



UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

Fall 2020

FACULTY OF ARTS

Department of Sociology

Department of Sociology Website: <https://soci.ucalgary.ca/>

COURSE TITLE: Urban Sociology			
Course Number	SOCI353		
Pre/Co-Requisites	SOCI201		
Instructor Name	Matt Patterson	Email	Matt.Patterson@ucalgary.ca
Instructor Email Policy	Please include "SOC353" in the subject of your e-mails. I aim to respond to e-mails within 24 hours during the working week. To ensure a quick response, it is best to keep e-mails simple and straight to the point.		
Office Location	Zoom	Office Hours	Thursdays 3:30-4:30PM (or by appointment)
Telephone No.	403-220-5037		
TA Name	Sepideh Borzoo	TA Email	sepideh.borzoo@ucalgary.ca
TA Office Location	Zoom	TA Office Hours	TBA
Class Dates	September 8 th to December 8 th , 2020		
Class Times	Pre-recorded lectures available via D2L		
Class Location	Online		

Course Description

Cities are complicated matters. It is not always clear how we should go about studying them, or even how we should define what a city is. Often the complexity of cities makes it difficult to understand and address the major social problems that face city dwellers across Canada and the world. These problems include inequality and segregation, homelessness, crime, alienation and the decline of community.

To help sift through the complexity of urban life, sociologists have developed several research perspectives that provide working definitions for cities and "toolkits" of theories and methods for studying the city. In this course you will be learning a variety of these perspectives including human ecology, interactionism, and political-economy. Each of these perspectives is based on a slightly different idea of what a city is and what is important about urban life.

The course is roughly divided into three units. The first unit will address the rise of modern cities and their impact on the way people relate to each other and form communities. The second unit will focus on the role of power and inequality within cities, including a focus on economic inequality, race and ethnicity, and housing. The final unit will focus on different dimensions of life within the modern city, including culture and consumption, behavior in public spaces, and crime.

Course Objectives/Learning Outcomes

- Understand major theoretical approaches to studying cities, including their strengths and weaknesses, and the types of research questions that are associated with them.
- Learn about the state of Canadian cities in the 21st century with regard to several important social issues, including the economy, inequality, race and ethnicity, crime, and more.
- Develop the ability to critically read and assess original sociological publications.
- Learn to construct a sociological argument in written form.

Course Format

This course will be run entirely asynchronously. Pre-recorded lectures will be posted at the beginning of each week (corresponding to the schedule below). Office hour Q and A sessions will be held at regular times via zoom to go over the weekly material (see D2L for times). Attendance is encouraged, but not mandatory. One-on-one office hours can be arranged by appointment.

Course Materials

Readings

- Harry Hiller (editor). 2014. *Urban Canada*. Toronto: Oxford University Press. (Available in hard copy of ebook here: https://www.calgarybookstore.ca/textbook_express.asp?mode=2&step=2§ionIds=327839)
- Online articles can be accessed either through the links provided in the syllabus, or via <http://library.ucalgary.ca>.

Learning Technologies and Requirements

There is a D2L site for this course which contains required readings and other relevant class resources and materials (see d2l.ucalgary.ca).

In order to successfully engage in their learning experiences at the University of Calgary, students are required to have reliable access to the following technology:

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates;
- Broadband internet connection.

To participate in office hours, students also require:

- A current and updated web browser;

- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone;
- Webcam, built-in or external (optional);

Most current laptops will have a built-in webcam, speaker and microphone.

Methods of Assessment and Grading Weights

<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Due Date</u>	<u>% of Final Grade</u>
Unit Test #1	October 2 nd	20%
Unit Test #2	November 6 th	25%
Term Paper	December 4 th	30%
Unit Test #3	December 11 th	15%
D2L Discussion Participation		10%

Unit Tests

The unit tests will evaluate your knowledge of the lecture and reading material from each of the three units. The tests will not be cumulative, but will cover all of the material from each of the respective units. All three tests will be in multiple choice format. Each test is weighted slightly differently depending on how much material it covers.

Unit tests will be made available on D2L on the Monday of the last week of each unit and be due by 11:59PM on the following Friday. Once you begin a test, you will have 60 minutes to complete it. Tests cannot be put on hold or completed over multiple sessions.

