



Western University
SOCIOLOGY 2152b (001)
Life in the Contemporary City
5 January -- 7 April 2017

Class Times: Thur. 1:30-3:30 PM in SSC 2024

Instructor: W. Marshall

Check Sociology Dept. web site (<http://sociology.uwo.ca>) for class cancellations or changes

Office: 5409 SSC Phone: 661-2111 ext. 85045

Office hours: Mon. 2:30 – 4 PM (or by appointment)

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Course Description:

Modern cities offer a multitude of opportunities (jobs, housing, education, goods and services), but with these can come problems (like pollution, crime, and class conflict).

This course examines the problems of contemporary city life, as well as the policy initiatives aimed at addressing these problems.

Prerequisite(s): None

Antirequisite(s): None

Course goals and objectives:

By the end of this course students should be able to:

- : identify and differentiate the ideas of various classical and contemporary urban theorists.
- : comprehend the applicability of theoretical ideas to life in the contemporary city.
- : understand the important issues facing urban residents.
- : have an appreciation for the problems facing various groups in an urban environment.
- : offer constructive solutions for the improvement of life in urban areas.

Required Text:

Hiller, Harry H.(Ed.), Urban Canada, Sociological Perspectives, (3rd edition), Oxford University Press, Don Mills, 2014. [H]

An e-text version is available for \$41.95, from Redshelf at :

<https://www.redshelf.com/book/526797/urban-canada-526797-9780199011261> cost (about) \$50

Method of Evaluation:

Mid-term test (Saturday, 11 Feb - WSC 55)	45 %
Final examination (DTBA)	<u>55 %</u>
	100 %

There will be one mid-term test on Feb. 11, 2017. The specific materials for which you are responsible for this test will be announced in class, but will likely include all that has been covered to that point in the course, lectures as well as text readings. The test is worth 45 percent of your course grade. The test will be composed of multiple choice and true/false questions. The test is Scantron graded.

Reading Week will be: Feb. 20-24, 2017.

Scantron Exams: A Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

The Final Exam will be comprehensive, and similar in format to the mid-term test.

Make-up examinations will not normally be given except in cases with documented excuses, that would be approved by the Dean of Social Sciences, the cumulative final exam could be re-weighted. Both the midterm test and the final exam will normally be of the multiple-choice, true-false format. The mid-term test and the final exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.

In keeping with Sociology Department "Grade Distribution Guidelines" , it is expected that the class average for this course will be in the range of 66 - 70 %; should the summary grades yield a value significantly outside of this range, 'systematic grade adjustments' can be made.

Important Policies

Policies on Examinations

Students are allowed to use calculators (but NOT computers) during the midterm test and Final exam.

“Computer-marked multiple-choice tests and/or exams may be subject to submission for similarity review by software that will check for unusual coincidences in answer patterns that may indicate cheating.”

Policy on Laptops and other Electronics/Phones in Class:

Laptops are permitted in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites such as Facebook or Twitter, they will be told to close the lid and they will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cell phones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness

Western's policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness can be found at www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf.

Students must see the Academic Counsellor and submit all required documentation in order to be approved for certain accommodation:

http://counselling.ssc.uwo.ca/procedures/medical_accommodation.html

Accessibility Options:

Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you. You may also wish to contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 661-2111 x 82147 for any specific question regarding an accommodation. Information regarding accommodation of exams is available on the Registrar's website:

http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/examinations/accommodated_exams.html

Scholastic Offences

Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following web site:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf

Mental Health

Students who are in **emotional/mental distress** should refer to Mental Health@Western (http://uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/) for a complete list of options how to obtain help.

THERE IS NO ROUTINE PROVISION FOR MAKE-UP EXAMINATIONS, or TESTS
Course Schedule and Readings:

Required Readings : approximately 1 week/topic (items in brackets are optional)

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>READINGS</u>
1. Introduction	H : Intro., Ch. 1-2
2. Theories of Urban Development	H : Ch. 3; (MP : Ch. 5,6)
3. Urban kinship patterns	(MH : Ch. 13)

MID-TERM TEST: Sat. Feb. 11, 2017 11:30 AM - 1 PM in WSC- 55

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| 4. Community & neighbourhood | H : Ch. 5
(MP : Ch. 6; CF : Ch. 9) |
| 5. Socio-economic stratification
(the problems of urban poverty) | H : Ch. 7; (MP : Ch. 10) |
| 6. Ethnic stratification | H : Ch.8, 9; (MP : Ch. 11) |
| 7. Housing and urban transport | H, Ch. 14; (MP : Ch.12) |
| 8. Psycho-social factors | H : Ch.10; (MP, Ch. 8)
(CF : Ch. 7,8) |
| 9. Social participation | H : Ch. 11 |
| 10. Urban policy and planning | H : Ch. 15 -17 (MP, Ch. 14) |

OPTIONAL READINGS:

- CF - C. Fisher, The Urban Experience
- McG - P. McGahan, Urban Sociology in Canada
- MP - Macionis and Parrillo, Cities and Urban Life
- MH - M. Hutter, Experiencing Cities

Final Exam period is: April 9-30, 2017