

# CITY 185

## URBAN CULTURE AND SOCIETY

GROWTH AND STRUCTURE OF CITIES PROGRAM  
Term I, 2005

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Taylor G      MW 1-2:30	

**GOALS:** This course introduces the study of cities as spatial, political, economic and socio-cultural phenomena. Using interdisciplinary perspectives from anthropology, geography, history, political economy, communications, planning and cultural studies, we will explore diverse case studies, problems and voices. Over the semester, you will learn more about the possibilities of urban life over time and space – the centrality, complexity, creativity and conflicts that cities embody. Our discussion will encompass spaces of social and cultural order/disorder, problems of social difference and the possibilities of creative responses, local and levels. While using historical studies, we will focus more on contemporary global alternatives and pay special attention in readings and exercises to Greater Philadelphia as a metropolitan laboratory in which we participate. Through readings, questions, discussions and assignments, you also should reflect on the privileges and demands of citizenship itself.

This course complements City 190 (Form of the City) as a required foundation for the major in Growth and Structure of Cities; it shares the *City Reader* as a basic text with that course. It is also cross-listed with Anthropology. The course, nevertheless, is open to any interested student (within stated enrollment limits), with preference given to majors and to first and second year students.

### **REQUIREMENTS:**

**(1) ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION:** All students must attend regularly, keep up with reading and participate in discussion in so far as possible. In addition, each student must submit two questions/comments in writing that emerge from readings or lectures each Wednesday; we may respond in general or particular to these questions. We will not grade questions but regular failure to submit them represents inadequate class participation. Occasional workshops or discussion groups, led by the TAs, also will explore class/paper issues. Attendance at these is strongly encouraged.

**FOUR WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS (USUALLY 5-8 PAGES) ARE REQUIRED, ONE FOR EACH SECTION OF THE COURSE.** These exercises explore diverse areas of urban analysis – social/spatial analysis, interpretation of comparative data, and ethnography of institutions and contexts. Questions for the final assignment, handed out after the fall break to be submitted on the final day for written

work (December 8), will bring together issues and materials from the entire term. All assignments should demonstrate a grasp of class readings and discussion as relevant. They also demand independent work and creative thought. Each counts roughly 25% of the final grade; class participation will be taken into account in rounding out final grades.

We generally do not tolerate late papers, which will be penalized. We are willing, nevertheless, to talk with you and your dean if serious problems arise.

(I) **Society and Topography:** This assignment entails mapping, observation and analysis of a space defined by (a) water as an urban feature (b) local-global connections, (c) a location above street level or (d) trash. **DUE FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 (5:00 PM) IN THE CITIES OFFICE (Thomas 235).** (see final page of syllabus for complete discussion).

(II) **Comparing Urban Issues and Approaches:** Compare a specific issue in your home town (or a city that you know well) with class readings on urban social problems (especially Halle). To what extent does your city face issues similar to those in cities we have studied? Are there differences of population, scale, or culture that change questions and solutions? **DUE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 (5:00 PM) IN THE CITIES OFFICE.**

(III) **Understanding Urban Institutions and Community Contexts:** Work in groups (4-5 people) to investigate specific Philadelphia sites, including built form, social services, neighborhood life, and census depictions of the neighborhood. The collective paper should be roughly 15 pages (illustrations are not counted in this total); everyone in the group receives the same grade. A brief, ungraded class presentation will be made in Weeks 11 and 12; the final project is **DUE IN DUPLICATE BY 5 PM ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23 (THE DAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING) IN THE CITIES OFFICE.**

(IV) **Integrating Data into Policy and Change:** Questions will allow you to synthesize texts and themes from the course in concrete resolutions through political memos, designs, consulting simulations, media campaigns or critical readings. **DUE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 (5 PM) IN THE CITIES OFFICE.**

**TEXTS:** These are available at the bookstore in new and used editions, and are on reserve in Carpenter Library. Readings not in core texts are available on blackboard (BB).

- Bestor, Ted (1989) Neighborhood Tokyo (NT). Stanford: Stanford University Press.
- LeGates, Richard and Frederic Stout, Eds. (2003) The City Reader 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition (CR). London: Routledge.
- De Jesus, Carolina Maria (1963) Child of the Dark. New York: Signet New American Library. (CD)
- Halle, David (2003) New York and Los Angeles: Politics, Society and Culture. (NY/LA) Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

### **SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND TOPICS**

**SECTION I. FOUNDATIONS: WHAT IS THE CITY?**

**Week 1. (August 29-31) Imagining the City: Goals and Scope**

Date	Reading	Activity
Monday		Course Introduction: Goals, Methods, Rationale, and Expectations
Wednesday	<i>Concepts, Methods and Reading</i> (READ at least TWO of the following) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bestor → 1-11 (NT)</li> <li>○ Mumford → 92-96 (CR)</li> <li>○ Halle → 1-46 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ LeGates → 9-18 (CR)</li> <li>○ De Jesus → 1-20 (CD)</li> </ul>	Reading for Models, Data and Solutions and Time Management