D2L Discussion Participation

Every week, discussion questions will be posted on D2L that relate to the lectures and readings. To access these questions, go to the “Communication” menu and select “Discussion”. Students can respond to the initial questions, to other students’ responses, or start new threads to pose their own questions or raise new issues.

Students are expected to participate to D2L discussions every week. Weekly participation grades are based on the following scheme:

- No participation 0/3
- Minimal participation 1/3
 - A single response, no significant contribution to discussion
- Satisfactory participation 2/3
 - A single, significant response, or multiple marginal responses
- Exceptional participation 3/3
 - Multiple, insightful questions and comments, pushes the discussion in new directions.

Weekly participation grades out of 3 will be totaled over the term to arrive at a final participation grade, worth 10% of the overall course grade.

While students can also use the discussion boards to ask questions related to course format (e.g. about due dates, test format, etc.), participation grades are only given for posts that relate to course material.

Term Paper

The paper assignment will provide you with an opportunity to draw on course material to produce an original sociological argument and analysis. A list of questions will be provided on D2L. You will be asked to respond to one of these questions in the form of an argumentative essay. More information on this assignment, including the list of questions will be provided later in the term.

Grade Reappraisal

Within one week of the date that a paper is returned, students seeking reappraisal of their grade must submit a written response to the instructor explaining the basis for the reappraisal. The instructor will reconsider the grade assigned and will then book a time with the student to discuss their work and rationale. It should be noted that a re-assessed grade may be raised, lowered, or remain the same. The re-assessed grade will be final and cannot be changed again.

Late Papers

Term papers that are handed in after the due date (December 4th) will still be accepted, but a late penalty of -5% per day (including weekends) will be imposed.

Deferred Term Work Form: Deferral of term work past the end of a term requires a form to be filled out. More information about deferred term work is provided by the Registrar.

Once an extension date has been agreed between instructor and student, the form should be taken to the Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (SS 110) for approval by an Associate Dean (Students).

Handing in Papers, Assignments

1. The main Sociology Department office does not deal with any course-related matters. Please speak directly to your instructor.
2. **Protection of Privacy:** The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPP) legislation does not allow students to retrieve any course material from public places. Anything that requires handing back will be returned directly during class or office hours. If students are unable to pick up their assignments from the instructor, they can provide the instructor with a stamped, self-addressed envelope to be used for the return of the assignment. Private information related to the individual student is treated with the utmost regard by the faculty at the University of Calgary
3. Final grades are not posted by the Sociology Department. They are only available online.

Grading Scale

Letter grades will be assigned and submitted to the registrar based on the following scale:

Grade	Percent range	Grade Point Value	Description
A+	96 – 100%	4.0	Outstanding performance
A	90 – 95.99%	4.0	Excellent performance
A-	85 – 89.99%	3.7	Approaching excellent performance
B+	80 – 84.99%	3.3	Exceeding good performance
B	75 – 79.99%	3.0	Good performance
B-	70 – 74.99%	2.7	Approaching good performance
C+	67 – 69.99%	2.3	Exceeding satisfactory performance
C	63 – 66.99%	2.0	Satisfactory performance
C-	59 – 62.99%	1.7	Approaching satisfactory performance
D+	55 – 58.99%	1.3	Marginal pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject
D	50 – 54.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass. Insufficient preparation for subsequent courses in the same subject.
F	<50%	0	Failure. Did not meet course requirements.

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Unit One: Urbanization and Community

Week 1: What is a City?

September 8 – 11

Lectures:

- Introduction
- Lecture 1: What is a City?

Readings:

- Hiller, Introduction: Urbanization and the City
- Orum, Anthony M. 1998. "The Urban Imagination of Sociologists: The Centrality of Place." *The Sociological Quarterly* 39(1): 1-10.

Week 2: Urbanization in Historical and Canadian Perspective

September 14 – 18

Lectures:

- Lecture 2: Urbanization in Historical Perspective
- Lecture 3: Canadian Urbanization

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 1: Canadian Urbanization in Historical and Global Perspective
- Hiller, Chapter 2: The Dynamics of Canadian Urbanization

Week 3: Classical Perspectives on Cities

September 21 – 25

Lectures:

- Lecture 4: The Chicago School
- Lecture 5: Can Community Exist in a Big City?

