



Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs

UST 206 Megacities of Asia Section 502 Fall 2017

Class Meeting Time: This course is entirely online.

Professor: Dr. Regennia N. Williams

University Email: r.williams@csuohio.edu

Method of contact: Blackboard message system

Office Hours: We will have two one-hour class conference sessions via Blackboard Collaborate. The first will take place just before the midterm exam, and the other will take place just before the final exam. Please see the course outline page and course calendar for dates and times for these optional sessions.

Course Mentor: Mr. David Bryant is the graduate assistant and course mentor. Feel free to contact him via Blackboard Course Messages.

***Students Please Note:** If this is your first online course, you may want to complete the **Student Blackboard Orientation**, a short online course from Cleveland State University's Center for eLearning. For more information, please visit <http://www.csuohio.edu/center-for-elearning/blackboard-orientation-course>. The link for the **Center for eLearning's web-based student resources** is also available in the Course Content folder for Week #1.

Course Description

This course examines the phenomenal growth of urban areas in Asian countries. The unique factors of 21st century urbanization in Asia –including technology, religion, globalization, and environmental concerns – warrant study from a multi-disciplinary perspective that recognizes Asian cities as the harbingers of a new era. The course focuses on the economic, demographic, and sociopolitical study of Asian cities, and requires comparative analysis of their respective growths. Students will prepare a comprehensive report on a subject city that incorporates a multi-disciplinary approach and qualitative and quantitative analysis. Readings include the textbook, literature about each country, scholarly articles, news stories, and reports.

**Grateful acknowledgment is hereby given to Dr. Crystal Taylor, Prof. Arthur Schmidt, IV, and other Levin College colleagues whose model syllabi incorporate standardized text for UST 206 while leaving room for some creativity on the individual instructor's part.*

There is one required textbook for this course:

Slone, W. (2014). *Megacities: The new global community*. Dubuque, IA: Kendall Hunt.

*All required readings for the Discussion Forums are in this book and/or related articles that the instructor will make available in the Course Content folders for each week.

Additional Required Course Materials

The instructor will make additional required readings and web links for audio-visual materials available via the weekly Course Content folders.

Optional / Recommended Reference Material

Clark, D. (2003). *Urban world/global city*. New York: Routledge.

Rowe, P. (2005). *East Asia modern: Shaping the contemporary city*. Reaktion Books.

Students are not required to purchase these “optional/recommended” materials for the course, but you are free to include these books as sources for your required essays.

Definition of Megacities

The United Nations coined the term megacities in the 1970s to designate all urban agglomerations with a population of eight million or more. In the 1990s, the United Nations raised the population threshold to 10 million, following the practice of institutions such as the Asian Development Bank. (Source: Board of Studies New South Wales Australian Government, 2010). This course will adhere to the revised definition.

Criteria for Breadth of Knowledge: Non-U.S. Social Science:

This course is an introduction to the study of megacities in Asia using an interdisciplinary approach that includes economic development, technology, environmental studies, anthropology, sociology urban planning, and public administration. The course emphasizes the development and growth of urban areas in Asia and integrates the field of urban studies with students’ everyday experiences. The course is designed to meet the learning objectives that are in accordance with CSU’s General Education Non-U.S. Social Science requirements.

General Education Statement

This course is approved as a General Education 08 course meeting the requirements for Non-U.S. (AALAME) Social Science. In addition, it satisfies the skill areas of critical thinking, and information literacy.

Skill: Critical Thinking

A total of 15% of students’ grades will be based on evaluations of critical thinking (essay assignments 1 and 2). Students are required to attain skills beyond lower level knowledge, thereby requiring:

1. higher-order thinking (analysis, synthesis, and evaluation) with respect to studying urban growth. Students will submit a report on a megacity selected from 16 cities listed under the city report assignment to determine primary

forces driving growth in various Asian urban areas. The growth of the subject city will be compared to baseline growth trends; and

2. attainment of skills beyond lower-level knowledge, thereby requiring skills that involve the use of content knowledge (e.g. finding information to solve a problem).

