

Urban Planning and Public Policy 273 (UPPP 273)
"Urbanization in the Global South"
Thursdays 9:30am-12:20pm
Remote Zoom Instruction

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Office Hours: Wed 2-3 (by appt)
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Urbanization in the Global South: Theories, Histories and Methods

This course is an advanced level graduate seminar designed for students at the masters and Ph.D. levels who are interested in topics related to the global dimensions of urban planning, with a specific emphasis on cities of the global South. The investigation of modern metropolises of the global South presents great challenges for both urban theory and practice. This seminar addresses some of these challenges by adopting a multidisciplinary perspective.

First, it adopts a historical frame. Modern metropolises are things that have been made and things in the making. Thus, the course explores some of their main transformations through examining major cities from Haussmann's remaking of Paris in the 19th century to the impact of the global colonial enterprise and neocolonial practice under the "American century," to the contemporary re-makings of cities everywhere as we close the American century and enter the so-called "Asian century." But as it tracks changes, it also highlights continuities: recurring crises, persistent segregations, slums, as well as utopias, inventions, and spectacles.

Second, the course explores global metropolitan formations epistemologically. In other words, cities are also objects of study that must be constructed through academic discourse. As such, this course challenges the ways that global South cities are understood most often solely in reference to models and theories of planning that originate from North Atlantic cities of Western Europe and the US. Therefore, pedagogically the aim of the course is not simply to expand or widen the scope and perspective of planning topics and questions that originate from the "great" cities of the global North and disseminate to the global South. Rather, the course aims to fundamentally shift students' perspective so that they can begin to see global South cities as their own centers capable of producing urban theory and practice that is as foundational to the field as their Northern counterparts. This methodological inversion allows students to question and unsettle long standing theories about urbanization originating in the global North and begin the work of destabilizing hegemonic concepts in the field at a moment when the majority of the globe's urbanization on a planetary scale will occur in global South cities.

Third, the seminar considers metropolitan formations as tense processes that bring together both institutional agents identified with the production and regulation of space (state governments, corporations, planning departments, political parties, and so forth) and citizens that not only use cities but also produce them with their own (often unregulated) means. Indeed, modern metropolises are spaces of contestation, innovation and creativity as much as they are spaces of exploitation and segregation. The course is organized around some key classic texts to address the first goal of the course, but then quickly shifts its focus to examine emerging and contemporary work from scholars of global South cities.

COURSE FORMAT, REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

The class meets once a week for three hours. It is organized as a seminar. It is expected that students attend class regularly, do the weekly readings before the class meeting, and actively participate in the class discussions of the assigned readings.

All readings will be available as a PDF on the course canvas website.

Students are also expected to **initiate the class discussions** a few times during the semester. To initiate a discussion means to present on the week's readings to guide conversations in class, ask key questions. Students may choose to bring questions in writing with copies for everyone. Additionally, students may bring visual materials that complement/illustrate the cases being analyzed. The commentaries will count for 35% of the final grade and the initiation of discussions will count for 15% of the grade. Typically each week, two or three students will be presenting on readings as a group.

Students are expected to **write a one-page commentary** about the required readings every week and post to the course discussion section on the canvas website before class. **Students presenting that week must create a discussion post and a discussion thread by Sunday 11:59pm** which also contains their commentary and initiates a class discussion. They can post on a topic of their choosing that addresses all of the week's readings. Each presenting student that week is to produce a unique discussion thread. Once the two to three discussion threads are posted, **the remainder of students must respond to discussion posts within that thread by Tuesday evening 10pm**. The purpose here is to generate online discussion between students about readings prior to class.

Each student is expected to write a **research paper** (approximately 4500 words) related to the course themes. The paper must address one or a number of the themes addressed during the course. Students should **submit a one-page description** of their topics on February 12th. The final paper is due March 16 in Word or PDF format and submitted as an attachment on the Canvas website.

Office Hours: My office hours are Mondays 12-2pm by appointment. You can go to this [link](#) to sign up for a time: <https://tinyurl.com/t4fmfj6>. If you cannot make a Monday appointment, please email the professor to schedule a different date/time: hunkim@uci.edu.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 | Course Introduction

Thurs, Oct 1

- Introductory Lecture: 21st century urbanization and globalization

WEEK 2 | The Global and the Urban as a Problem

Thurs, Oct 8:

- Jennifer Robinson (2011) "Cities in a World of Cities: The Comparative Gesture." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 35(1): 1-23
- Ananya Roy (2009) "Why India Cannot Plan Its Cities" *Planning Theory*, 8 (1).
- Neil Brenner and Christian Schmid. 2015. "Towards a New Epistemology of the Urban?" *City* 19 (2-3): 151-182.