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 3: Analyzing and Interpreting the City: Theory and Method
- Simmel, Georg. 1906. "The Metropolis and Mental Life" English translation available here: http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/content/bpl_images/content_store/sample_chapter/0631225137/bridge.pdf

Week 4: Networks and Ethnography

September 28 – October 2

Lectures:

- Lecture 6: Networks and Ethnography

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 5: Social Ties and Community in Urban Places
- Klinenberg, Eric. 2001. "Dying Alone: The Social Production of Urban Isolation." *Ethnography* 2(4):501-31.

Test:

- Complete Online Test #1 by Friday, October 2nd at 11:59PM.

Unit Two: Power and Inequality

Week 5: Urban Political-Economy

October 5 – 9

Lectures:

- Lecture 7: Urban Political-Economy

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 12: The New Urban Political Economy
- Delaney, Kevin J. and Rick Eckstein. 2007. "Urban Power Structures and Publicly Financed Stadiums." *Sociological Forum* 22(3): 331-53.

Week 6: Globalization and Inequality

October 12 – 16

Lectures:

- Lecture 8: Cities in the Global Economy
- Lecture 9: Inequality in Cities

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 7: Urban Inequality and Urban Social Movements
- Sassen, Saskia. 2005. "The Global City: Introducing a Concept." *Brown Journal of World Affairs* 11(2): 27-43.
- Hulchanski, J. David. 2010. "The Three Cities within Toronto: Income Polarization among Toronto's Neighbourhoods, 1970-2005." Available here:
<http://www.urbancentre.utoronto.ca/pdfs/curp/tnrn/Three-Cities-Within-Toronto-2010-Final.pdf>

Week 7: Housing, Segregation, and Gentrification

October 19 – 23

Lectures:

- Lecture 10: Housing and Segregation
- Lecture 11: Gentrification

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 14: Housing and Homelessness: Sociological Factors
- Hiller, Chapter 11: Gender and the City: Urban Restructuring, Social Exclusion, and Democratic Participation
- Wacquant, Loic. 2010. Designing Urban Seclusion in the 21st Century. *Yale Architectural Journal*.
<https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/41680282.pdf>

Week 8: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in Cities

October 26 – 30

Lectures:

- Lecture 12: Race and Ethnicity

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 8 – Immigration and Race in the City
- Anderson, Elijah. 2012. "The iconic ghetto." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 642(1): 8-24.

Week 9: Indigenous Peoples

November 2 – 6

Lectures:

- Lecture 13: Indigenous Peoples

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 9: Aboriginal Peoples in Urban Areas

Test:

- Complete Online Test #2 by Friday, November 6th at 11:59 PM.

Mid-Term Break

November 9 – 13

Unit Three: Life in the City

Week 10: Culture and Consumerism

November 16 – 20

Lectures:

- Lecture 14: Culture and Consumerism
- Lecture 15: Arts and the Creative Economy

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 13: Consumer Culture, City Space, and Urban Life
- Hannigan, John. 2007. "From Fantasy City to Creative City." Pp. 48-56 in Greg Richards and Julie Wilson (eds.) *Tourism, Creativity and Development*. London: Routledge.

Week 11: Public Space

November 23 – 27

Lectures:

- Lecture 16: Interactions in Public
- Lecture 17: The End of Public Space

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 6: Urban Public Spaces: Streets, Strangership, and Securitization

Week 12: Crime and Policing

November 30 – December 4

Lectures:

- Lecture 18: Crime and Cities
- Lecture 19: Policing

Readings:

- Hiller, Chapter 10: Big Cities, Social Pathology, and Crime

Assignment:

- Term paper due by Friday, December 4th at 11:59 PM.

Week 13: Conclusion

December 7 – 11

Test:

- Complete Online Test #3 by Friday, December 11th at 11:59 PM.