Skill: Information Literacy

A total of 15% of students' grades will be based on an evaluation of information literacy (City Report project, and part of essay#2). Students are required to:

1. evaluate the accuracy, authority, currency, objectivity, and reliability of information sources. This will include government document analysis, economic reports, and population data from various sources;
2. address the ethical and legal uses of information;
3. evaluate the accuracy, authority, currency, objectivity, and reliability of information sources, and compare data of an impacted area to a baseline area; and
4. address the ethical and legal uses of information.

Course Objectives

Upon the completion of this course, students will:

1. understand the complex issues and challenges facing urban areas in Asia;
2. recognize the importance and usefulness of multi-disciplinary approaches to resolving these challenges;
3. become acquainted with basic theoretical and empirical concepts used in the discipline of urban studies to explain the behavior of individuals and groups in societies, economies, governments, and subcultures of Asia; and
4. present and analyze data on megacities of Asia.

University and College Policies

University Deadlines: Please see the Fall 2017 Academic Calendar on the last page of this syllabus.

- For the Fall semester, the deadline for dropping this course is September 8, 2017.
- The last day to withdraw from the course is November 3, 2017.
- The final examination week is December 11-16, 2017.
- The mid-term exam will be available from 8:00 a.m. October 6, 2017 to 11:59 p.m. October 7, 2017.
- The final exam will be available from 8:00 a.m. December 15, 2017 to 11:59 pm December 16, 2017.

For information on class cancellations due to weather, call Cleveland State University's information line at (216) 687-2000, or visit the CSU home page at www.csuohio.edu.

Class Policies

Academic Misconduct in the form of Plagiarism or cheating will result in an “F” for the assignment and possibly an “F” for the course. Please acknowledge the sources for all ideas that are not your own.

Late assignments, make-up exams, etc. are accepted only in cases of documented emergencies (including medical emergencies). Students must submit electronic versions of written documentation directly to the instructor via the Blackboard Message system.

Grades of “X” and “I”

The grade of "X" can be assigned by the instructor when an attending/participating student has stopped attending/participating without notification and has not completed all assignments for reasons that cannot be determined by the end of the grading period. An "X" automatically becomes an F if not resolved by the last day of instruction of the following semester. An “X” also will be assigned by the University Registrar when no grade is submitted by an instructor.

The “I” (or Incomplete) grade is given when the work in a course has been generally passing, but when some specifically required task has not been completed through no fault of the student. An “I” grade can be assigned by the instructor when all three of the following conditions are met:

1. The student is regularly attending/participating in the class and has the potential to pass the course;
2. The student has not completed all assignments and has stopped attending/participating for reasons deemed justified by the instructor; and
3. The students had notified the instructor prior to the end of the grading period.

Students with Special Needs

Educational access is the provision of classroom accommodations, auxiliary aids and services to ensure equal educational opportunities for all students regardless of their disability. Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services at (216) 687-2015. The office is located in MC147. Accommodations must be requested in advance. **Students should notify the instructor as soon as possible if they have been granted an accommodation through the Office of Disability Services.**

Paraphrasing:

Paraphrasing should be used to support student thinking and should form, in part, the bulk of student evidence in all formal writing assignments. A paraphrase is a restatement of the author’s words or ideas. Paraphrasing adds weight to an argument. When paraphrasing, writers should take care to maintain the intent of the original passage.

Writing Assistance

Students who want assistance with improving their writing may contact the CSU Writing Center.

Campus Location: 1860 E. 22 Street, Rhodes Tower 122

For appointments call:

Dr. Mary McDonald

216-687-6981

Phone: 216-687-6982

Fax: 216-687-6943

For more information on Writing Center services, please visit:

<http://www.csuohio.edu/writing-center/writing-center>.

Students should use the American Psychological Association (APA) format for citations and reference pages. A free APA Style tutorial, "The Basics of APA Style" is available online at <http://www.apastyle.org/learn/tutorials/index.aspx>.

An APA Research Guide is also available on the website for the Michael Schwartz Library. For more information, please visit <http://researchguides.csuohio.edu/citingsources/apa>.

Plagiarism

As information on the CSU Writing Center site suggests, plagiarism is stealing and / or using the ideas or writings of another in a paper or report and claiming them as one's own. This includes but is not limited to the use, by paraphrase or direct quotation, or the work of another person without clear acknowledgement. (Please visit <http://www.csuohio.edu/writing-center/plagiarism>.)

