

FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY. IF YOU ARE ENROLLED IN UST 290 AND NEED A SYLLABUS, PLEASE CONTACT THE INSTRUCTOR OR DOWNLOAD ONE FROM BLACKBOARD LEARN

SYLLABUS

UST 290: URBAN GEOGRAPHY

FALL 2017

General Information

Location: UR 241
Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays 10-11:15am
Instructor: Dr. Brian Mikelbank
E-mail: b.mikelbank@csuohio.edu
Phone: 216-875-9980
Office: UR 350
Office hours: Tuesdays 12:30pm-2:30pm
By appointment: <http://www.meetme.so/mikelbank>

Required Materials

Paul L. Knox and Linda McCarthy, *Urbanization: An Introduction to Urban Geography*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall, 3rd edition, 2012. ISBN-10: 0321736435 • ISBN-13: 9780321736437

Calculator (stand-alone)

Regular Internet access for Blackboard Learn

Regular access to emails sent to your @vikes.csuohio.edu address

Class Description

Social, economic, and political structures operating within cities; geographical definitions, location theories, population densities and migrations, and land-use patterns; identifies issues, problems, and policies related to urban settlements.

Class Objectives

Students will understand the foundational spatial processes that originally formed and currently influence cities.

Students will learn to identify the economic, social, demographic, and political structures operating within the spatial context of urban areas.

Students will integrate the role of location and migration in the development and transformation of cities.

Class Structure

This course is organized into these equally important components:

1. Readings

You should adopt and apply a reading strategy that contributes to your academic success. The cornerstone of that strategy should be familiarizing yourself with the material prior to the lecture in which it is to be covered. This might be a full reading, or an initial survey, as in the SQ3R method. In either case, your first exposure to the course material should be in advance

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of class. Make full use of this time by taking notes and forming questions both for clarification and for future use. Find a strategy for active reading that works for you:

<http://www.studygs.net/shared/reading.htm>

2. Lectures and Discussion

Lectures serve to discuss and review material in the assigned readings, not to introduce it. Lecture should be your second exposure to the assigned material. Feel free to raise questions to ensure that you thoroughly understand the material. Lectures and discussions will be most valuable (and least stress-inducing) if you have carefully done your advance reading preparation.

3. The Writing Assignments

This class requires two writing assignments. You will choose a location within the city of Cleveland, and both assignments will focus on that location. The task for each paper, broadly speaking, is to put a small part of the city into an urban geographical context. The first paper will have a historical focus, putting the people, events, and institutions of your location into an urban spatial context. The second paper focuses on the location's present condition.

Class Evaluation

Each component of class contributes to your final grade as follows:

Attendance	5%
Chapter quizzes	20%
Midterm #1	15%
Midterm #2	20%
Writing Assignment #1	20%
Writing Assignment #2	20%
Total	100%

Chapter quizzes are taken online, through Blackboard Learn. Use of Respondus Monitor is required. Chapter quizzes will be posted after each chapter is concluded in class and will be available for one week. Midterm exams are in class, closed book, and cumulative. Your exam scores are subject to *subsequent success weighting*. If your score on Midterm #2 is better than your Midterm #1 grade, half of Midterm #1's weight is shifted to Midterm #2. Note that this does not work in reverse or in any other combination, and it does not apply for your writing assignments.

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Your final grade is determined as detailed below, subject to the additional WAC criteria:

Final Grade Determination	
You must earn this percent of the total class points offered*...	...to earn at least this grade
93	A
90	A-
87	B+
83	B
80	B-
77	C+
70	C
60	D
0	F

* There is no "rounding up." For example, if you earned 82.8% of all points, you have earned a B-.

CLASS POLICIES

Attendance

You are expected to attend every class in its entirety. Attendance may be taken at any time during any class, and attendance contributes to your final grade. If you are not present when attendance is taken, you are marked absent. I keep track only of "present" or "absent" *when attendance is taken*. There is no "late".

It is important to distinguish between excused and unexcused absences from class. An excused absence meets all three of these conditions:

1. An excused absence occurs due to an extreme event. Extreme events are outside of the realm of responsibilities and activities of the student's everyday life. Extreme events cannot be anticipated. The routine responsibilities associated with family, friends, employment, etc., are not outside of your everyday life. They are not extreme. They are parts of your everyday life, along with the University, that must be prioritized and managed.
2. An excused absence has documentation that can (and will) be verified.
3. The instructor is notified in advance of all excused absences.

Only when these three conditions are met, will an excused absence be granted. Any work due on the day of an excused absence is due at the beginning of the next class period.

