Urban geography is concerned with the spatial patterns and processes associated with urban areas. More specifically, it involves exploring the following kinds of questions: What is the pattern of world urbanization? Why do some cities grow (or decline) faster than others? What is the spatial distribution (map) of land use and land values within cities? What is the spatial distribution of population within cities and how is it connected to the distribution of land values? What regularities can be discerned in the spatial pattern of shopping centers? How can we explain those regularities? How does the urban housing market operate? To what extent are neighborhoods differentiated with respect to income, race, and ethnicity? How might we describe the economy of a city? To what extent do residents possess cognitive maps of the cities in which they live? What do such maps look like and how do they affect behavior? All of these questions, and many more, are addressed by urban geography.

In general, then, this course is designed to provide an understanding of spatial patterns within urban areas. The approach is multidisciplinary in the sense that appropriate ideas are culled from various disciplines within the social sciences, including geography, economics, sociology, and psychology. An emphasis is placed on the integration of substantive and methodological material. In addition, discussions of urban models, and their implications for urban and regional planning, are stressed throughout the course.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

As a result of taking this course it is hoped that students will attain a greater appreciation for the following aspects of urban areas:

1. That urban spatial patterns (maps) are generated by various social, economic, political, and psychological processes, and that these processes are themselves constrained by the patterns they generate.
2. That various aspects of cities can be approached and understood from a variety of disciplinary perspectives, and that the richest explanations reflect insights from all those disciplines.
3. That substantive, philosophical, and methodological issues should be fully integrated in any understanding of urban areas. That is, our understanding of cities is at least partly determined by the methodologies we use.
4. In addition, students will feel comfortable writing a paper that involves: (1) identifying a problem; (2) finding and evaluating the relevant literature; (3) analyzing both qualitative and quantitative data; and (4) drawing reasoned conclusions. This paper can be used in future job interviews to demonstrate these abilities.
COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The course requirements will include a term paper and final examination, each of which will count for 50% of the final grade.

The term paper will involve primary research on a topic selected by the student in consultation with the instructor. Chosen topics will be associated with one or more of the major dimensions of the course (see outline below) and can focus on cities in any part of the world. Papers will ordinarily include a statement of the problem being investigated, a short literature review, an analysis of qualitative or quantitative data, and a set of conclusions. Undergraduates should aim for an 8-12 page double-spaced paper, while graduate students should aim for 15-20 pages.

The final examination will involve three or four short essay questions. There will be a choice of questions. We will use the overview during the final week of class to discuss the nature of these questions. They will be general, rather than specific, and will encourage students to distill, describe, and critically evaluate the major insights of the course.

Letter grades for the course will be assigned as follows (with equal weighting given to the term paper and final exam):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>93-100pts</td>
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<tr>
<td>AB</td>
<td>90-92</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>83-89</td>
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<td>BC</td>
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<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60-69</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>less than 60</td>
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COURSE OUTLINE


Weeks 1 & 2: Introduction to basic concepts and terms.
- (systems of cities; internal structure of cities; spatial patterns; scientific method)
  Cadwallader, pp. 21-40.
  Knox and McCarthy, pp. 3-16.
  Pacione, pp. 18-34.
Weeks 3 & 4: World urbanization.
(urbanization curves; city size distributions; implications for regional planning)
Cadwallader, pp. 301-306.
Kaplan, Holloway, and Wheeler, pp. 61-64 and pp. 400-416.
Knox and McCarthy, pp. 47-57.
Pacione, pp. 68-93.

Weeks 5 & 6: Patterns of land use and land value.
(land use theory; bid-rent curves; empirical testing; polycentric model, land use zoning)
Cadwallader, pp. 41-67.

Weeks 6 & 7: Land value and housing models.
(land value models; the housing market; housing values)
Cadwallader, pp. 71-100.
Knox and Pinch, pp. 115-146.

Weeks 8 & 9: Urban retailing.
(relationship to land values; spatial organization of shopping centers; central place theory; implications for urban planning)
Cadwallader, pp. 101-113.
Pacione, pp. 240-262.

Weeks 10 & 11: Urban social areas and neighborhoods.
(population density; classical models; social area analysis; factorial ecology; implications for urban planning).
Cadwallader, pp. 113-152.
Knox and Pinch, pp. 59-83.
Pacione, pp. 368-395.

Week 12: The urban economy.
(economic base concept; economic multiplier; urban growth and decline; input-output analysis)
Cadwallader, pp. 153-175.
Kaplan, Holloway, and Wheeler, pp. 142-166.

Week 13: The city of the mind.
(descriptive perceptions; appraisive perceptions; mental maps; cognitive distance; implications for urban planning)
Cadwallader, pp. 177-205.
Knox and McCarthy, pp. 358-365.

Week 14: Overview.