The penalties for plagiarism are found in full in the Student Handbook under Academic Regulations (Policy on Academic Misconduct) at the following link: <https://www.csuohio.edu/compliance/student-code-conduct>. A printable PDF is also accessible on the same site. **The instructor will use SafeAssign to check all student work for possible plagiarism.**

Course Requirements & Grading Policy

Grades are based on written assignments (weekly discussion responses, critical thinking essays, and the City Report), the midterm examination and the final examination. Students are expected to:

- Read all textbook chapters and other assigned readings BEFORE beginning the respective on-line discussion sessions;
- Participate actively in discussions and ask clarifying questions as needed;

- Prepare and submit all written assignments by the announced deadlines. Late assignments will be accepted at the instructor's discretion;
- Send all discussion postings and written assignments through Blackboard Learn;
- Log on to the course site daily to check for changes and / or additional information.

Grades are weighted as follows:

- Two Critical Thinking Essays (50 points each, 100 points total)
- 10 Discussion Posts (10 points each, 100 points total)
- City Report (100 points)
- Midterm Examination (100 points)
- Final Examination (100 points)

Total possible points for the semester: 500 points

The midterm and final examinations will consist of 25 questions. The examinations will include multiple-choice and true/false questions.

Grading Scale:

CSU uses the following letter grades with plusses and minuses. In the Levin College the letter grades follow this numeric scale:

A = 94-100%

A- = 90-93

B+ = 87-89

B = 83-86

B- = 80-82

C+ = 77-79

C = 70-76

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

Course Methods

The course will be conducted online using Blackboard Learn. The class requires extensive use of the site. Information about using Blackboard is available at:

<http://mycsu.csuohio.edu/elearning/>

Written Assignments and Weekly Activities:

As information in the Course Schedule section of this syllabus suggests, students are expected to complete the assigned readings (book chapter and article(s), read, view, or listen to announcements and other audio-visual materials and prepare one written assignment (an essay, a discussion response posting, or city report) each week.

Writing Assignments and Due Dates

All assignments are due by 11:59 p. m. Assignment descriptions, guidance on formatting, and grading rubrics will be provided for all written assignments. Please see the Course Schedule for specific due dates. Late assignments will be accepted at the discretion of the instructor.

Essay topics, discussion questions / writing prompts, detailed assignment descriptions, and grading rubrics will be included in the Course Content section of the Blackboard site.

The critical thinking essays and city report are considered research papers and should be written as such. Therefore, students should avoid the use of the first person voice "I" in writing their papers. The first person "I" voice is reserved for personal communications or position papers and not research papers.

I. Two Critical Thinking Essays

Each essay should be approximately three to four pages long (750 - 1,000 words, typed, and double-spaced).

- Critical Thinking Essay #1 is due by 11:59 p.m. on October 14, 2017.
- Critical Thinking Essay #2 is due by 11:59 p.m. on November 11, 2017.

II. Weekly Discussion Posts

Students will participate in online discussions based on assigned reading in the required text, related articles or PowerPoint presentations, and audio-visual activities. Posts should be approximately 200 words long. The instructor will provide a unique writing prompt for each weekly assignment. In addition to submitting their own post, students are expected to read and comment on at least one classmate's post.

III. City Report

Students will prepare a 5-page (1,500 words, typed and double-spaced) of an Asian megacities. The report should analyze and discuss the following:

- (1) economic structure
- (2) socio-political culture
- (3) environmental stress issues
- (4) transportation
- (5) urban planning policies
- (6) demographics

Students will select the subject cities for this assignment from the following list:

Beijing, Tokyo, Seoul, Hong Kong, Delhi, Mumbai, Karachi, Lahore, Shanghai, Bangkok, Tehran, Istanbul, Osaka-Kobe, Dhaka, Manila, Singapore, and Jakarta

The City Report is Due on December 2, 2017 by 11:59 p.m.

Examinations

The midterm examination will be available in the Assessments section of the Blackboard site from 8:00 a.m. on Friday, October 6, 2017 through 11:59 pm on Saturday, October 7, 2017.

The final examination will be available in the Assessments section of the Blackboard site from 8:00 a.m. on Friday, December 15, 2017 through 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, December 16, 2017.

