**UP 204, SPRING 2016**

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Office: Temple Hoyne Buell Hall, Room 224  
Office Hours: Th: 10:00–11:30 AM (or by appt.)

**Chicago: Planning and Urban Life**

Lecture: M,W 11:00–11:50 PM (Room 225)  
Lab: F 10:00–10:50 AM or 11:00–11:50 AM (Room 227)  
Location: Temple Hoyne Buell Hall  
Teaching Assistant: Miriam Keep  
E-mail: keep2@illinois.edu

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**Course Description**

With nearly 3 million residents, Chicago ranks as the third largest city in the United States. This thriving metropolis is a vibrant place to live and work with a very rich history. It has served as a living laboratory for social scientists for much of that history and continues to offer many lessons for urban planners. UP 204 provides a broad introduction to social science theories and analysis methods and uses the city of Chicago as a semester-long case study to examine how people, communities, and governments plan a city. The cities of St. Louis and Indianapolis are occasionally leveraged to draw comparisons and place topics of discussion within a broader regional context. This course focuses on describing, explaining, and ultimately understanding cities and regions, through the lens of Chicago. The city is unique, yet exemplifies many of the qualities and conflicts that make urban areas interesting. To analyze the structure and development of the city and its region the course draws upon theories and methods of several social science disciplines including economics, geography, political science, anthropology, and sociology. Specific topics presented and discussed in this course are drawn from urban history; urban sociology; economics of urban and regional growth; urban and regional structure; urban form and function; urban government and politics; and the planning profession.

**Learning Objectives**

The overall objective of the course is to stimulate thinking about the complexity, role, values, and problems of urban and regional systems, and to raise awareness about the importance of planning and designing for quality urban environments. Students who have successfully completed UP 204 will be able to:

1. Distinguish key historical phases of urban development.
2. Discuss the process, forces, and factors of urbanization.
3. Apply fundamental social science theories and models of urban and regional structure.
4. Identify the three fundamental dimensions of sustainability.
5. Summarize each of these dimensions and articulate examples of how they are related within an urban planning context.
6. Debate issues and topics related to contemporary urban life.
7. Describe the social life, activities, and interactions of people in urban environments.
8. Use publicly available data and standard computer software to conduct basic analyses.
9. Develop an integrated vision for sustainability that embraces their personal lives, professions, local communities, and the world-at-large.
10. Understand relationships between global environmental and economic trends and their impact on diverse cultures and communities.

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*Syllabus is subject to revision.*
COURSE FORMAT

UP 204 follows a lecture and discussion format. Specifically, the Monday and Wednesday meetings consist of a lecture that presents the primary themes and concepts from the assigned readings, with an opportunity for questions and comments from students. The Friday sessions alternate between: (1) structured discussion of topics related to the lectures and readings and (2) lab exercises that involve data collection and analysis.

REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION

Students are expected to attend and participate during class meetings. The class participation component of the final grade consists of (1) attendance at lecture and discussion sessions as well as (2) active involvement in the discussion, careful listening, and respect for the opinions of others. The periodic Independent Research Assignments also count towards class participation. At the date of the midterm exam, you will receive a written evaluation of your class participation to date. This is intended to provide an opportunity for students to make adjustments, as necessary.

Most weeks there will be a lab exercise or structured discussion session and each student is expected to submit a short report (1-2 pages) following the Friday morning meeting. The details of these lab reports and reaction papers will be specified in the instructions distributed at the beginning of each discussion or lab session. It is imperative that students complete the assigned readings in order to effectively complete the lab exercises and participate in the structured discussion.

There will also be a midterm examination that will focus on the concepts covered in lecture and applied in the discussion (lab) sessions. A study guide will be distributed two weeks prior to the date of the exam to help students prepare. Students will form groups (2 students) to create and present an ArcGIS Story Map that focuses on one or more issues that you see as particularly important for the future of Chicago. More detailed instructions and a brief tutorial will be provided. The remainder of the final grade is derived from a final exam, with a study guide distributed two weeks prior to the date of this exam as well. The weight assigned to each of these elements is shown in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSIGNMENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>Class Participation</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lab Exercises (8)</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<td>Reaction Papers (6)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midterm Exam</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>ArcGIS Story Map &amp; Presentation (groups of two students)</td>
<td>15%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
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Assignments must be submitted via the Compass website by 5:00 PM on the day that they are due, unless otherwise noted. If Compass crashes or is unavailable, please send the assignment to the instructor and teaching assistant via email attachment. In fairness to all students, ten points will be deducted for late assignments, with an additional ten points deducted for each subsequent day until it is received. No exceptions can be made without a formal notice from the Emergency Dean. Due dates for assignments are not flexible, so please make your travel plans and schedule other commitments accordingly.

