THE CITY – INTRODUCTION TO AN URBAN GEOGRAPHY
01:450:241

Dr. Tisha Bender

Lucy Stone Hall B115
Tues/Thurs 1.40 - 3.00 pm

Contact Information:
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Office hours and location: After classes

Course Description:
This is an interdisciplinary course on various aspects of the city, spanning geographical, political, climactic, psychological and socioeconomic analysis.

Course Goals:
This course satisfies a CC, and either an HST or SCL Analysis requirement in the SAS Core Curriculum.

CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES [CC] * Analyze the degree to which forms of human difference shape a person's experiences of and perspectives on contemporary issues.
* Analyze a contemporary global issue from a multidisciplinary perspective.
* Analyze the relationship that science and technology have to a contemporary social issue
* Analyze contemporary issues of social justice.

AND EITHER

SOCIAL ANALYSIS [SCL] * Understand different theories about human culture, social identity, economic entities, political systems, and other forms of social organization.
* Employ tools of social scientific reasoning to study particular questions or situations, using appropriate assumptions, methods, evidence, and arguments.

OR

HISTORICAL [HST] * Students will be able to understand the development of human endeavours over time and space.
* Students will be able to explain the development of ideas and social changes over time.

Please note: Credit not given for 01:450:250 course and 01:450:240 or 01:450:241
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Reading:

Additional readings will be posted on our Sakai site, and include:
- de Botton, A., "On Habit," from The Art of Travel, May 11, 2004
- Caro, R., "One Mile," from The Power Broker, July 12, 1975
- Jacobs, J., "Unslumming and Slumming," from The Death and Life of Great American Cities, 1961
- Gallagher, Leigh, The End of the Suburbs: Where the American Dream is Moving, 2013

And other readings, films and videos will be provided with a link (as listed within the Schedule)

Requirements and Evaluation:
- You are encouraged to participate in class discussions. Participation in Discussion = 10%
- Optional Presentation, "Around the World in 80 Minutes," for extra credit of up to 5%
- Midterm = 40%
- Final Paper = 50%
- You are required to attend every class. After 6 absences a student cannot pass the course

Schedule: (There may be some flexibility in this schedule)

September 4th: Introduction to course and each other

September 6th: Read and discuss de Botton, "On Habit," and discuss mental maps/perceived space.
Listen to *Radiolab* on Cities at http://www.radiolab.org/2010/oct/08/

**September 11th and 13th: Impact of Transportation on Cities:**
Read and discuss Glaeser (pp 1-15), pp (167-174) and (pp104-106). Watch and discuss the films, *New York Underground*, and *Taken for a Ride.*

**September 18th and 20th: Impact of Industrialisation on Cities:**
Read and discuss “Garment Industry History Initiative,” at http://www.gothamcenter.org/garment-industry-history-partnership.html#
Read and discuss Glaeser, (pp 41-58).

**September 25th: Impact of Industrialisation on Cities (continued):**
Watch and discuss the film, *Detroit: Ruin of a City*.

**September 27th: Slums and Shanty towns:**
Read and discuss Glaeser (pp 93-95). Watch and discuss excerpts from the film, *Slumdog Millionaire*, and Kevin McCloud “Slumming it”

**October 2nd and 4th: Eminent Domain and Urban Renewal:**

**October 9th and 11th: Eminent Domain and Urban Renewal (continued):**

**October 16th and 18th: Midterm and Ethnic Neighbourhoods:**

**October 23rd and 25th: Environmental Justice:**
Read and discuss Glaeser (pp 199-222)
Read and discuss “Liberty State Park,” NJ Department of Environmental Protection, at http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks/liberty.html
Read and “The High Line History” at http://www.thehighline.org/about

**October 30th: Environmental Justice (continued):**
Watch and discuss Carter’s *Greening the Ghetto* TED 2006 at http://www.ted.com/talks/majora_carter_s_tale_of_urban_renewal.html

**November 1st: Gentrification:**
Watch and discuss the film, *Delivered Vacant*.

**November 6th and 8th: Suburbs and Exurbs:**
Read and discuss Gallagher (pp 61-72, 81-103)

**November 13th and 15th: The New Urbanism:**
Read and discuss Gallagher (pp 4-23, 119-122) and watch TED talks: https://www.ted.com/talks/ellen_dunham_jones_retrofitting_suburbia https://www.ted.com/talks/james_howard_kunstler_dissects_suburbia
November 20th: Tiny Apartments, Airbnb and the Sharing Economy:

November 22nd: No Class (Thanksgiving)

November 27th and 29th: Globalisation, MegaCities and Cities of the Future:
Read and discuss Glaeser (pp 224-231, 244-246). Watch excerpts from and discuss Andrew Marr’s BBC documentary, “Megacities: Cities of the Future” - Listen to http://www.wnyc.org/story/building-smart-cities/

December 4th and 6th: Global Climate Change and its Impact on Cities:
Watch and discuss the film, Trouble the Water, and discuss the impact of Superstorm Sandy locally.

December 11th: Wrap Up: What do we now Understand about Cities?

Student-Wellness Services:

Just In Case Web App
http://codu.co/cee05e
Access helpful mental health information and resources for yourself or a friend in a mental health crisis on your smartphone or tablet and easily contact CAPS or RUPD.

Counseling, ADAP & Psychiatric Services (CAPS)
(848) 932-7884 / 17 Senior Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / rhscaps.rutgers.edu/
CAPS is a University mental health support service that includes counseling, alcohol and other drug assistance, and psychiatric services staffed by a team of professional within Rutgers Health services to support students’ efforts to succeed at Rutgers University. CAPS offers a variety of services that include: individual therapy, group therapy and workshops, crisis intervention, referral to specialists in the community and consultation and collaboration with campus partners.

Violence Prevention & Victim Assistance (VPVA)
(848) 932-1181 / 3 Bartlett Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901 / vpva.rutgers.edu/
The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance provides confidential crisis intervention, counseling and advocacy for victims of sexual and relationship violence and stalking to students, staff and faculty. To reach staff during office hours when the university is open or to reach an advocate after hours, call 848-932-1181.

Disability Services
(848) 445-6800 / Lucy Stone Hall, Suite A145, Livingston Campus, 54 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854 / https://ods.rutgers.edu/
The Office of Disability Services works with students with a documented disability to determine the eligibility of reasonable accommodations, facilitates and coordinates those accommodations when applicable, and mostly engages with the Rutgers community at large to provide and connect students to appropriate resources.

Scarlet Listeners
(732) 247-5555 / http://www.scarletlisteners.com/
Free and confidential peer counseling and referral hotline, providing a comforting and supportive safe space.