- Questions for the midterm and final examinations are drawn from the textbook, supplemental readings and audio-visual resources, and weekly discussion response readings and not from the Internet or other outside sources.
- The midterm examination will include material covered from the start of the semester through the date of the midterm.
- The final exam will cover course material presented since the midterm.
- No study guide will be provided, and both exams are open book and notes.
- Students will have 90 minutes to complete the exams on Blackboard
- Grades will post in Blackboards grade book after the examination closes and all exams have been graded.
- Students should save their answers frequently while taking the exams and

again prior to submitting their exams for grading.

- Each exam can be taken ONE time.

Technology Management

You are responsible for managing the technology required for the course. Please plan accordingly, and:

- (1) Keep copies of your homework in case the instructor or graduate assistant experience difficulties when trying to download or open your submission for grading;
- (2) Contact the instructor immediately if the computer crashes in the middle of an exam;
- (3) If your personal computer crashes, you will have to find another way to participate, such as using CSU or public library computers.

For those who have permission to do school work at their workplace and plan to do so, please be advised that many workplaces have computer safeguards in place that may prevent you from completing Blackboard assignments at work. In particular, workplace pop-up blockers may block the quizzes and exams.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. When are assignments due?

A. See Course Schedule in Syllabus. Also, remember to check the Announcements and/or emails and Blackboard Course Messages from your instructor for any changes.

Q. How do I check my grades?

A. Click on My Grades. You will find it along the left hand column menu on the Blackboard course site.

Q. Can I email you my assignments?

A. Please submit all assignments under the appropriate section in Blackboard.

Q. I thought I did better on last week's assignment. Why did I get this grade?

A. Assignments are graded using a rubric. Contact both the instructor and graduate assistant / course mentor – in the same Blackboard message, with questions or concerns about grading.

Q. I cannot find someone's email address on the list in the course. What should I do?

A. Click on the Course Message Tool located on the menu bar. Click on the create message tab. Click on the radial button under the "Select Recipients: To Line." and select the student/instructor's name email is to be sent to.

Below are some general comments about the course that should help students navigate their way through a successful experience in UST 206 online:

- Check the Blackboard course site frequently for class/assignment updates, announcements, replies to messages, etc.
- Please know that assignments will usually be graded within one week of the submission deadline.
- Be sure to read the syllabus THOROUGHLY, and remember to check the weekly course folders for detailed assignment descriptions and rubrics.
- Plan to submit the assignments before the 11:59 p.m. deadline, because the system will not allow you to submit assignments after that time.
- Feel free to read and work ahead, whenever assignments are made available and your schedule permits.
- **THE WEEKEND BEFORE THE FINAL EXAMINATION:** Review the major themes/concepts presented in the textbook/discussion and supplemental reading materials.

APA Style Tips

Student papers must include documentation of at least five (5) scholarly (i.e., peer-reviewed journal articles, government documents, books, etc.). An Internet article from a reputable sources can be referenced, however most of the evidence cited in your paper needs to come from scholarly literature.

All sources must be documented in the reference section of your paper.

The APA style utilizes in-text citations that refer to a list of sources. The following are a few examples of the APA style:

In Text Citations:

1. Direct Quotations
 - a. As Smith (2011) noted,
 - b. As Berry and Simmons (2010) indicated,
 - c. In *Understanding Politics* (2007).
2. Internet Citations within the Text of your Paper:
 - a. In the article "Policy Implementation and Practices," Dr. Smyth indicates...
(State of Ohio, 2012).

b. According to a report by the United States Census... (U.S. Census, 2006).

3. Summary or Paraphrase: Include the author(s) last name and the date either in a single phrase or in parenthesis at the end of the sentence. For example: Kelp and Johnson (2008) argued that... (Kelp and Johnson, 2008).

How to Cite Internet Citations in your Reference Section. (Not to be used in the body of your text. ONLY use in REFERENCE SECTION): Cite material from a web site by giving the web address in parenthesis (<http://clevelandmemory.org>). If you are referring to the entire site, you do not need a bibliography entry. If you are referring to a specific document from the web site, provide a bibliography entry in the list of references. For example:

a. "Public Policy Theories." Retrieved June 8, 2013 from Electronic Library Database on the World Wide Web: <http://www.stateofohio.gov>.

