

MPPA-DL 452 Syllabus Stephen G. Harding, MPA The Global City Winter 2013

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Course Description: This course is about cities. Why do they persist? The last decade has seen resurgence in the economies of some major cities--especially some significant examples on a global basis. Concurrently, the world has seen other post-industrial cities continue a long pattern of decline.

In this course, students will develop an understanding of urbanization, including how city form differs depending on when a city experiences its greatest periods of growth and how globalization contributes to increasing disparity between rich and poor. The course will cover concepts in economic geography, transportation, environment, governance, development, poverty and inequality, and limits to growth. Readings will include recent studies on the effect of globalization on cities and metropolitan regions.

Text:

Brenner, N. & Keil, R. (Eds.). (2006). *The Global Cities Reader*. Abingdon, OX: Routledge.
ISBN-13: 9-78-0-415-32345-1

Sassen, S. (2011). *Cities in a World Economy* (4th ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Pine Forge Press.
ISBN-13: 978-1-4129-8803-2

Brugman, J. (2009). *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*. London: Bloomsbury Press.
ISBN-13: 978-1-60819-092-8 (Paperback 2010)

Learning Goals: The goals of this course are to:

- Discuss the nature of the global city and metropolitan regions.
- Formulate and theorize about the major research questions associated with the global cities literature.
- Explain how action in the public policy/administration arena in one place may affect global cities across the world.

Evaluation:

- Individual Case Study #1: Maximum 20 Points
- Midterm Exam: Maximum 20 Points
- Individual Case Study #2: Maximum 20 Points
- Final Exam: Maximum 20 Points
- Participation: Maximum 20 Points

Discussion Board Participation and Etiquette:

The purpose of Discussion Boards is to allow students to freely exchange ideas. Twenty percent of your grade is dependent upon your active participation. Each week you will be given from one to three questions (Prompts). You are expected to respond to each. It is important that we always remain respectful of one another's viewpoints and positions and, when necessary, agree to disagree, respectfully. While active and frequent participation is encouraged, cluttering a Discussion Board with inappropriate, irrelevant, or insignificant material will not earn additional points and may result in receiving less than full credit. Although frequency is not unimportant, content of the message is paramount. Please remember to cite all sources – when relevant– in order to avoid plagiarism.

Proctored Final Exam Assessment:

There is a proctored assessment requirement in this course. For additional information, please go to the **Assignments** section in Blackboard and scroll to the Proctored Exam Approval Application item. This is required for your Final Exam. Your application needs to be submitted during the first week of the course.

Case Studies (2)

You will need to complete two individually prepared case studies pertaining to a global city you choose from the list contained under the Black Board Assignment Section. There is a Part A and a Part B for each case study. Part A, submitted in **MS Word**, is just a one page general outline describing which city you have chosen and which global city metric(s) you plan on measuring. Part B is your actual essay. The purpose of this exercise is to evaluate the various characteristics that make a city “Global.”

First Case Study

For Part A, you are to simply select a city and theme for your individual case study. You are to **propose a topic and prepare a brief outline in MS Word** that you would like to explore within that theme. The topic should be sufficiently narrow in order to be able to be discussed in the 2,500 to 3,000 word essay required in Part B.

Here is an example from a previous class: A student selected Circuits/New York and examined the experience of particular immigrant groups in New York City with respect to the global financial industry and transnational firms located or headquartered in New York.

For Part B, you are to write a 2,500 to 3,000 word essay of the city and theme outlined in Part A. In addition to citing research and analysis in your specific topic area, the case study should make some reference to the global city theories and literature discussed in class. In just 2,500 to 3,000 words, it is not possible to do a literature survey or the complete history of a city, but rather provide an insight into one particular issue, metric or topic that is currently (or recently) significant to people living in your selected city, to the city government, or to the business community. The grade will be based on how well you identify, clarify and support the major point you are making about the theme and specific topic for your chosen city. At minimum, you should have 4 to 5 references.

Second Case Study

Follow the same process as you did in preparing your first case study. You will need to focus on the same city but select a different theme and topic. Both of your case studies should add to your knowledge of what makes a city “Global.”

Format: Check your assignment for the following format before submission:

-Use APA Style

Mid-Term and Final

Both exams will be open book. Your mid-term will also allow you to use your notes and your Black Board Discussions. The Final Exam will be proctored and will be open book only. Each exam will consist of four questions. You will answer all four. Your answers need to be long enough to demonstrate mastery and knowledge of the subject matter. The Final will pertain to the information covered over the entire course. Refer to the Blackboard Assignment Section for this course.

Grading Scale:

A	94-100 Points
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	84-86
B-	80-83
C+	77-79
C	74-76
C-	70-73
F	69 & Below

Attendance:

This course is mostly asynchronous, meaning that we will not meet at a particular time each week. Even though we will not be meeting face-to-face in a physical classroom, **attendance at the Synchronous Sessions and participation on Discussion Boards are required and paramount to your success in this class.** Sync Sessions for this quarter are:

January 9, 2013 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Central Time (Session 1)

March 6, 2013 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Central Time (Session 9)

Late Work:

There will be a 1-point deduction per day for a late assignment. Remember there is a difference between an 89 and a 90.

