UP 185 Cities in a Global Perspective
Department of Urban and Regional Planning @UIUC
Spring 2014 Tuesday and Thursday 9:30-10:50 AM, 166 Bevier Hall
Instructor: Professor Faranak Miraftab faranak@illinois.edu
Office: 218 Temple Buell Hall
Office hours: Thursdays 11:00-12:00
TA: Edwin Carlos Müller III, ecmulle2@illinois.edu

Course Description and Overview
This course consists of the study of cities around the world to provide an understanding of the social, political, cultural and economic forces that shape the cities in the context of globalization. Examples of cities from a range of countries including Iran, Mexico, Chile, India, Brazil, Canada, Australia, South Africa and the US will be included in the lectures and course readings. The course aims to provide:

1) A global perspective on the processes of urbanization.
2) An understanding of the social, historical cultural and economic forces that shape cities and urban life in them.
3) The analytical skills that unfold the processes of globalization and how they influence and account for urban formation.

Teaching Methods and Expectations
This is a lecture class that includes individual and group assignments. Students’ participation in class and careful reading of the assigned material are crucial for students’ ability to process the course material. Audio/visual material will be used to assist students understand the relationship between the local and global context of urban habitat.

Use of laptops and other electronic devices: Students are to write down their lecture notes. No laptops are allowed to be used during the class sessions. Use of laptops, netbooks and cell phones are distracting and not admissible in this class. Print out assigned readings and bring a copy of the papers to the class for discussion.

Attendance: Attendance is a pre-requisite for passing the class. Please pay attention if you miss more than 3 classes without a doctor’s note you will risk failing the course. The instructor has discretion to fail students who have more than three medically certified absences during the semester. We are not in the position to judge the validity of the reasons you miss a class. If you miss a class please refrain from writing to instructor and asking what you missed.

Academic Integrity: Cheating and plagiarism of any kind will be investigated and penalized in accord with Rule 33 (Academic Integrity) of the University’s Code of Policies and Regulations Pertaining to All Students. (This may be found at the following URL: www.uiuc.edu/admin_manual/code/rule_33.html). The definitions of plagiarism contained in Rule 33 include papers or portions of papers purchased or otherwise plagiarized from Internet sources. You should note that penalties include failing the course and having a letter inserted into your permanent file. All students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Code’s definitions of infractions of academic integrity.

Respect in the classroom and other learning environments: By enrolling in a course at the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, students agree to be responsible for maintaining a respectful environment in all DURP activities, including lectures, discussions, labs, projects, and extracurricular programs. We will be governed by the University Student Code. See Student Code Article 1—Student Rights and Responsibilities, Part 1. Student Rights: §1-102 http://www.admin.uiuc.edu/policy/code/article_1/a1_1-102.html
Course Evaluation

The final grade has the following components:

1. **Assignment one: Trip around the world (three google maps)**  up to 21 points
   exploration of three cities via audio visual material — one city in each of the following continents: Africa, Asia and Latin America. List of the cities will be provided.

   You do not have to but if you wish you may choose one of the cities that are listed for the assignment two.

   **Assignment Two: Understanding cities (one group essay and peer review):**  up to 26 points.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Essay</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peer review</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Choose one of the cities Below:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America: Sao Palo; Mexico City</td>
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<td>Asia: Shanghai; Mumbai</td>
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<td>Africa: Cape Town; Cairo</td>
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2. **Quizzes**  18 points

   There are 4 quizzes during the semester. Each quiz has 6 points. We will choose the three quizzes for which you received the best scores. Students are required to respond to quiz questions on assigned readings and course lectures.

3. **Final take home exam**  30 points

   Final exam is open book take home and reflective. It includes essay questions to assess students’ comprehension of overall concepts, relationships and ideas discussed in lectures and assigned readings throughout the semester.

4. **Active participation**  Up to 5 points

   o Attendance (this is a pre-requisite for passing the class. Please pay attention if you do not attend class regularly you will not risk losing 5% of the grade you will risk failing the course. The instructor has discretion to fail students who have more than three absences during the semester.

   o Participation in class discussions

   o Participation in “sharing” space within Compass.

   Active participation of students in discussion of readings is expected. Although attendance is necessary for participation; it is not a sufficient indicator of students’ participation. Students are expected to actively take part in opportunities for class discussion by sharing their reflections on the relationship between the lecture material, the assigned readings, the students own material collected in their Trip Around the World exercises and their group project. Moreover, there will be a designated space on Compass called “Students Sharing.” In this space students could ask each other for help and also offer each other information that they think can be of use and interest to others. The extent to which students help others out by offering tips and sharing important sites or information they have found useful or by answering questions their classmates post in that space, is an important component of students participation grade.

Total = 100 points
Total Points to Letter grades

A+ = 100 - 99;
A    = 98 - 92;
A-   = 91 - 90;
B+   = 89;
B    = 88 - 82;
B-   = 81 - 80;
C+   = 79;
C    = 78 - 72;
C-   = 71 - 70;
D+   = 69;
D    = 68 - 62;
D-   = 61 - 60;
F    = 59 – 0.

Required Reading:

Required readings for this course can be downloaded from the course Compass site.

To improve your effective reading skills see the handout posted on compass titled: TEN STEPS TO CRITICAL READING.

To improve your academic writing skills see the handout posted on compass titled: GUIDE TO WRITING EFFECTIVE ESSAYS.

At UIUC campus consider one to one consultations with the Writers Workshop http://www.cws.illinois.edu/workshop/ make appointment through their website.

Also consult the Purdue University’s OWL (Online Writing Lab) http://owl.english.purdue.edu This is probably the most comprehensive collection of writing information on the web. For English as a Second Language (ESL) Handouts and Resources see http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/esl/ This page is an index of all of the ESL materials available at the Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab).
The Course at a Glance

Getting Started

Why study cities?
Conceptual framework: How to study cities?

Historical Underpinnings

Pre-colonial cities
City as a holistic cultural product and process (I)
City as a holistic cultural product and process (II)
Case study: Desert region of Iran

Colonialism
Colonial city
Case study: Mexico City; Delhi; Australian cities

Urbanization of Development

Urbanization
City as “progress and modernity”
Development: theories and paradigms
Development and urbanization: primate city, mega cities, global cities
Mega projects: case study Dubai

Migration
Rural-urban; local global

Urban Informality

Informal Housing
Squatters, irregular settlements
Case study: Mexico, Chile, South Africa

Informal Economy
Case study: Mexico, West Africa

Basic services and sanitation
Water, waste, basic services
Case study: South Africa

Urban Governance
Urban governance, participation and citizenship
Case studies: Brazil, India

Local-Global Connections

Note: FOR DETAILED ACTIVITIES AND ASSIGNED READINGS SEE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES