29i0002/293_esiua.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/02697491/v178icomplete/395_pmprbtuiucaahe.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/02697491/v191icomplete/256_coprbtahебне.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/02697491/v191icomplete/257_artlbwe.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/02697491/v191icomplete/258_rarrpahebne.xml

4. A series of very short pieces:

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/22120416/v7icomplete/201_aahthesad.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/22120416/v10icomplete/52_tmoedhwmfsas.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/22120416/v12icomplete/136_ede tc.xml
**Week 4. Green Infrastructure**  
**Paper Proposal Due**


**Week 5. Environmental Justice and the Urban Ecosystem**


Week 6. Land Use Planning and Urban Ecosystems

   http://jpe.sagepub.com.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/content/25/1/11.abstract

   https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2017.07.001


   https://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/getUrl/544878

Week 7. Urban Ecological Resilience and Vulnerability in the Context of Climate Change


   http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/01692046/v147icomplete/38_dur ar.xml

   http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/491316

Week 8. Storm Water Management

http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/491625


http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/09640568/v59i0001/79_mtmhmfhpiasm.xml

http://dx.doi.org.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2016.04.005

Week 9. Urban Biodiversity in a Global Context

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/01692046/v47i1-2/19_tahlwafopilp.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/02697491/v159i8-9/1974_nuebac.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/00063207/v127i0003/247_uamcobh.xml

http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/1466822x/v25i0011/1367_ctatcsoutb.xml
Week 10. The Residential Yard

[http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/491314](http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/491314)

[http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/491313](http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/491313)

[http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/10838155/v15i0001/1_trlfoeatrohd.xml](http://resolver.scholarsportal.info.myaccess.library.utoronto.ca/resolve/10838155/v15i0001/1_trlfoeatrohd.xml)


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Week 11. Presentations

Week 12. Presentations
Accessibility and Accommodations

The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations because you are disabled, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible: http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/as

Where there is an accommodation recommended by Accessibility Services, the department and/or instructors will be provided with an accommodation letter.

Academic Integrity

Academic misconduct by graduate students is taken very seriously. The University's policy on academic misconduct is found in the Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (the Code). Students in graduate studies are expected to commit to the highest standards of integrity and to understand the importance of protecting and acknowledging intellectual property. For example, it is assumed that they bring to their graduate studies a clear understanding of how to cite references appropriately, thereby avoiding plagiarism.

Regarding plagiarism, the Code includes the following statements:

B.i.1. It shall be an offence for a student knowingly:

(d) to represent as one's own idea or expression of an idea or work of another in any academic examination or term test or in connection with any other form of academic work, i.e., to commit plagiarism.

Wherever in the Code an offence is described as depending on "knowing," the offence shall likewise be deemed to have been committed if the person ought reasonably to have known.

Other academic offences include the possession and/or use of unauthorized aids in examinations, submitting the same paper for different courses, forgery (whether of academic records or other documents), concocting facts or references to sources, personating someone, and other forms of cheating and academic dishonesty. Please refer to sections B.i.1. and B.i.3. in the Code for detailed descriptions of offences applicable to students.

The policy on academic misconduct and the process for handling an allegation of academic misconduct is outlined at http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/facultyandstaff/Pages/Academic-Integrity.aspx

Coursework Extensions

The authority to grant an extension to submit coursework beyond the sessional grade deadline is with the department and not the instructor of the course. To request a formal extension, students must submit a Coursework Extension Form, completed by both the student and course instructor, to the relevant graduate department prior to the final grade deadline.

In order to ensure fairness in granting extensions, the department must be reasonably certain that:

- The reasons for delay are serious and substantiated.
- The student is not granted unfair advantage over other students in the course.
- The student has a reasonable chance of completing the outstanding work within the time allotted.
- The normal and satisfactory completion of any new coursework is not in jeopardy.

Extension requests for medical reasons (e.g. short-term illness) must be accompanied by a medical note. Extension requests for students with accommodations due to disability must be supported by
documentation from Accessibility Services. Extension requests for other reasons must be detailed in the form or a note to the department.

**Religious Accommodations**
Students must alert instructors in a timely fashion to any upcoming religious observances and anticipated absences. Instructors will make every reasonable effort to avoid scheduling tests, exams or other compulsory activities at these times. In the case of an unavoidable conflict with a compulsory activity, every reasonable effort is made to give students the opportunity to make up missed work.

**Course Enrolment and Quercus**
Acorn is the only indicator of official course enrolment; Quercus is not. Students enrolled in Acorn will be automatically populated to a course’s Quercus site within 24 hours of enrolling. In some cases, if a student is on a course wait list or there is another delay in processing registration an instructor may give a student access to Quercus as a guest. This will not constitute official enrolment and students are responsible for making sure the course is added correctly using Acorn.

**Auditing**
Students who wish to audit a course must obtain permission directly from the course instructor within the first week of class. Permission is subject to available space and can only be granted by the course instructor.
Only registered students at the University of Toronto may audit courses. Auditing entitles a student to attend lectures only. Students may not submit any written work, attend labs/tutorials or write tests/exams. The student will not be enrolled in the course and the course will not appear on their transcript. The department does not provide certificates of attendance.

**Reading Courses**
Reading courses allow students to complete coursework in topics not covered by current course offerings in Geography or Planning. Reading course guidelines and form is found at https://geography.utoronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/ReadingCourseInstructions.pdf. The form must be accompanied by a brief course outline.

**Copyright in Instructional Settings**
If a student wishes to record (tape, video, photograph, etc.) any lecture presentations or other similar materials provided by the instructor; the instructor’s written consent must be obtained beforehand. Otherwise, all such reproduction is infringement of copyright and prohibited. In the case of private use by students with disabilities, the instructor’s consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.