Research Ethics

Students are advised that any research with human subjects – including any interviewing (even with friends and family), opinion polling, or unobtrusive observation – must have the approval of the Faculty Ethics Committee. In completing course requirements, students must not undertake any human subjects research without discussing their plans with the instructor, to determine if ethics approval is required.

Copyright Legislation

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright-policy.pdf>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorized sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

Instructor Intellectual Property

Course materials created by professor(s) (including course outlines, presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the professor(s). These materials may NOT be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the professor. The posting of course materials to third party websites such as note-sharing sites without permission is prohibited. Sharing of extracts of these course materials with other students enrolled in the course at the same time may be allowed under fair dealing.

Recording of Lectures

Note that the audio or video recording of lectures and taking screenshots of PowerPoint slides during the lecture are not permitted without explicit authorization. The non-authorized media recording of lectures is inconsistent with the Code of Conduct and may result in discipline in accordance with the Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure. For more information click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Sharing of Lecture Notes and Exam Questions

Note that publicly sharing lecture notes and exam questions on 3rd party sites such as OneClass, StudyBlue, Quizlet, Course Hero, etc. is not permitted. If you wish to use these helpful studying tools, make sure you adjust your privacy settings accordingly. Any violations are subject to investigation under the UofC Student Non-Academic Misconduct Policy. For more information, click here: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/non-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>.

Academic Misconduct

Please refer to the website listed below for information on University of Calgary policies on Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>

Academic Accommodation

Students seeking an accommodation based on disability or medical concerns should contact Student Accessibility Services; SAS will process the request and issue letters of accommodation to instructors. For additional information on support services and accommodations for students with disabilities, visit www.ucalgary.ca/access/. Students who require an accommodation in relation to their coursework based on a protected ground other than disability should communicate this need in writing to their Instructor. The full policy on Student Accommodations is available at:

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-accommodation-policy.pdf>

Students needing an Accommodation based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to the course instructor.

Libraries & Cultural Resources

To contact your librarian or find out about the resources and services available to sociology students go to the Sociology Library guide: <https://library.ucalgary.ca/guides/sociology>

To access the main Library website go to: <https://library.ucalgary.ca>

Wellness and Mental Health Resources

The University of Calgary recognizes the pivotal role that mental health plays in physical health, social connectedness and academic success, and aspires to create a caring and supportive campus community where individuals can freely talk about mental health and receive support when needed. We encourage you to explore the excellent mental health resources available throughout the university community, such as counselling, self-help resources, peer support or skills-building available through Student Wellness Services (Room 370 MacEwan Student Centre, <https://www.ucalgary.ca/wellness-services/services/mental-health-services>) and the Campus Mental Health Strategy (<http://www.ucalgary.ca/mentalhealth/>).

Student Success Centre

The Student Success Centre provides services and programs to ensure students can make the most of their time at the University of Calgary. Our advisors, learning support staff, and writing support staff assist students in enhancing their skills and achieving their academic goals. They provide tailored learning support and advising programs, as well as one-on-one services, free of charge to all undergraduate and graduate students. For more information visit: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success>

Student Ombuds Office

The Student Ombuds Office supports and provides a safe, neutral space for students. For more information, please visit www.ucalgary.ca/ombuds/ or email ombuds@ucalgary.ca.

Student Union (SU) Information

The SU Vice-President Academic can be reached at (403) 220-3911 or suvpaca@ucalgary.ca; Information about the SU, including elected Faculty Representatives, can be found here: <https://www.su.ucalgary.ca>.

Emergency Evacuation/Assembly Points

Assembly points for emergencies have been identified across campus. Assembly points are designed to establish a location for information updates from the emergency responders to the evacuees; from the evacuated population to the emergency responders. For more information, see the University of Calgary's Emergency Management website:

<https://live-risk.ucalgary.ca/risk/emergency-management/evac-drills-assembly-points/assembly-points>

Safewalk

Campus security will escort individuals, day or night, anywhere on campus (including McMahon Stadium, Health Sciences Centre, Student Family Housing, the Alberta Children's Hospital and the University LRT station). Call 403-220-5333 or visit <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>. Use any campus phone, emergency phone or the yellow phone located at most parking lot pay booths. Please ensure your personal safety by taking advantage of this service.