WEEK 3 | High Modernism and the City

Thurs, Oct 15:

- Marshall Berman (1982) "Preface to the Penguin Edition," "Preface," Part III: "Baudelaire: Modernism in the Streets" and "Petersburg: The Modernism of Underdevelopment" in *All That is Solid Melts Into Air: The Experience of Modernity*. Simon and Schuster, pp. 5-14, 131-176, 212-248.
- Carl E. Schorske. 1981. The Ringstrasse, its critics, and the birth of urban modernism. In *Fin-de-Siècle Vienna – Politics and Culture*. New York: Vintage Books. Pp. 24-62.

WEEK 4 | Colonial Cities

Thurs, Oct 22

- Gwendolyn Wright (1987) "Tradition in Service of Modernity: Architecture and Urbanism in French Colonial Policy, 1900-1930." *The Journal of Modern History*, Vol. 59, No.2. Pp. 291-316.
- Nasser Abourahme (2018) "Of Monsters and Boomerangs: Colonial Returns in the Late Liberal City" *CITY*, 22(1): 106-115.
- William Bissell (2008). "Engaging Colonial Nostalgia" *Cultural Anthropology*, 20(2): 215-248.

WEEK 5 | Global Forms, Speculative Capital and Real Estate

Thurs, Oct 29

- Aihwa Ong and Ananya Roy (2011). "Introduction" and "Conclusion" in *Worlding Cities: Asian Experiments and the Art of Being Global*. Wiley Blackwell, pp. 1-26, 307-335.
- Michael Goldman (2011). "Speculative Urbanism and the Making of the Next World City." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 35:3.
- Searle L.G. 2014. "Conflict and Commensuration: Contested Market Making in India's Private Real Estate Development Sector." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 38 (1): 60–78.

WEEK 6 | Informality, Aesthetics and Ambiguity

Thurs, Nov 5:

- Colin McFarlane (2012) "Rethinking Informality: Politics, Crisis, and the City." *Planning Theory and Practice*, 13(1): 89-108.
- Asher Ghertner (2015) "Introduction" and "World Class City Making" in *Rule by Aesthetics: World Class City Making in Delhi*. Oxford University Press, pp. 1-44.
- Kuyucu, Tuna (2014) "Law, Property and Ambiguity: The Uses and Abuses of Legal Ambiguity in Remaking Istanbul's Informal Settlements." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 38(2): 609-27.
- David Harvey (2008) "The Right to the City," *New Left Review*.

WEEK 7 | City Infrastructure: Materiality and Sociality

Thurs, Nov 12

- Matthew Gandy. 2006. "Planning, Anti-planning and the Infrastructure Crisis Facing Metropolitan Lagos." *Urban Studies* 43(2): 371–396
- Laura Cesafsky (2017). "How to Mend a Fragmented City: A Critique of 'Infrastructural Solidarity.'" *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 41:1, pp. 145-161.
- Eli Elinoff (2017). "Concrete and Corruption" *City* 21(5): 587-596

WEEK 8 | Eco-Cities and Cities Affected by Climate

Thurs, Nov 19

- Chen, Jia-Ching. 2017. "Social-Environmental Dilemmas of Planning an 'Ecological Civilization' in China."
- Smith, Neil (2006). "There's no such thing as a natural disaster." Understanding Katrina, Social Science Research Council.
- Alvarez, Khristine Maria and Kenneth Cardenas (2019). "Evicting Slums, 'building back better,': resiliency revanchism and disaster risk management in Manila." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 43(2): 227-249.

WEEK 9 | The Walled City

Thurs, Dec 3

- Eyal Weizman (2007) "Introduction" and "The Wall: Barrier Archipelagos and the Impossible Politics of Separation" in *Hollow Land: Israel's Architecture of Occupation*. Verso Books, Pp. 1-24; 161-184.
- Jason De Leon (2015) "Introduction, Chapter 1, "Prevention Through Deterrence" and Chapter 3 "Necroviolence" in *The Land of Open Graves*. University of California Press, Pp. 1-37; 62-86.

WEEK 10 | Planning and (Structural) Violence

Thurs, Dec 10

- Akhil Gupta (2012) "Part One: Introduction" in *Red Tape: Bureaucracy, Structural Violence, and Poverty in India*. Duke University Press, pp. 3-39.
- Hiba Bou Akar (2018) "Prologue: War in Times of Peace" and "Chapter 1: Constructing Sectarian Geographies" and "Chapter 5: Planning Without Development" in *For the War Yet to Come: Planning Beirut's Frontiers*. Stanford University Press. Pp. 1-34; 145-176.