

GEOGRAPHY 2060B: WORLD CITIES

(Winter 2017)

[Department of Geography](#)
Western University

Weekly Class Schedule: Tuesdays: 2.30 — 4.30pm Hours: 2 hours	Location: 3M-3250
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Instructor: Dr. Vincent Kuuire	Email: zkuuire@uwo.ca
Office Location: SSC 2223	Office Hours: Tuesdays 1:30 – 2.30pm or by appointment

Teaching Assistants	Office Number	Office Hours
Lydia Osei losei3@uwo.ca	SSC 1424	TBA or by appointment
Laura Peach lpeach3@uwo.ca	SSC 3107	TBA or by appointment

Important dates:

Tues Jan 10:	First day of classes
Week of Feb 20:	Reading Week
Fri Apr 7:	Last day of classes
Apr 9-30:	Exam period

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course delves into some of the major cities around the world. As an introductory urban geography course, it aims to introduce students to basic concepts related to urbanisation and the numerous issues which contemporary cities deal with. For each city, topics which will be discussed in class include the urban form, urban sprawl, cultural make up, political issues, social issues, environmental concerns and city economies.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course students should:

- Develop a critical understanding of key (urban geography) concepts related to world cities.
- Have detailed knowledge of cities from the developed and developing world and possess an understanding of the key issues (i.e. constraints and opportunities) in these cities.
- Be able to compare and contrast these and other world cities based on their various opportunities and constraints in the global economy.

READINGS

Lectures for this course will draw extensively from the textbook listed below. Students are recommended to read assigned chapters for the respective lectures. A copy of this book is available

on reserve at Weldon. In addition to this text, other relevant materials will be uploaded regularly to OWL.

- Cities of the World: World Regional Urban Development
by Stanley Brunn, Maureen Hays-Mitchell, & Donald Zeigler
ISBN: 1442212845

EVALUATION METHODS AND COMPONENTS

Evaluation is split among participation and attendance, a mid-term, independent research report and a final exam.

Component	Value	Date
Participation and Attendance	5%	Weekly attendance
Mid-term	30%	February 28 2017
Five (5) page research paper	25%	Friday April 4 2017
Final Exam	40%	TBA
Total	100%	

COURSE SCHEDULE

Lecture	Date	Topic	Reading
1.	January 10	Urban Development and Urbanization	Chapter 1
2.	January 17	The United States & Canada	Chapter 2
3.	January 24	Central/South America	Chapters 3/4
4.	February 7	Europe/ Russia	Chapters 5/6
5.	February 14	The Greater Middle East	Chapter 7
6.	February 21	NO LECTURE (Reading Week)	
7.	February 28	MIDTERM	
8.	March 7	Sub-Saharan Africa	Chapter 8
9.	March 14	South/Southeast Asia	Chapters 9/10
10.	March 21	East Asia	Chapter 11
11.	March 28	Australia and the Pacific Islands	Chapter 12
12.	April 4	The future of world cities/big issues/course review	Chapter 13

PLEASE NOTE

Course content and order of presentations may deviate from this general outline due to unforeseen circumstances.

ON STUDENT LEARNING

Students are expected to display a deep sense of respect for the shared learning environment. Among other things this requires that all students show respect for fellow students, Teaching Assistants, guests lecturers and the instructor. My pledge to students in this class is to deliver well-prepared lectures each week, provide you clear, unambiguous and fair course expectations and be available for issues you for which you require help (via office hours and e-mail). In return, here are some expectations that I hope you will consider: exit and re-enter the room quietly if you need to make a phone call or use the washroom, enter the room quietly and quickly find a seat if you are late, make an effort to participate during lectures, introduce yourself to some of your classmates, and be

willing to participate in small-group discussions. Do not distract the instructor or other students if you must talk to a colleague while lectures are in session. If you make use of a laptop during the lecture period, I encourage you to Google concepts and cities (especially with Google Streetview) to enhance your learning experience.

