GEOG 3050: Development and the City
University of Guelph
Department of Geography
Winter 2017

Instructor: Dr. Bharat Punjabi
Teaching Assistants: Ms. Jaida Regan and Ms. Eugenia Kwok
Instructor’s Office location: HUTT 345A
Instructor’s Office Hours: Wednesdays, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Classroom: MACN 105
Class Time: Wednesdays, 7 to 9:50 pm
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Undergraduate Calendar description: “This course examines different theoretical and policy perspectives of urbanization and urban development, as well as social, economic and environmental living conditions in cities of the Global ‘South’. It refers to concrete examples of cities in their national and international context, paying due attention to diversity and the fluidity of urban-rural boundaries. Specific urban development issues, including migration, housing, employment, health and environment are also addressed.”

Prerequisites: 7.50 credits, (GEOG*2030 and GEOG*2260 recommended)

Course Objectives:
• To encourage and develop intellectual engagement with the processes and outcomes of urbanization in the Global South;
• To familiarize students with both urban forms and social processes that occur in cities in the Global South;
• To introduce students to a number of case studies of urban centres in the Global South;
• To develop research, reading, and writing skills, as well as critical thinking

Synopsis of Proposed Course Outline/Statement of purpose
This course has been designed as an introductory course for students in undergraduate programs on the political economy of urbanization in the developing world. Students who have some background in the social sciences (planning, geography, architecture, history, anthropology, economics and political science) are more likely to feel comfortable with the course material. But the instructor will make an effort to give any extra support to students from other disciplines if they decide to register.
The purpose of this course is to analyze, in order to better understand the political economy and geography of the contemporary Asian urban mega region. It will highlight the major recent as well as other key past intellectual contributions on this subject and will give students a strong conceptual and methodological grounding in this topic. Major influences from the intellectual disciplines of planning, geography, political science, social anthropology and economics on urban Asia will be summarized first. Later, the influence of multilateral organizations like the World Bank and UN Habitat to policies will be presented and broader level policy shifts will be identified in the context of neo liberalism. This will be followed by case studies on major Asian mega regions and some of their experiences with planning new towns, managing informality, building new infrastructures, flows of rural migrants, management of environmental pressures, water and sanitation issues will come in for special focus. Both ethnographic and non-ethnographic material will be presented as part of the case studies. Theories that have been developed or applied in the urban Asian context, viz. the anthropologist, Clifford Geertz’s early work on urban informality in the 1960’s, W Arthur Lewis’s dual sector model from development economics and Terry McGee’s formative contribution on the Asian desakota. Finally, the post-colonial critiques of Ananya Roy from the discipline of human geography will be first presented as paradigmatic contributions from the field of urban studies. These theories will form the bedrock of the course and students are expected to pay a lot of attention to this content presented in the first four weeks of the course. This initial material will then be placed in the public policy and governance context and issues involving jurisdiction, sovereignty and levels of initiative at the urban level will also be covered. A major objective of this course is to give students a critical grounding in the urban context of Asia where they are able to merge intellectual and critical frameworks with the policy context of urbanization on the Asian continent. Thus, while reading from the main lists, we will cover disparate frameworks from fields as wide ranging as post-colonial studies, urban political ecology, the political economy of institutions and urban studies. The course will move from providing a synoptic overview of the main arguments in critical urban studies literature to covering major policy questions.

A third objective of this course will be to further a deeper understanding of contemporary urbanization in India through the main text book for this course. The course will thus have a pointed focus on India, we will in particular study urban patterns in India, the persistence of urban informality, the challenge of migration to cities, the promise and pitfalls of industrialization and finally how institutional variables and structures influence the capacities and abilities of urban local governments to manage social, economic and environmental.
challenges in the urban parts of that country. While the text book will help us understand these issues, comparisons will be made between Kolkata (the focus of the text book) and other Indian cities. An example of this focus is on how local Indian democracy fares in ensuring the rights of rural migrants in comparison to that of urban governments in other parts of Asia. We will thus try to understand cities in various countries and regions in their unique cultural and economic context(s). However, we will also attempt to develop some basis for a comparative understanding of urbanization between Asian mega regions in the context of globalization and neo liberalism. Similarly, we shall examine how some parts of Asia have been able to solve problems of collective action in the environmental context (e.g. pollution, water management) in comparison and contrast to India’s efforts in the same sphere and the problems and potential of co-operation between cities and towns in the Asian mega region.

**Required Text books:**


City Requiem, Calcutta: Gender and the Politics of Poverty by Ananya Roy. Published by University of Minnesota Press in 2002.

Some readings are provided through web links in this syllabus. Other readings shall be provided on the courselink website. An entire copy of City Requiem by Ananya Roy is also available online JSTOR via the University of Guelph library website. You may prefer to purchase a copy or use the online library copy http://www.jstor.org/subzero.lib.uoguelph.ca/stable/10.5749/j.ctttvbc

Note: Please note that Calcutta, the city that is the focus of the text book has been renamed as Kolkata

**Assignments and Due Dates:**

1) Take Home mid-term Exam: 35%. Due March 1st, in class. The exam will be posted on course link before the February break

2) Final Book Review of the text book for the course. This is due in the last class, April 5th and a copy has to be submitted on Course link. Worth 25% of the total marks for the course. Details will be provided in week four. This assignment will have a word count of 2,500 words.