Citation Help: For additional help in utilizing APA citations, please visit to <http://www.apastyle.org/electref.html>, or go to the CSU library home page virtual reference site and click on the drop down list to citation guides (<http://library.csuohio.edu/>).

Words to the Wise

Successful completion of an Internet-based class requires students to:

1. develop a work plan (schedule) for the semester to meet the demands of the course. Once a work plan is developed, students should adhere to the plan;
2. stay focused; and
3. keep in mind that late assignments are accepted at the discretion of the instructor –and only in cases of documented emergencies. If there is an issue, notify the instructor immediately; and
4. Failure to withdraw from the course by the designated drop date shown on the university's Academic Calendar may result in the assignment of an "F" grade at the end of the term. Students should, therefore, notify their instructor and academic advisor as soon as possible, if they experience major problems during the semester and are unable to complete course requirements.

Course Schedule

Week #1 8/26 – 9/2	Syllabus, Introduction, Overview	Extra-Credit Bio Post Discussion Post #1 Due 9/2
Week #2 9/3 – 9/9	Slone, Chapter 1	Discussion Post #1 Due 9/9
Week #3 9/10 – 16	Slone, Chapter 2	Discussion Post #2 Due 9/16
Week #4 9/17 – 23	Slone, Chapter 3	Discussion Post #3 Due 9/23
Week #5 9/24 – 30	Slone, Chapter 4	Discussion Post #4 Due 9/30
Week #6 10/1 – 7	Midterm Examination Due 10/7	
Week #7 10/8-14	Critical Essay #1 Due 10/14	
Week #8 10/15 – 21	Slone, Chapter 5	Discussion Post #5 Due 10/21
Week #9 10/9 – 28	Slone, Chapter 6	Discussion Post #6 Due 10/28
Week #10 10/29 – 11/4	Slone, Chapter 7	Discussion Post #7 Due 11/4
Week #11 11/5 – 11	Critical Essay #2 Due 11/11	
Week #12 11/2 – 18	Slone, Chapter 8	Discussion Post #8 Due 11/18
Week #13 11/19 – 25	Slone, Chapter 9	Discussion Post #9 Due 11/25
Week #14 11/26 – 12/2	City Report Due 12/2	
Week #15 12/3 – 9	Slone, Chapter 10	Discussion Post #10
Week #16 12/10 – 16	Final Examination Due 12/16	

****Information on required readings (in addition to the Slone Megacities text) and the audio-visual materials can be found in the Course Content folders on Blackboard.***

Cleveland State University's Academic Calendar for Fall Semester 2017

Important Dates

Priority Registration Begins	February 27, 2017
Open Enrollment Begins	May 1, 2017
Term Begins (Saturday)	August 26, 2017
First Weekday Class	August 28, 2017
Last Day to Join a Course Waitlist	September 1, 2017
Last Day to Drop with Full Refund	September 1, 2017
Last Day to Add (CampusNet Registration)	September 3, 2017
Last Day to Drop	September 8, 2017
Course Withdrawal Period Begins - 'W' Grade Assigned	September 9, 2017
Last Day to Withdraw from Courses	November 3, 2017
Midterm Grades	October 16-22, 2017
Last Day of Classes	December 8, 2017
Final Exams	December 11-16, 2017
Commencement (Sunday)	December 17, 2017
Fall Semester Student Incomplete Work Deadline	May 4, 2018
Labor Day (University Holiday)	September 4, 2017
Columbus Day (Tuesday no classes - offices open)	October 10, 2017
Veterans Day (University Holiday - Friday)	November 10, 2017
Thanksgiving Recess (no classes on Saturday)	November 23-26, 2017

Academic Calendar dates are subject to change. Please check CampusNet for the most up to date information about specific course dates. Courses scheduled outside of the traditional semester schedule are indicated in CampusNet as ALT (alternative) session courses. Add/drop/withdrawal deadlines for ALT courses are adjusted according to the length of the session.

The University is closed on University Holidays unless otherwise noted above. The only time Saturday classes are not held in observance of a holiday is for the Thanksgiving Recess, unless the actual holiday falls on a Saturday.