

Instructor**E-Mail****Personal Website****Office Hours and Location****Class Meeting Time and Location**

Dr. Yujie Hu

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Wed. to Fri. 1:00 – 2:00 pm; TUR 3120

Mon. Wed. Fri. 09:35 – 10:25 am; TUR 3012

 **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

An empirical and theoretical spatial analysis of the various economic, population, and social facets within and between urban settlements. Major topics include: defining urban, urbanization, systems of cities, urban development models, population density, ethnicity in cities, economic structure in cities, and environmental problems.

 **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

After successful completion of this course students should be able to:

- Understand the central concepts and theories relating to urban/business geography;
- Recognize and critically analyze the geographic dimensions of urban issues;
- Develop and demonstrate independent thought and academic skills through written- and presentation-based assignments;
- Have a sense of how GIS can be beneficial to study urban issues;
- Gain background for upper-level courses relating to urban/business geography.

 **PREREQUISITES**

Sophomore standing or higher.

 **TEXTBOOKS**

Required textbook:

- Kaplan, D., Wheeler, J., and Holloway, S. (2009). *Urban Geography (2nd ed.)*. Wiley.

Recommended textbook:

- Greene, R. and Pick, J. (2012). *Exploring the Urban Community: A GIS Approach (2nd ed.)*. Pearson.

Additional readings will be posted on Canvas.

 **EVALUATION**

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

- **In-class quizzes (2 points each – 10%)**

Five short quizzes will be administered throughout the course, in class. These may be in a form of multiple choice, short answer, or short essay responses. Each quiz is worth 2 points—1 point for participation and 1 point for the question itself.

- **Reading assignments (100 points – 20%)**

There will be assigned readings designed to inform class discussions. For each of these assigned readings you should prepare a written summary of 250-300 words summarizing and critiquing the reading. A sample written summary will be provided. The summary should be posted on Canvas by the Thursday evening (no later than 8 pm) prior to the Friday class.

- **Discussion leader (20%)**

Students are expected to lead/chair class discussion on the Friday class, which involves a short (10 – 15 minutes) presentation of the key theoretical and conceptual issues in the lectures and readings pertaining to that week and introducing questions for the class to explore. This will often be done in groups of 2-3, and you will have the opportunity to present twice in the semester.

- **Exams (100 points – 20%)**

Two short (one-period), close-book exams, covering all course contents by the day of the exam, will be administered in class. The exam will comprise a mix of multiple choice, short answer, and short essay responses.

- **Final presentation (100 points – 20%)**

Each student will select a city (must be approved by instructor) and prepare a 15-minute presentation to describe and analyze patterns and issues of the city.

- **Peer review (100 points – 10%)**

Each student will write a response to assigned final presentations. Students will be provided with a rubric to guide their response.

GRADING SCALE (&GPA EQUIVALENT)

A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	E
93+	92-90	89-87	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-73	72-70	69-67	66-63	62-60	59-
4.0	3.67	3.33	3.0	2.67	2.33	2.0	1.67	1.33	1.0	0.67	0

Note: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx#hgrades>.

CLASSROOM POLICIES

- **Attendance & makeup:** Attendance is mandatory for all students. Absences may be excused if they are documentable and the instructor is notified two business days in advance. See the university attendance policies for more detail: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/attendance-policies/>.
- **Cell phone and texting:** To encourage uninterrupted participation in class, it is expected that students turn cell phones to silent mode before coming to class.
- **Late submissions:** Late submissions will not be accepted.

- **Grade disputes:** Should a student wish to dispute any grade received in this class (other than simple addition errors), the dispute must be in writing and be submitted to the instructor within a week of receiving the grade. The dispute should set out very clearly, the grade that the student believes the assignment should have received as well as why he or she believes that he or she should have received such a grade.

OTHER INFORMATION

- **Academic honesty:** UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, "We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment." The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.
- **Accommodations for students with disabilities:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. Contact the Disability Resources Center (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/>) for information about available resources for students with disabilities.
- **Counseling and mental health resources:** Students facing difficulties completing the course or who are in need of counseling or urgent help should contact the on-campus Counseling and Wellness Center (352-392-1575; <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/>).
- **Online course evaluation process:** Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

SUGGESTED COURSE SCHEDULE

Students should note that there may be changes to the class schedule.

Weeks	Dates	Topic
1	01/06/20	Course overview and syllabus walkthrough
	01/08/20	Introduction to urban geography
	01/10/20	Origin and growth of cities
2	01/13/20	Evolution of the American urban system
	01/15/20	Defining urban
	01/17/20	Group presentation
3	01/20/20	Holiday—No class
	01/22/20	Defining urban
	01/24/20	Group presentation
4	01/27/20	Urban development models
	01/29/20	Urban development models
	01/31/20	Group presentation
5	02/03/20	Systems of cities
	02/05/20	Systems of cities
	02/07/20	Group presentation
6	02/10/20	Ethnicity in the city
	02/12/20	Race and gender
	02/14/20	Group presentation
7	02/17/20	Population density
	02/19/20	Migration
	02/21/20	Group presentation
8	02/24/20	Industrial location
	02/26/20	Industrial location
	02/28/20	Group presentation
9	03/02/20	Spring break—No class
	03/04/20	Spring break—No class
	03/06/20	Spring break—No class
10	03/09/20	Central business district
	03/11/20	Central business district
	03/13/20	Group presentation
11	03/16/20	Landscapes of production
	03/18/20	Metropolitan retail structure
	03/20/20	Group presentation
12	03/23/20	Housing and neighborhoods
	03/25/20	Housing and neighborhoods
	03/27/20	Group presentation
13	03/30/20	Land use
	04/01/20	Transportation
	04/03/20	Group presentation

14	04/06/20	AAG conference—No class
	04/08/20	AAG conference—No class
	04/10/20	AAG conference—No class
15	04/13/20	Environment problems
	04/15/20	Urban sustainability
	04/17/20	Group presentation
16	04/20/20	Final presentation
	04/22/20	Final presentation
	04/24/20	Reading day—No class

 **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Exam 1: TBD
- Exam 2: TBD
- The city for final presentation: determined by TBD