The final grade for the course is derived from the components listed above, subject to the percentage weights listed in the preceding table. All of these components are scored on a 100 point scale, which makes it easy for students to gauge their standing as the semester progresses—grades are not curved.

Syllabus is subject to revision.
Detailed instructions for completing each assignment will be provided. Submitted assignments will be graded and returned promptly with detailed feedback. The general grading rubric is as follows:

- An assignment at the A level demonstrates original thought and synthesis of ideas, sophisticated, cogent analysis, and is clearly written or presented. Outstanding work.
- An assignment at the B level presents above average analysis with appropriate evidence to support the ideas and is clearly written or presented. Very good work.
- An assignment at the C level shows a basic level of understanding, with analysis limited to the most obvious arguments. Writing is competent. Adequate work.
- An assignment at the D level misunderstands or misrepresents the material, or is so poorly written or presented as to obscure the analysis. Inadequate work.

In academic discourse, your opinions must be supported with appropriate evidence and logical arguments. Your grade will reflect the quality of your work and fulfillment of the expectations outlined in this syllabus.

**READING MATERIAL**

There is no required text for this course. All assigned readings and supplementary material have been posted on the UP 204 Compass website: [https://compass2g.illinois.edu](https://compass2g.illinois.edu)
COURSE POLICIES

Disability Services: This course will accommodate students with documented disabilities. Please refer to the Disability Resource Guide (http://www.disability.illinois.edu/disability-resource-guide) for more information and inform the instructor of any requests at the beginning of the semester.

Academic Integrity: The UIUC Student Code (http://www.admin.illinois.edu/policy/code) requires all students to support academic integrity and abide by its provisions, which prohibit cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitation of these and related infractions. According to Section § 1-401, “students have been given notice of this rule by virtue of its publication” and “regardless of whether a student has actually read this rule, a student is charged with knowledge of it.” The provisions of the Student Code are applicable to this course. In written work, all ideas (as well as data or other information) that are not your own must be cited.

Diversity: The Department of Urban and Regional Planning (DURP) is committed to creating an environment of inclusion and opportunity that is rooted in the very goals and responsibilities of practicing planners. Conduct that interferes with the rights of another or creates an atmosphere of intimidation or disrespect is inconsistent with the environment of learning and cooperation that the program requires. By enrolling a course in 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. Please see the Student Code Article I—Student Rights and Responsibilities for further details (http://admin.illinois.edu/policy/code).
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<td>Lab: Measuring and Monitoring Sustainability</td>
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<td>The Origins of Cities and Chicago’s Early Years</td>
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<td>Conflict and Central City Decline</td>
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<td>Lab: Employment Decentralization and Transportation Policy</td>
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<td>Mar-2</td>
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<td>The Foreclosure Crisis: Drive Until You Qualify?</td>
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<td>Discussion: Chicago on the Local &amp; National Stage</td>
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<td>Overview of ArcGIS Story Maps (James Whitacre)</td>
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<td>Homelessness and the Regulation of Public Spaces</td>
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<td>Lab: Identifying Food Deserts</td>
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<td>*** DRAFT ARCGIS STORY MAPS DUE ***</td>
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<td>Apr-22</td>
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<td>Lab: Mapping Housing Affordability</td>
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<td>40</td>
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<td>Apr-25</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>*** NO CLASS (Work on ArcGIS Story Map) ***</td>
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<td>Apr-27</td>
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<td>Climate Change Impacts in the City</td>
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<td>Lab: Visualizing Vulnerability to Extreme Heat Events</td>
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<td>May-2</td>
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<td>Student Presentations: ArcGIS Story Maps</td>
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<td>May-4</td>
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<td>Student Presentations: ArcGIS Story Maps</td>
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<td>May-11</td>
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<td>*** FINAL EXAM ***</td>
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SESSION TOPICS AND READINGS

Week 1—Themes and Topics: why study cities, sustainability as lens, Chicago as a case study

Introduction and Overview (1/20)


Browse the Sustainable Chicago 2015 report and reflect on how the city has defined sustainability.