**Week 2. (September 5-7) Philadelphia and the Main-Line as Metropolitan Laboratories**

Date	Reading	Activity
Monday	<i>Philadelphia</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Du Bois → 119-125 (CR)</li> <li>○ Smith → 119-139 (BB)</li> <li>○ Beveridge &amp; Weber → 49-78 (NY/LA)</li> </ul> Supplementary: Wong & McDonogh (BB)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Scribe Videos and diverse voices of Philadelphia</li> <li>○ Overview of history and society; who owns history? Defining basic social categories in the city: race, class, gender, age.</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Main Line, Suburbia, and Sprawl</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Morley → 228-231 (BB)</li> <li>○ Gans → 63-68 (BB)</li> <li>○ Hodos → 358-367 (BB)</li> <li>○ Fishman → 77-85 (CR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How are the city its suburbs related? Are there imbalances of race and class as well as differences of space. Are all suburbs alike?</li> </ul>

**Week 3. (September 12-14) Space, Place, and Complexity**

Date	Reading	Activity
Monday	<i>Place and process</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Whyte → 429-436 (CR)</li> <li>○ Burgess → 156-163 (CR)</li> <li>○ Madinapour → 181-189 (CR)</li> <li>○ Rothenberg → 108-113 (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do we study space, culture and society in the city?</li> <li>➤ Video "Social Life of Small Urban Spaces"</li> <li>⇒ Discussion groups/workshop this week</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Complexities of People and Space</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Bestor → 12-46 (NT)</li> <li>○ De Jesus → 21-58 (CD)</li> <li>○ Harvey → 227-234 (CR)</li> <li>○ Stout. → 147-150+ (CR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Defining and Creating Social Categories</li> <li>○ Crossing and challenging categories</li> </ul>

**Week 4. (September 19-21) Local and global and across**

Date	Reading	Activity
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Monday	<i>Neighborhood, City, Region, State</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Gladstone &amp; Feinstein → 79-98 (NY/LA). Review Halle 1-46</li> <li>○ Bestor → 46-82 (NT)</li> <li>○ Soja → 189-200 (CR)</li> <li>○ Aoyama → (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Scale and institutions</li> <li>○ What is a neighborhood? A region? How does space reflect inequality?</li> <li>○ How do cities and states interlock?</li> <li>➤ Video: “Neighborhood Tokyo”</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Globalization and Flows</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sassen → 212-220 (CR)</li> <li>○ Sabagh &amp; Bozorgmehr → 99-123 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Zhou &amp; Kim → 124-149 (NY/LA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How are spaces local and global? How do different people experience globalization?</li> <li>➤ Comparative Analysis of Global Chinatowns”</li> <li>⇒ Paper due by Friday</li> </ul>

**PAPER 1 DUE , FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23, 5 PM IN CITIES OFFICE**

**SECTION II. CITIES, POWER AND ACTION**

**Week 5 (September 26-28) Economic Processes and the City**

Date	Reading	Activity
Monday	<i>Production, place and power</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engels → 58-66 (CR)</li> <li>• Levitan → 251-268 (NY/LA)</li> <li>• Porter → 277-289 (CR)</li> <li>• De Jesús → 59-82 (CD)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Video: “Workshop of the world” Reflecting on class and power</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Consumption and class</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Crawford → 3-30 (BB)</li> <li>○ Zukin → 136-146 (CR)</li> <li>○ Jackson → 67-76 (CR)</li> <li>○</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Selling Cities on the Web</li> </ul>

**Week 6 (October 3-5) Political Processes**

Date	Reading	Activity
Monday	<i>Governance, Interests and Power</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Mollenkopf → 235-244 (CR)</li> <li>○ Sonenshein → 291-313 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Kaufmann → 314-340 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Bestor → 82-121 (NT)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What is the meaning of “politics”?</li> <li>○ Who participates? Who does not?</li> <li>NB: Proposals for Paper 2 (2-4 sentences) due today.</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Citizens, Action, Movements</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Arnstein → 244-255 (CR)</li> <li>○ Bestor → 122-162 (NT)</li> <li>○ Dudley Street (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ideas of social movements</li> <li>➤ Video: Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative</li> </ul>

