

Cleveland State University  
Levin College of Public Affairs and Education  
School of Urban Studies  
Instructor: Winifred Weizer  
Office hours: By appointment

**Urban Geography (UST 290 Section 1)**  
**Fall Semester, 2023 2:35 to 3:25 MWF**

Email: [w.weizer@csuohio.edu](mailto:w.weizer@csuohio.edu)  
Phone: 523-7574

**Course Description:** Social, economic, and political structures operating within cities; geographical definitions, location theories, population densities and migrations, and land-use patterns; identifies issues, problems, and policies related to urban settlements

**Course Objective:** The objective of the course is to allow the student to understand the way that the city has changed and is continuing to change. The student should have a basic understanding of the influences of politics, transportation, economics, and social forces on the form of the city after completing the course. This course will also allow the student to understand how geographical knowledge can aid in understanding and solving problems of the city.

**Course Method:** Although lectures by the instructor are the primary method used, *class discussion is not only encouraged but expected. Students are expected to come prepared to discuss the material that is assigned.*

This course fulfills the General Education requirements for Social Sciences, Writing Across the Curriculum

**Grading Policy:** Grades are based on the results of exercises, tests, a research paper and class participation. There will be three tests given (two midterms and the final). Two exercises will be assigned at various points throughout the class. The grade will consist of the following;

|                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| Topic                  | 10% |
| Paper Draft            | 10% |
| Annotated Bibliography | 10% |
| Midterm                | 15% |
| Final                  | 20% |
| Research Paper         | 25% |
| Class participation    | 10% |

Exam attendance is required. Makeup exams will only be given with the prior approval of the instructor.

**Research Paper:** UST 290 is a “Writing Across the Curriculum” course. A research paper is required for this class. The paper must be no less than 2,000 words in length (approximately 8 to 10 pages). The paper must be submitted by the draft date so that the instructor may review and comment on your paper. Since this is a Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) course there is an additional grading requirement set by the University. In order to receive a C or better in this course, the student must write at a satisfactory skill level (C or better). If the student's writing is weak, but shows an understanding of the course material, the student may be assigned a D, in which case WAC credit will not be received for the course.

All submitted papers must be typewritten or word processed and double spaced. Grammar, syntax and spelling must be checked before submission. Citations are to be done using American Psychological Association (APA) format. An APA style format guide is available on-line through the CSU Library. At the Library home page, go to *Virtual Reference* and choose Citation Guides. Late papers will not be accepted without prior approval of the instructor and will be subject to a 5% grade penalty.

**Text:** There is no formal text for the class. Readings will be placed into Blackboard for the class. I recommend the following text if the student wishes to go deeper into the material.

Knox, Paul L. and McCarthy, Linda 2012 Urbanization An Introduction to Urban Geography 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition Boston, MA: Pearson Education, Inc.

### **Class Schedule and Readings**

**Week 1: August 28 to September 1:** Course Introduction. What is Urban Geography?  
Urbanization and Change, Major Themes, Writing a Research Paper.