3) Final Exam: 40%, April 12th, 2017
Weekly Reading List

Week 1: January 11th
Introduction: Political Economy of Urban development
(Lecture Slides). Chapter 1, Fox and Goodfellow

Week 2: January 18th

Chapter 2 from Fox and Goodfellow

Week 3: January 25th
Models, Frameworks and Metaphors in Asian Urbanization: The Contributions of Geertz, Friedmann, Lewis, McGee and their role in our knowledge and understanding of the Asian urban context.

Compulsory Readings
Geertz, Clifford. Chapters 1 & 2 in Peddlers and Princes: Social Development and Economic Change in Two Indonesian Towns (to be provided online)
Chapter 3 from Fox and Goodfellow

Week 4: February 1st
Models, Frameworks and Metaphors in Asian Urbanization: The Contributions of Geertz, Friedmann, Lewis, McGee and their role in our knowledge and understanding of the Asian urban context.

Compulsory Readings

Suggested readings/videos
The Lewis model explained: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cgvYrGBW6w
Financial Times: China Migration at a turning point. http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/767495a0-e99b-11e4-b863-00144feab7de.html#axzz4JmWVQoJO
The Economist: The largest migration in history. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNXg-kYk-LU

Week 5: February 8th
Contemporary Indian Urbanization: Major Patterns, Conundrums and Policy Challenges.

**Compulsory Readings:** Bhagat, R B 2012. Emerging Pattern of Urbanization in India.
Chapter 4 from Fox and Goodfellow

Mathur, Om 2016. Smart Men for Smart Cities.
The Economist. 2013: Is India Becoming More Urban ?
Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtMeyAs7Vz0
Isher Ahluwalia 2011. TED Talk- Role of Cities In India’s Development
Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvSuUZw0j0M

Week 6: February 15th
Rural-Urban Migration: Migrants in India and Asia

**Compulsory Readings:** Chapters 1 and 2 from City Requiem

**Suggested Readings:** The Hindu 2016. Only Gandhi wrote on paupers. Interview with Jan Breman.
NDTV 2013. Distress Migration: from Bharat to India
Link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbLaFwOzHjY

**Week 7: March 1st**
Social Reproduction, Gender and Urban Informality in India
Chapter 3 from City Requiem.
Link on Domestic helps” in the Indian context:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7ubzY_mBB4

**Compulsory Readings:**
Chapter 4 from the text book, City Requiem
Link on Slum Free Mumbai: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hT4tg5l8twk
Chapter 5 from Fox and Goodfellow

**Week 8: March 8th**
Social Reproduction, Gender and Urban Informality in India (cont.)

**Compulsory Readings:**
Chapter 5 from the text book, City Requiem
Chapter 7 from Fox and Goodfellow

**Week 9: March 15th**
Concluding with the text book. Chapter titled “Post Scripts” and Methodological Appendix.

**Week 10: March 22nd**
The Urban-Rural Relationship and its Management in Asia. (Visiting Lecture)
Chapter 6 from Fox and Goodfellow

**Week 11: March 29th**
Metropolitan Governance in India and South Asia

**Compulsory Readings:**
K Sivaramkrishnan. Planning for Metropolitan regions in K Sivramakrishnan. (2014) Governance of Megacities; Fractured Thinking, Fragmented Set up (to be provided online)
Chapter 8 from Fox and Goodfellow

**Suggested Videos/ Readings:**
Center for Policy Research: Metropolitan Governance in India: International Workshop on Governance of Megacity regions.

Link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hox7wW1Jpyw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hox7wW1Jpyw)

**Week 12: April 5th**

Environmental issues in Mega regions

**Compulsory Readings**

Chapter 6 “Energy, Ecology and Environment” in K Sivaramakrishnan. (2014). (To be provided online)

Chapter 6 from Fox and Goodfellow

**Standard Statements**

*E-mail Communication*

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <mail.uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

*When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement*

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

*Drop Date*

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is on the undergraduate calendar. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar.

*Copies of out-of-class assignments*

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

*Accessibility*

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment. Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the website: [http://www.uoguelph.ca/csd/](http://www.uoguelph.ca/csd/)

*Academic Misconduct*

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity
and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University’s policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor.

**Recording of Materials:** Presentations that are made in relation to course work—including lectures—cannot be recorded or copied without the permission of the presenter, whether the instructor, a classmate, or a guest lecturer. Material recorded with permission is restricted to use for that course unless further permission is granted.

**Resources:** The Academic Calendars are the source of information about the University of Guelph’s procedures, policies, and regulations that apply to undergraduate, graduate, and diploma programs: [http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/index.cfm?index](http://www.uoguelph.ca/registrar/calendars/index.cfm?index)