**FALL BREAK**

**Week 7 (October 17-19) Articulating Economics and Power: Society, Difference, Belief**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	<i>Race, Systems, Difference (read as many as possible)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Halle, Gedeon &amp; Beveridge → 150-191 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Wilson → 126-135 (CR)</li> <li>○ De Verteuil et al 269-290 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Wrigley 225-250 (NY/LA)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What are the obligations of the city? Who meets them and how?</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Institutions, Image and Belief</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Katz → 195-224 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Giovacchini → 423-449 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Bestor → 162-193 (NT)</li> <li>○ St. Clair, “Preface” (vi-xv) &amp; Levine, “Afterword” (177-87) (CD)</li> </ul>	

**Week 8 (October 24-26) Articulating Economics and Power: Conflict and Control**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	<i>Conflictive Cities</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Halle &amp; Rafter → 341-366 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Sears → 367-392 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Jacobs → 114-119 (CR)</li> <li>○ Wilson &amp; Kelling → 267-276 (CR)</li> <li>○ Huber &amp; Mills → (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do citizens deal with divisions and inequalities?</li> <li>○ How do government institutions manage divisions and inequalities?</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Explicit and Implicit Order</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primary: MCDonogh → (BB)</li> <li>○ Warren et al → (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Evaluating Barcelona history, ideology and control</li> </ul> <p>⇒ Paper due by Friday</p>

**PAPER 2 DUE FRIDAY OCTOBER 28, 5 PM IN CITIES OFFICE**

**SECTION III FROM PLACE TO COMMUNITY**

**Week 9 (October 31-November 1) Nature, Culture and the City**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	Concepts of Nature and the City <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Davis → 96-147 (BB)</li> <li>○ Olmsted → 302-308 (CR)</li> <li>○ Beatley → 399-408 (CR)</li> <li>○ Sullivan → 4-14 (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What do the notions of “nature vs city” reveal about social relations?</li> </ul>
Wednesday	Water and Power	➤ Video: “Thirst”

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Finnegan → 47-53 (BB)</li> <li>○ Urban Age → 14-19 (BB)</li> <li>○ Wheeler 486-496 (CR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How should water be managed in a city? Who should decide? Under what principles?</li> </ul>
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**Week 10 (November 7-9) Public and private**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	<i>Public and private spheres</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Putnam → 105-113 (CR)</li> <li>○ Bestor → 224-256 (NT)</li> <li>○ Davis → 201-206 (CR)</li> <li>○ De Jesus → 102-136(CD)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What do we mean by public? Public sphere? Where do they intersect? Divide?</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>Gender, Sexuality, Morality</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hayden → 448-463 (CR)</li> <li>○ Bestor → 193-223 (NT)</li> <li>○ De Jesus → 138-176 (CD)</li> <li>○ Abu-Lughod → 172-180 (CR)</li> <li>○ Disponzio → (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do private places intersect with race, class and gender in the city?</li> <li>➤ Video: “Maids and Madams”</li> </ul>

**Week 11 (November 14-16)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	Catch Up on Prior Readings and Plan for Exercise IV	GROUP PRESENTATIONS
Wednesday		GROUP PRESENTATIONS

**Week 12. (November 21-23)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday		GROUP PRESENTATIONS
Wednesday	THANKSGIVING	NO CLASS ⇒ Paper due today!

**PAPER 3 DUE BEFORE THANKSGIVING BREAK**  
*SECTION IV. THE FUTURES OF CITIES*

**Week 13 (November 28 - 30) Reinventing Society, Culture and Cities**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	<i>Transformations for the City</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jackson → 164-171</li> <li>○ Halle → 449-460 (NY/LA)</li> <li>○ Downs → 256-266 (CR)</li> <li>○ Barber → 201-220 (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do cities change?</li> <li>○ Is planning necessary?</li> <li>○ Who plans?</li> </ul>
Wednesday	<i>New Urbanism, Smart Growth and Beyond</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rutheiser → (BB)</li> <li>○ Duany &amp; Plater-Zyberk → 207-211 (CR)</li> <li>○ Smart Growth → (BB)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How do we create models of ideal cities?</li> <li>○ What are the limits of those models?</li> <li>○ Seaside</li> </ul>

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**Week 14 (December 5-7) Rethinking Global Urban Futures**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Reading</b>	<b>Activity</b>
Monday	<i>Vision and Rights</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Abers → (BB)</li> <li>○ Castells → 475-485 (CR)</li> <li>○ Wheeler → 486-496 (CR)</li> <li>○ Mitchell → 497-503 (CR)</li> </ul>	
Wednesday	<i>Starting from where we are</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Friedmann → 103-118 (BB)</li> <li>○ Forster → 375-388 (CR)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Panel discussion</li> <li>⇒ Final paper due by the end of the week</li> </ul>

**ALL FINAL PROJECTS DUE THURSDAY DECEMBER 8 BY 5 PM  
IN THE CITIES OFFICE. PLEASE CHECK OFF YOUR NAME  
WITH A SECRETARY AS YOU TURN IT IN.**