*September 1: Last day to join the course waitlist*

*September 1: Last day to drop with full refund*

*September 3: Last day to add using CampusNet Registration*

**Week 2: September 4 to September 8:** Historical Development

**September 4:** Labor Day, no class

*September 8: Last day to drop and not have it appear on transcript.*

**Week 3: September 11 to September 15:** European Urban Expansion

**September 11 – Topic Assignment is due**

**Week 4: September 18 to September 22:** Impacts of Industrial Revolution, US Urban System

**Week 5: September 25 to September 29:** US Urban System

**Week 6: October 2 to October 6:** US Industrial Expansion and Regional Redevelopment

*October 11: No Class Columbus Day*

**Week 7: October 9 to October 13:** Organization of Industry and Impacts of Transportation Improvements

**October 13: Annotated Bibliography is due**

**Week 8: October 16 to October 20:** Fordism, Suburban Infill and Depression

**October 20 – Midterm**

**Week 9: October 23 to October 27:** Federal Policy Impacts, Growth of Suburbs

*October 20<sup>th</sup> – Paper Drafts Are Due*

**Week 10: October 30 to November 3:** Regional Decentralization, Metropolitan Sprawl

*October 29: Last day to withdraw*

**Week 11: November 6 to November 10:** Urban Development Process

**November 10:** Veteran's Day - No Class

**Week 12: November 13 to November 17:** Neighborhood Change

**Week 13: November 20 to November 24:** Urbanization, Urban Life and Urban Spaces

*November 23 to November 24 Thanksgiving recess: No class*

**Week 14: November 27 to December 1:** Problems of Urbanization

*November 29<sup>th</sup>: Final Paper is due*

**Week 15: December 4 to December 8:** Reimagining the city

*Friday December 4: Final Review*

***Friday December 15, 12:30 to 2:30 pm Final Exam***

**Note:** Students are strongly encouraged to email the Instructor with questions or problems they may be having. I check my email and phone messages on a daily basis. I am also willing to meet with students that may be having difficulty with the material. Please contact me to set up a specific time.

**A special note on plagiarism: All submitted work is to be to academic standards with appropriate citations.** Material that is copied word for word and submitted without appropriate citations is an instance of plagiarism. Paraphrased material without citations also is considered plagiarism.

Since your final paper is worth 25% of your course grade, this is considered a major infraction of the Academic Conduct Code. The penalty for a major infraction can be an F in the course along with notation in your student record that a major infraction has occurred. I note this so you will understand that plagiarism is a serious offense. I am happy to work with any student to improve their writing and avoid plagiarizing either deliberately or by accident. The university Writing Center is a great one stop shop that can provide you with the support you need to improve your writing and be sure your citations are correct.

A full copy of the CSU Academic Misconduct Policy can be found here:

[https://www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/3344-21-02\\_0.pdf](https://www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/3344-21-02_0.pdf)

Paraphrasing can be a challenge for some students. A good resource for learning how to paraphrase can be found at

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/563/01/>

along with many helpful tips on citations and writing research papers.

Another good resource for learning how to paraphrase can be found at

<https://pressbooks.ulib.csuohio.edu/csu-fyw-rhetoric/chapter/9-3-paraphrasing-summarizing-and-integrating-data/>

*Wikipedia is NOT to be used as a source for your papers. PERIOD!. There will be a 10 point deduction assessed on any assignment where Wikipedia is used.*

The Writing Center at Cleveland State is available to assist the student with writing issues. Information on the writing center is found at <http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/writingcenter/> Using the Writing Center is a good way to save yourself from writing issues like plagiarism. When you work with someone from the writing center via email please ask for a slip from the individual who works with you to confirm this and turn it in to me. When I grade your paper, I take this into account.

Other writing resources are also available at:

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>

The OWL writing lab at Purdue University is one of the best guides for students that I have found. It is clear and easy to understand.

Citation guide information can be found at

<http://library.csuohio.edu/research/vrd/citations.html>

Questions regarding the university calendar (holidays and finals week schedule) can be resolved by using the following link to the registrar's office.

<https://www.csuohio.edu/registrar/academic-calendar>

### **University Policies**

Students should refer to the Undergraduate Bulletin for procedures regarding add/drop and withdrawals and any other policies that may apply.

### **Physically challenged/Special Needs**

Students with Special Needs

Educational access is the provision of classroom accommodations, auxiliary aids and services to ensure equal educational opportunities for all students regardless of their disability. Any student who feels he or she may need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability should contact the Office of Disability Services at (216)687-2015. The Office is located in Rhodes West 210.

Accommodations need to be requested in advance and will not be granted retroactively.

Students should notify the instructor as soon as possible if they have been granted an accommodation through the Office of Disability Services.

<https://www.csuohio.edu/disability/disability>

**Life challenges:** The University counseling center provides a full range of counseling services for students. I encouraged you to contact the center if you feel you are dealing with stressors beyond your control.

<https://www.csuohio.edu/counselingcenter/counselingcenter>

**Workshops on improving academic success are also offered through the Tutoring Center as well as tutoring for some specific course content. Information on the Tutoring Center can be found at**

**<http://www.csuohio.edu/academic/advising/tutoring/>**

**The CSU resources here are funded through your tuition dollars. You have paid for them – use them!!!!**