COURSE WEB PAGE (OWL)

During the term, information pertaining to lecture, examination, assignments and other course-related matters will be posted on the course website. Please note that copies of my lecture notes will appear on the website prior to lecture. Please remember that these are meant to serve as templates, and are no substitute for attendance, well-taken notes, and active participation in class discussions.

QUESTIONS, OFFICE HOURS AND E-MAIL PROTOCOLS

The instructor and TAs will hold office hours each week. We much prefer to speak with you and answer questions in person rather than e-mail. If you choose to send an e-mail, we will endeavour to reply to you as expediently as possible but please note that the subject line **MUST** include the phrase "GEOG 2060". Please use your Western e-mail account to send us messages. Your e-mails may not be received if they are sent via servers such as gmail, yahoo and Hotmail.

Please adhere to the following protocols in your e-mail communications with the instructor and TAs:

- All communication should be concise and exhibit proper decorum.
- Emails should only be sent when you have personal questions pertaining to the course.
- Please avoid asking questions which have been addressed in the course outline.
- Emails will be checked daily (except on weekends). Please allow up to ~36 hours for a response.
- Students are strongly advised to seek face-to-face help during office hours.

ACCOMMODATION

For UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness and a downloadable SMC see: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf
Downloadable Student Medical Certificate (SMC): http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/medicalform.pdf

Students seeking academic accommodation on medical grounds for any missed tests, exams, participation components and/or assignments worth 10% or more of their final grade must apply to the Academic Counselling office of their home Faculty and provide documentation. Academic accommodation cannot be granted by the instructor or department.

Students with special accommodation will write make-up tests and examinations administered by the department on Fridays during respective periods of fall and winter terms. To prevent prior disclosure, the format and contents of make-ups may differ substantially from the scheduled test or examination.

No electronic devices will be allowed during tests and examinations.

STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC OFFENCES

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf.

Additionally, all required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and Turnitin.com (<http://www.turnitin.com>).

Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

MENTAL HEALTH

If you or someone you know is experiencing distress, there are several resources here at Western to assist you. Please visit the site below for more information on mental health resources: <http://www.uwo.ca/uwocom/mentalhealth/>.

WESTERN'S COMMITMENT TO ACCESSIBILITY

The University of Western Ontario is committed to achieving barrier free accessibility for persons studying, visiting and working at Western.

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation.

SUPPORT SERVICES

Registrarial Services: <http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/>

Student Development Services: <http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/>

RESEARCH PAPER REQUIREMENTS

You will submit a completed research paper (due Friday April 4, 2017).

The research paper is designed to provide you with experience in researching and writing a substantial paper: it also allows you to focus on key concepts on urbanisation and cities covered in the course which are of particular interest to you.

Select a global city of your choice and write a report on the key constraints and opportunities available to residents. While you must cover relevant themes covered in class you have the freedom to delve into areas and themes relevant to your individual case studies which may not have been covered in class. Your essay should present a thorough coverage of your chosen city. Papers should not exceed 5 pages (excluding bibliography, tables and figures) and should be typed/word-processed (double spacing). You are expected to write grammatically and use an accepted referencing system. Clear, concise persuasive writing is expected and will be rewarded in the marking. The paper should be all your own work and it should be written only for this course. Place particular emphasis on presenting your issues in a logical fashion. Begin with a clear introduction to the paper and end with

a substantial conclusion that synthesizes the various points you have made. Include a bibliography and refer to sources of information as often as possible in the text.

LATE ASSIGNMENT SUBMISSIONS

Please note that the assignment due date is fixed. Late assignments will be accepted without penalty if I have been given a suitable reason well in advance of the due date or in the case of unforeseeable circumstances (e.g., loss of a family member, sickness). Please note that official documentation (e.g., medical certificate, letter from university counsellors or medical staff) should be provided as evidence if such circumstances arise. Where no prior suitable explanation is given, three (3) marks (out of 35) will be deducted for each day the paper is late. Assignments submitted one week (seven days) after the deadline will not be accepted. Students are strongly advised to start their assignment several weeks prior to their due date.