

COURSE SYLLABUS (January 8, 2007)
Urban Environmental Geography
Geography 3330-001 — Spring 2007
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2-3:20 PM, OSH 102

Instructor: Genevieve Atwood, Ph.D.

Office hours (encouraged!!): the hour after class (3:30-4:30PM); Fridays 10AM-1PM; and by appointment, OSH 172. The hour after class on Thursdays is a good time for after-class coaching to clarify concepts or skills of the labs.

Contacts: genevieve.atwood@geog.utah.edu and 534-1896. No office phone.

Credit Hours: 3. **Last day to drop:** January 17, 2007 **Last day to withdraw:** March 2, 2007

Class Website: www.geog.utah.edu/courses/geog3330 for schedule, session outlines, posting of homework assignments, announcements. Use WebCT only for basic course information, to track grades, and for links to the library.

Required text: J.R. McNeill, 2000, *Something New Under the Sun: an environmental history of the twentieth-century world*.

Course catalogue listing: 3330 Urban Environmental Geography (3) Fulfills Physical/Life Science Exploration. *How physical environments impact urban development and how urban development impacts physical environments. The course applies Earth systems science to issues of urban development. Students explore the interrelation of dynamic physical environments and dynamic urban settings. Utah communities are used to illustrate the interrelatedness of the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and anthrosphere. Skills include how to interpret contours, resource maps, weather systems, and census data.*

Learning objectives and course approach:

Urban Environmental Geography explores the interrelatedness of urban settings and Earth systems. Why are cities located where they are? How are they affected by the geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, and biosphere? How does urbanization impact these Earth systems? The text presents evidence of global impacts of urbanization. Lectures present some of the science that explains these impacts and applies Earth science principles to Utah urban environments. The course also teaches skills essential to planners: interpreting contour maps; drawing topographic profiles; reading geologic, hydrologic, weather, and zoning maps; and interpreting messy data sets.

Objectives of the course include: students (1) appreciate the impacts of urbanization on physical Earth systems (geosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere, biosphere, and anthrosphere), (2) analyze urban settings and problems using Earth systems principles and geographers' skills, and (3) recognize how the local affects the global and vice versa.

Expected Time Commitment:

In accordance with university, school, and department policies, as this is a 3-credit class and the expectation is that homework will take 1-2 hours per class session. Homework mostly consists of reading chapters of the text. Several homework assignments are begun in class and due the following week. Neither the reading nor homework assignments should take more than an hour or two a week. However, students prepare and present case histories of urban communities and impacts of their urbanization. Research into and analysis of the urban environmental geography of these communities is done in teams and is a significant component of the course.

Grading: The grade for the course is calculated based on the following components. Grading on a curve is only for an upward curve.

Course Requirements and Grading Evaluation		%
Pre- and post-course self evaluations (not graded)	2 @ 1	2
In-class quizzes, primarily review of chapters of McNeill	10 @ 1	10
Labs begun in class to teach an apply skills of geographers	9 @ 3	27
Field trip (March 24, half day)		5
Midterm		15
Urban case history (outline 2%; CD 8%; presentation 5%)		15
Worksheets for colleagues urban case histories	11@1	11
Final		15
Total		100

University of Utah, Department of Geography, and class policies.

Academic Misconduct

Academic misconduct will not be tolerated. Penalties may include failure of an assignment, the entire course, and/or the filing of formal charges with appropriate university authorities. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to, cheating, misrepresenting one’s work, and plagiarism:

- Cheating involves the unauthorized possession or use of information in an academic exercise, including unauthorized communication with another person during an exercise such as an examination.
- Misrepresenting one’s work includes, but is not limited to, representing material prepared by another as one’s own work or submitting the same work in more than one course without prior permission of all instructors.
- Plagiarism means the intentional unacknowledged use or incorporation of any other person’s work in one’s own work offered for academic consideration or public presentation.

Americans with Disabilities Act: The University of Utah seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. If you will need accommodations in the class, reasonable prior notice needs to be given to the Center for Disability Services, 162 Olpin Union Building, 581-5020 (V/TDD). CDS will work with you and the instructor to make arrangements for accommodations. All written information in this course can be made available in alternative format with prior notification to the Center for Disability Services.

Student Responsibility: If you have problems with paperwork or with the course, I encourage you to take advantage of office hours. Don’t hesitate to email me or even to telephone me at home. I work mostly off-campus but it is easy for me to come to campus to meet with you.

Respect: Geography of Utah includes class discussions. Students should be considerate and respectful of others perspectives as they express opinions. Please be open with the instructor if you feel class sessions or management has been inappropriate. Some of the subject matter in this course includes topics that some students may find controversial or offensive. Please review the syllabus carefully to see if the course is one that you are committed to taking. If you have concerns, please discuss it with me at your earliest convenience.

Attached and linked on course website: SCHEDULE and LIST OF ASSIGNMENTS.

Go to: <http://www.geog.utah.edu/courses/geog3330>