Learning Groups:

Although there is not a group assignment for this course, it is encouraged that students utilize the Blackboard Discussion Board as the primary tool in connecting with your fellow students and developing smaller learning groups as needed.

Academic Integrity at Northwestern:

Students are required to comply with University regulations regarding academic integrity. If you are in doubt about what constitutes academic dishonesty, speak with your instructor or graduate coordinator before the assignment is due and/or examine the University web site. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on an exam, obtaining an unfair advantage, and plagiarism (e.g., taking material from readings without citation or copying another student's paper). Failure to maintain academic integrity will result in a grade sanction, possibly as severe as failing and being required to retake the course, and

could lead to a suspension or expulsion from the program. Further penalties may apply. For more information, visit:

http://www.scs.northwestern.edu/student/issues/academic_integrity.cfm

Plagiarism is one form of academic dishonesty. Students can familiarize themselves with the definition and examples of plagiarism, by visiting the site <http://www.northwestern.edu/uacc/plagiar.html>. Myriad other sources can be found online, as well.

SafeAssign

Your papers and your Mid-Term for this course are required to be submitted through SafeAssign, a plagiarism detection and education tool. You can find an explanation of the tool [here](#). In brief, SafeAssign compares the submitted assignment to millions of documents in very large databases. It then generates a report showing the extent to which text within a paper is very similar or identical to pre-existing sources. The user can then see how or whether the flagged text is cited appropriately, if at all. SafeAssign also returns a percentage score, indicating the percentage of the submitted paper that is similar or identical to pre-existing sources. High scores are not necessarily bad, nor do they necessarily indicate plagiarism, since the score doesn't take into account how or whether material is cited. (If a paper consisted of just one long quote that was cited appropriately, the score would be 100%. This wouldn't be plagiarism, due to the appropriate citation. However, just submitting one long quote would probably be a pretty bad paper.) Low scores are not necessarily good, nor do they necessarily indicate a lack of plagiarism. (If a 50-page paper had all original material, except for one short quote that was not cited, the score might be around 1%. But, not citing a quotation would still be plagiarism.)

SafeAssign includes an option in which the student can submit a paper and see the resultant report before submitting it to the instructor as a final copy. This ideally will help students better understand and avoid plagiarism.

Other Processes and Policies:

Please refer to your SCS student handbook at <http://www.scs.northwestern.edu/grad/information/handbook.cfm> for additional course and program processes and policies.

Course Schedule

Important Note: Changes may occur to the syllabus at the instructor's discretion. When changes are made, students will be notified via an announcement in Blackboard.

Session 1

January 7----January 13

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Identify the characteristics of a global city.
- Recognize the effect of globalization on cities, the spatial patterns within and among cities, and the effect of globalization on firms and households.
- Discuss key research questions associated with the global cities literature **Course Content:**

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Editor's Introduction and Chapters 29, 38, 44

Sassen, *Cities in a World Economy*, Chapter 1

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Preface and Chapter 6

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 1.

Assignment

Proctored Exam Approval Application is due Sunday, January 13th, 11:55 p.m. (Central Time). For more information, click **Assignments** on the left navigation bar in Blackboard, and scroll to this assignment's item.

Sync Session

Wednesday, January 9, 2013 @ 7:00pm - 9:00pm (Central Time)

Session 2

January 14----January 20

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Identify the major characteristics of global cities and key eras/stages in their history.
- Discuss the reasons for specialization and hegemony of different cities in modern history, including Amsterdam, London and New York.
- Differentiate between the ancient and modern drivers behind global city formation.
- Explain reasons for the different economic development patterns, economic geographies, urban/suburban forms and cultural histories of New York, Los Angeles and Chicago.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 and 11.

Sassen, *Cities in a World Economy*, Chapter 2

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapters 3 & 7

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 2.

Assignment

First Individual Case Study, Part A: City/Theme Selection and outline is due on Sunday, January 20, 2013 at 11:55 p.m. (Central Time). For more information, click Assignments on the left navigation bar in Blackboard, and scroll to this assignment's item.

Sync Session

None

Session 3

January 21----January 27

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Explain the economic, social and physical restructuring of global cities over the past 50 years.
- Explain John Friedman's "World City Hypothesis," the main theses that link urbanization processes to global economic forces.
- Explain the role of trans-nationals and interpret Sassen's statement that "Global cities are strategic sites for the management of the global economy."
- Distinguish between national and trans-national urban systems.
- Describe the major international flows of capital and people.
- Explain the concept of "Global Circuits" of trans-nationals and diasporas.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 6, 7, 8 and 12

Sassen, *Cities in a World Economy*, Chapter 3

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapters 2 & 9

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 3.