Attending each class in its entirety is important because:

Attending class provides you with an additional presentation of the course material;

Exam material will be drawn from the text and lecture material, and lecture material will not originate exclusively from the text;

Common problems, issues and questions relating to course material will be discussed;

You can only take exams when present in class;

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By attending class, you will have your own set of course notes, rather than having to rely on that of a classmate. Course notes are never available from the instructor;
You are responsible for additional assignments and readings announced in class;
You are responsible for changes to this syllabus announced in class.

Missed Quizzes

Students earn a 0 for all missed quizzes. Take your quiz early within the quiz window so that you can work around any personal technology issues. Chapter quizzes will not be “reset” so that they can be retaken, or restarted. If you experience an unverified technical problem, you simply lose that attempt and you will get the grade from your other attempt at that quiz.

Missed Exams

Only in cases of excused absences (see above) will make-up exams be given. No excused absences will be granted after an exam has been administered. The make-up exam will vary in form, content, and length from that given in class. Except in these rare circumstances, students earn a score of zero on missed exams.

Late Work

The late policy for each assignment will be detailed in the instructions for that assignment. If no late policy is given, the default late policy for this class is as follows: except for cases involving an excused absence, late work is not accepted. If you have a problem completing assignments on time, you should strongly consider taking another class.

Expectations of Written Work

Hand-written writing assignments will not be accepted. This University has excellent computer resources – you should make yourself familiar with them and utilize them frequently. Spill-chick end proof read ever thing ewe hand in (see why these are different?). Critically evaluate all of your writing for correctness, completeness and clarity. Work in this class earning the grade of "A" is error-free in terms of all of these. I will award extra credit if you take the time and effort to participate in a peer review or utilize the CSU Writing Center prior to handing in your writing assignments.

All work in this class must be handed in as detailed in the assignment instructions.

Classroom Behavior

Every class is going to have its own rules for classroom behavior – here are mine.

Silence all forms of electronic communication. Do not text during class. Do not answer your phone during class.

Do not sleep.

Do not read outside materials.

Do not do work for other classes.

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Laptops and tablets are *initially* allowed in class so long as they are used for taking notes only, and in a manner that is not disruptive to the instructor or other students. If the technology becomes a distraction, it won't be allowed in class for anyone.

I welcome meaningful, thoughtful and balanced participation from students. In order to achieve that, I ask that you raise your hand and wait to be called upon. Calling out your questions, comments and commentary is not acceptable.

In short, please come to class prepared, ready to pay attention and participate. If I get the impression that I don't have your full attention, you'll be reminded of what proper classroom behavior is, and marked absent for that day. Repeat offenders will be reported to CSU's Judicial Affairs Officer. Please read your Student Code of Conduct, Section 3344-83-04 (A), "Disruption" available at:

<http://www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf>

Extra Credit

Beyond the peer-review, the writing center, and the subsequent success weighting, there are no other "extra credit" opportunities in this class. No extra homework, reports, exam re-writes, or any such "bail me out at the end of the semester so I can get the grade I want instead of the grade I earned" opportunities. Please do not ask.

Communication

Throughout the semester, I will make use of Blackboard for various complementary class functions. Class handouts will be posted there, and your writing assignments will be turned in there.

E-mail is the easiest way to get in touch with me outside of class. Please put "UST 290" in the subject, and be sure to identify yourself in the email. I do my best to return emails within 24 hours.

I send out email to your university email address. If you don't check that address regularly (daily) you can forward it to another email address.

Official class announcements can and will be made through email and/or Blackboard.

Technology Management

Problems with your personal technology do not comprise a valid excuse for missing a quiz or deadline. You are responsible for managing your own technology. You need to factor the use of technology into your planning, organization and time management efforts. Your planning should include a seamless and viable back-up plan if the computer you are currently using becomes unavailable or unreliable. You should make yourself familiar with the University's computer resources and incorporate them into your planning.

Be sure to check your computer's capabilities here: <https://www.csuohio.edu/center-for-elearning/current-students>

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UNIVERSITY POLICIES**

Time Management

As for all college courses, you should plan on a minimum of 3 hours out of class, for each credit hour (see CSU's *Hints on Planning a Better Time Schedule*). As a three-hour course, this class will require a minimum of 9 hours of work outside of class every week. You should anticipate using all 9 of them – some weeks you might need more; some weeks you might need less.

Academic Dishonesty

From your Student Code of Conduct: “Academic honesty is essential to maintain the integrity of the University as an institution and to foster an environment conducive to the pursuit of knowledge. The Cleveland State University Academic Community values honesty and integrity and holds its members to high standards of ethical conduct. Academic dishonesty is, therefore, unacceptable, and students must be prepared to accept the appropriate sanctions for any dishonest academic behavior as outlined in this policy on academic misconduct. Academic misconduct refers to any fraudulent actions or behaviors that affect the evaluation of a student’s academic performance or record of academic progress.” Academic dishonesty includes cheating, plagiarism, and tampering.