Lab Exercise (1/22):

Students choose several indicators of sustainability and use historical data to assess and track general progress towards sustainability over time in Chicago.

Week 2—Themes and Topics: regulation, comprehensive plan, participatory planning processes, public participation, advocacy

Urban Policy and Planning: The Role of the Planner (1/25)


Browse the Department of Planning and Development, Chicago Plan Commission, and Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning websites to get a sense for what these organizations do.

Participation and Consensus-Building (1/27)


Discussion Session (1/29):

Structured discussion of the assigned readings with particular attention to the bus rapid transit (BRT) proposal along the Ashland corridor as a case study.

Week 3—Themes and Topics: division of labor, agricultural primacy, Northwest Territory, Native American removal, industrialization, railroads, Civil War, Pullman Strike, World’s Columbian Exposition, Great Migration, race riots, Progressivism, settlement houses

The Origins of Cities and Chicago’s Early Years (2/1)

Independent Research: Using websites, videos, and texts as source materials, research the questions listed on the Compass site for today’s session and come to class prepared to discuss them in small groups. You should also make a note of the sources you are drawing upon.

Syllabus is subject to revision.
Impacts of Industrialization (2/3)


Lab Exercise (2/5):

Data from the U.S. Census Bureau are collected and analyzed to examine demographic trends in and around the city of Chicago. Location quotients and other measures of economic specialization are calculated to document changes in Chicago’s economy over time. Microsoft Excel will be used to perform the data analysis.

Week 4—Themes and Topics: Great Depression, New Deal, redlining, suburbanization, federal policy

The Modern Era: Foundations of Chicagoland (2/8)


Perception and Reality in Suburbia (2/10)

Independent Research: Using websites, videos, and texts as source materials, research the questions listed on the Compass site for today’s session and come to class prepared to discuss them in small groups. You should also make a note of the sources you are drawing upon.

Discussion Session (2/12):

Screening of 30 minute video entitled The New Metropolis (2009), followed by a structured discussion of the video in the broader context of the assigned readings.

Week 5—Themes and Topics: urban renewal, segregation, contested spaces, disinvestment, spatial mismatch

Race, Urban Renewal, and Deindustrialization (2/15)


Conflict and Central City Decline (2/17)


Browse The Night Chicago Burned and reflect on how it fits with the broader themes of segregation,
suburbanization, and urban renewal.

**Lab Exercise (2/19):**

The relative location of employment centers and high poverty areas in the greater Chicago area are considered within the broader context of existing transportation infrastructure (both automobile and transit). Implications for transportation policy and investments are drawn using data from the Census Bureau and City of Chicago’s Department of Planning.

**Week 6—Themes and Topics:** neoliberalism, globalization, privatization

**Capitalism and the Entrepreneurial City (2/22)**


Browse the city’s Plan for Economic Growth to get a sense for how Chicago is approaching economic development.

**Chicago as a Global City (2/24)**


Browse the Tax Increment Financing Districts Map on the City of Chicago Data Portal to get a sense for how TIF Districts are distributed across the city.

**Discussion Session (2/26):**

Students are divided into “pro” and “con” groups and tasked with preparing arguments either supporting or opposing the privatization of parking meters in Chicago using materials provided during the session. After a brief preparation period, each side presents their case with the Teaching Assistant acting as facilitator.

**Week 7—Themes and Topics:** central business district, transportation costs, monocentric city, polycentric city, urban hierarchy, central place theory, Richmond California

**Urban Spatial Structure: Bid-Rent Theory (2/29)**


**The Foreclosure Crisis: Drive Until You Qualify? (3/2)**

**Independent Research:** Using websites, videos, and texts as source materials, research the questions listed on the Compass site for today’s session and come to class prepared to discuss them in small groups. You should also make a note of the sources you are drawing upon.

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*Syllabus is subject to revision.*
**Lab Exercise (3/4):**

Population and employment density data are used to test the monocentric model in the Chicago metropolitan area. Microsoft Excel will be used to perform the data analysis.

**Week 8—Themes and Topics:** representative democracy, elite theory, pluralism, machine politics

*Urban Politics: Who Governs? (3/7)*


**Midterm Exam (3/9):**

Brief in-class examination focuses on key concepts and points from the readings and lectures.