Assignment

None

Sync Session

None

Session 4

January 28----February 3

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Explain the concepts of agglomeration, spillovers and economies of scale.
- Contrast and compare Miami, Sydney and Toronto in terms of globalization, concentration, and specialization.
- Explain the changing global role and urban restructuring of Tokyo during the 1980's, especially the effect of technology on spatial organization.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 17, 20, 33

Sassen, *Cities in a World Economy*, Chapters 4 & 5

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapter 11

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 4.

Assignment

First Individual Case Study, Part B, is due on Sunday, February 3, 2013 at 11:55 p.m. (Central Time). For more information, click Assignments on the left navigation bar in Blackboard, and scroll to this assignment's item.

Sync Session

None

Session 5

February 4----February 10

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Explain the concepts of the informal economy, earnings curve, polarization and Gini Index.
- Explain Sassen's arguments on global labor migration, informal employment, and polarization, and contrast these arguments with other leading experts' opinions.
- Discuss how the geography of industrial and commercial development leads to urban conflict and a struggle over urban space.
- Analyze Sassen's "geography of centrality and marginality."
- Discuss how the concepts of centrality and marginality can be applied within the geographies of major cities.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 13, 24, 34 and 47.

Sassen, *Cities in a World Economy*, Chapters 6, 7 & 9.

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapter 5

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 5.

Assignment

Mid-Term Exam

The Mid-term Exam will include four (4) essay questions based on readings and class discussions. Use APA Style for any references. You will need to provide an adequate response to each question in order to demonstrate a full understanding of the concepts and theories discussed in this course to date. (Don't Just Outline Citations From the Texts)

Mid-term Exam will open at 9 a.m. on Monday February 4, 2013 of this week and will be due at 11:55 on Sunday, February 10, 2013 at 11:55 p.m. (Central Time)

Sync Session

None

Session 6

February 11----February 17

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Define the elements that collectively determine the sustainability of global cities.
- Recognize and explain the local and global environmental impacts of urbanization and globalization.
- Explain how sustainability can be assisted through economic incentives and disincentives such as congestion pricing and cap-and-trade programs.
- Specify real-world examples of sustainability in action, their costs and potential benefits.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 21 & 32

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapters 10 & 12

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 6.

Assignment

Second Individual Case Study, Part A: New theme, same city, selection is due on Sunday, February 17, 2013 at 11:55 p.m. (Central Time). For more information, click Assignments on the left navigation bar in Blackboard, and scroll to this assignment's item.

Sync Session

None

Session 7

February 18----February 24

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Explain how the attempt to “Go Global” is reflected in urban form.
- Recognize how the built environment reflects the larger world system of economy, society and culture.
- Explain how global media cities function as centers of creativity and contribute to the “production of lifestyle images.”

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 23, 37, 39 & 40

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapter 1

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 7.

Assignment

None

Sync Session

None

Session 8

February 25----March 3

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Explain what drives deindustrialization, the effect of deindustrialization on urban agglomerations, and how cities have coped and fared with globalization, deindustrialization and global recession in the 20th and 21st centuries.
- Define and contrast the stages of specialization, reorganization and decentralization in two major U.S. cities.
- Evaluate the effects of local and global crises on cities, including 9/11, Hurricane Katrina, the stock market crash of 1987 and the oil shortages of the 1970's and 2000's.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapter 18

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapters 4 & 8

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard in Session 8.

Assignment

Second Individual Case Study, Part B, is due on Sunday, March 3, 2013 at 11:55 p.m. (Central Time). For more information, click Assignments on the left navigation bar in Blackboard, and scroll to this assignment's item.

Sync Session

None

Session 9

March 4----March 10

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Distinguish among different paths to globalization, including hyper global cities, emerging global cities, and global city-states.
- Assess how global circuits and 21st century urban forms have begun to reshape theories of global city development and urban studies.

Course Content:

Readings:

The Global Cities Reader, Chapters 26, 48, 49, & 50

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapter 1

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 9.

Assignment

None

Sync Session

[Wednesday, March 6, 2013 7:00pm - 9:00pm](#) (Central Time)

Session 10

March 11----March 17

Learning Objectives:

After this session, the student will be able to:

- Apply the theories presented in class and discuss, at an advanced level, the history, economics and sociology of the City of Chicago as a global city.

Course Content:

Readings:

Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, Chapter 14

Sassen, S. *Cities in a World Economy* (4th ed.). Chapter 8

Discussion Board

Each session you are required to participate in all Discussion Board forums. Your participation in both posting and responding to other students' comments is graded. For this week's discussion topic(s), visit the Discussion Board in Blackboard Session 10.

Assignment

Final Exam

This is a proctored exam. You will go to your approved proctored testing location to take your Final. The Final Exam will include four (4) essay questions based on readings and class discussions. You will have 3 hours to complete the exam and may use your textbooks.

Final Exam will open at 9 a.m. on Monday, March 11, 2013 of this week and will be due at 11:55 on Sunday, March 17, 2013 at 11:55 p.m. (Central Time)

Sync Session

None