Your Student Code of Conduct further states that: “Major infractions comprise those instances of cheating, plagiarism, and/or tampering which affect the overall course grade, such as a major/comprehensive exam, term paper or project, final grade evaluation, or academic standing and status.” Since all of your quizzes, exams, and papers affect your overall course grade, any instance of academic dishonesty in this class is considered a major infraction. Sanctions for major infractions include a grade of F in the course, and recommendations for suspension or expulsion from the University.

I strongly recommend that you familiarize yourself with the various forms of academic misconduct in the CSU Student Handbook, available at <http://www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf>.

In my experience, the most common academic misconduct infraction arises out of a failure to reference your information sources. When you use a piece of information in your writing that you learned from another source that source must be referenced. Information taken verbatim must be quoted to give the original author credit; information that is paraphrased must be referenced. Failing to reference your sources is a form of academic misconduct.

All the work that you hand in must represent your own independent and unique work. It should be distinct from that of every other student in the class. If you have questions about this, please ask – it is best to resolve these issues in advance.

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The Grade of “Incomplete”

In accordance with University policy: “The grade of Incomplete (I) 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 (The Code of Student Conduct, <http://www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/StudentCodeOfConduct.pdf> .”

To be clear, an Incomplete is not a way of avoiding a bad grade on your record, or lightening your academic workload after having missed the last drop or withdraw date. An Incomplete will be granted only in those cases that fit the above guidelines.

Important Registration Information

Check the CSU Registrar’s website for the last date for dropping or withdrawing from this course: <http://www.csuohio.edu/enrollmentservices/registrar>

Before dropping or withdrawing, be sure you know whether or not carrying fewer credit hours will impact your financial aid, assistantship, or scholarship by contacting Financial Aid at Campus 411: www.csuohio.edu/enrollmentservices/campus411/

Cancellation of Class Due to Weather

Class will not be cancelled due to weather unless the University is closed. Check CSU’s main webpage (www.csuohio.edu) for announcements. If CSU is open, class will proceed as scheduled, including any exams or deadlines that are scheduled for that class.

Disability Services

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 immediately. The Office is located in MC 147. Accommodations need to be requested in advance and will not be granted retroactively.

GENERAL EDUCATION, WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM, AND INFORMATION LITERACY

General Education Statement: This course is approved as a General Education 08 course meeting the requirements for Social Science. Skill areas for this class include Information Literacy and Critical Thinking. This course also meets Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) requirements.

Skill Area: Critical Thinking Criteria

1. This course requires that at least 15% of the student’s grade in the course is based on an evaluation of critical thinking.
2. This course requires students to attain skills beyond lower-level knowledge, thereby requiring skills that involve the use of content knowledge (e.g. finding information to solve a problem).

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Skill Area: Information Literacy

1. Designate that at least 15% of the student's grade in the course is based on an evaluation of information literacy.
2. Require students to evaluate the accuracy, authority, currency, objectivity, and reliability of information sources.
3. Require students to address the ethical and legal uses of information.

Writing Across the Curriculum Criteria

This course also fulfills the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) requirement. The criteria for meeting the WAC requirement are:

1. The course requires students to write between 3,000 and 5,000 words (10-14 pages, double-spaced, in 12-point font, with 1" margins) in writing assignments (which may include drafts).
2. Final versions of at least one assignment should total at least 2,000 words (eight pages).
3. The course teaches students writing-to-learn strategies that foster students' experiences in learning, and writing-to-communicate strategies that foster students' respect of readers' experiences. Whenever possible, planning assignments (e.g. reading logs, pre-writing strategies) and peer reviews will be included in class assignments.
4. Students will be assigned writing complex enough to require substantive revision for most students. Students will be given feedback to assist them in preparing subsequent papers or drafts of papers. This feedback will consist of more than mechanical correction of punctuation and grammar.
5. The course provides instruction in discipline-appropriate forms of texts, arguments, evidence, style, audience, and citation. Students will be required to use the American Psychological Association (APA) style. The CSU Library website lists citation guides including links to the APA style guide: <http://www.ulib.csuohio.edu/research/vrd/citations.html>; or go to the APA website, <http://www.apastyle.org/>
6. There will be writing assignments throughout the semester.
7. The course will address the needs of students regarding library competency.
8. In order to receive a C or better in the course, students must write at a satisfactory skill level (C or better). If the student's writing is weak, but shows understanding of the course material, the student may be assigned a D, in which case WAC credit will not be received for the course.

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CALENDAR OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

This schedule is subject to change. You are responsible for changes announced in class, and/or by email, and/or by Blackboard.

COURSE SCHEDULE DELETED

SAMPLE