*Discussion Session (3/11):*

Structured discussion of Chicago’s role in national, regional, and local political discourse leading up to the March 15th primaries and elections.

**Week 9—Themes and Topics:** what is culture, invasion and succession, ethnic enclaves, notion of community, political economy

*Urban Sociology: Community and Culture (3/14)*


*Overview of ArcGIS Story Maps—Guest Speaker (3/16)*

James Whitacre will provide an overview of ArcGIS Story Maps and how this tool can be used to communicate using maps, text, images, and other media. In preparation, please read the following:


*Independent Research:* Please familiarize yourself with the [ArcGIS Story Maps website](https://www.arcgis.com), paying particular attention to examples found in the “Gallery.” You will be asked to upload a very brief summary of your findings and reactions to these examples prior to coming to class.

*Discussion Session (3/18):*

Structured discussion of the assigned readings with particular attention to contrasts in definitions of community and culture as well as lenses for studying social interaction within urban areas. Students bring written responses to the questions “what is community” and “what is culture” to class and share these within
breakout groups. Insights from the group discussions are then shared with the entire class.

**Week 10—Themes and Topics:** local government finance, tax base, revenue sharing, living wage, income inequality

*Balancing the Budget: Local Government Finance (3/28)*


*Sustainable Economic Development (3/30)*


*Discussion Session (4/1):*

Structured discussion of the assigned readings with particular attention to arguments for and against raising the minimum wage as a means of alleviating poverty and spurring economic growth.

**Week 11—Themes and Topics:** dissimilarity index, ethnic diversity, crime, mass incarceration, gated community, policing

*Segregation in the City (4/4)*


*Crime and Fear in the City (4/6)*


[Chicago Violence, Homicides and Shootings Up In 2015](#) (click the link to the left in order to read the newspaper article)

Browse the [Crimes Map](#) on the City of Chicago Data Portal to get a sense for how reported crimes in the past year vary across neighborhoods.

*Lab Exercise (4/8):*

Common measures of dissimilarity and isolation are calculated to assess the degree of racial and income segregation in Chicago. Microsoft Excel will be used to perform the data analysis.
Week 12—Themes and Topics: exclusionary zoning, concentration of poverty, property values, homelessness, production of space

Urban Poverty and Policy Responses (4/11)


Homelessness and the Regulation of Public Spaces (4/13)


Lab Exercise (4/15):

Data from multiple sources will be used to map access to grocery stores in Chicago. Students will interpret the maps created in the broader context of the food deserts and recent policy initiatives to address this issue.

ArcGIS Story Maps—Submit Draft

Students will submit a draft of the ArcGIS Story Map for review by 5:00 pm on April 15th. A draft showing adequate progress must be submitted in order to receive full credit for the ArcGIS Story Map assignment.

Week 13—Themes and Topics: affordability, revitalization, displacement, property rights

Housing Policy and Gentrification (4/18)


Independent Research: Using websites, videos, and texts as source materials, research the questions listed on the Compass site for today’s session and come to class prepared to discuss them in small groups. You should also make a note of the sources you are drawing upon.

Planning for Affordable Housing in Chicago (4/20)


Lab Exercise (4/22):

Maps and Census data are used to assess the spatial distribution of existing affordable housing in Chicago.
and also to identify areas that are good candidates for future affordable housing developments.

**Week 14—Themes and Topics:** greenhouse gas emissions, climate change, flooding, food security

*No Class Meeting—Work on ArcGIS Story Maps (4/25)*

Please use this time to work on the ArcGIS Story Map. No assigned readings.

If you are having trouble or questions arise, please consult with James Whitacre at the [Scholarly Commons](#) by [requesting an appointment](#) for the afternoon of April 25th.

*Climate Change Impacts in the City (4/27)*


*Lab Exercise (4/29):*

We will use ArcGIS to evaluate current and projected vulnerability to extreme heat events in Chicago. What are the implications of rising temperatures in urban areas for planning, public health, and emergency management?

**Week 15—Themes and Topics:** the future of cities, challenges and opportunities facing Chicago

*Student Presentations of ArcGIS Story Maps (5/2)*

In class discussion. No assigned readings.

*Student Presentations of ArcGIS Story Maps (5/4)*

In class discussion. No assigned readings.

**Final Exam (5/11)**

The final exam will be administered on Wednesday May 11th from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm according to the schedule on the registrar’s website.