

## SOCIOLOGY 77.227 URBAN SOCIOLOGY INSTRUCTOR K.W. TAYLOR

Tentative Course Outline SEPTEMBER 2001

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Required Textbooks: To be announced

This document along with course policies and details on grade

calculations and assignments can be found on UM webpage: > Go to

Information for current students > WebCT > Course list > Arts > Page 7

> 077.227 Urban Sociology.

### COURSE GOALS

This course is designed to teach problem solving, research, and

communication skills in urban sociology. The course will provide students with an examination of cities as an influence and resource in their lives and an introductory level examination of the theory and practice of urban phenomena historically and in contemporary societies.

## Evaluation

### Course Work Value Dates

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- A. Exams 50% Feb 1, March 1, April 5
  - B. Term paper 30% March 22
  - C. Other Cities Assignments 10% 2 meetings mid & end of term
  - D. Classroom Participation 10% Throughout the term
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## Student Responsibility and Academic Dishonesty

If a test is missed for a legitimate medical reason the student must get in touch with the professor, present their medical certificate, and arrange for a make-up test. Under normal circumstances, the student is required to inform the professor of their request for a make-up test

within one week of the original test date. Failure to request a make-up test within the expected time frame may result in ineligibility for a make-up test and a mark of zero for that test.

Cheating is a serious offense with grave consequences. Students should acquaint themselves with the University's policy on academic ethics, i.e., cheating (see the University of Manitoba General Calendar).

Disruptions due to excessive talking or early departures from the classroom are especially distracting to large classes. Please be considerate and respectful of the needs and rights of others in the class. Students should be aware that persistent disruption may result in disbarment from the course. Any student who has a legitimate reason for leaving class early should inform the instructor at the beginning of class.

The following numerical scores are used for averaging letter grades:

A+=87, A=82, B+=77, B=72, C+=67, C=62, D=55. Grades are averaged upward

if the score is less than .5 away from the next category. For example, a

score of 79.50 would be graded as B+; a score of 79.51 would be graded as

A.

## Textbook Reading Calendar:

Students are expected to have read the chapters as scheduled below in preparation for classroom discussion.

### Week Topic Textbook Readings

#### September

6 You did what in the city?

11 What are cities anyway?

18 A nation, a globe of cities?

25 Bigger and better?

#### October

2 How do you run a city? Exam 1 Term paper topic

9 Does industry make the city?

16 Must developers have their way? Term paper outline

23 A place to live, a place to work?

30 Do we have to segregate to live together? Exam 2 Term paper draft

#### November

6 Can the urban act be cleaned up?

13 You have a plan, you say? Term paper due 15th

20 How do you run a city? again

27 If farms can't survive, can the cities?

December

4 Last exam Other cities assignment presentations

Reading assignments on topics not covered in the textbooks will be announced from time to time. Reading material will be placed on reserve or put on the course web page.

Term Paper

Type A: students will choose a city and research it as a means of testing one or more theories of urban structure or development. The thesis of the paper will be that the structure and/or the behavior of the city does/does not agree with the selected theory or theories. If the theory has shortcomings for the organization researched, the final section will spell out the changes required in the theories.

Type B. students will choose an urban theory and evaluate the accuracy of the theory using previous research and whatever other evidence is appropriate. The thesis of the paper will be that the selected theory is adequate and accurate, or inadequate and inaccurate.

If the theory has shortcomings for the cities researched, the final section will spell out the changes required in the organization theories.

Type C. students will choose an urban issue and connect it to a concept or theory of urban organization covered in course materials. The thesis of the paper is that changes in policy and practice proposed by the author will improve how the issue is dealt with in contemporary cities. This will require first a BRIEF review of the strengths and shortcomings of practises and policies in place that deal with the issue in cities. The changes proposed should be based on theories of urban organization reviewed in the course.

Type D. Heroines and villains of cities paper: students will choose an individual who played an extraordinary role in building or destroying a city and retell their story in terms of concepts and theories of urbanization covered in this course. The thesis of the paper is that the individual either used existing tools or invented new ones that solved cities' problems or created a problem that could not be solved by cities without major changes.

## OTHER CITIES ASSIGNMENT

A. City one: students will select a city that they have a personal or family connection with and research the city during the course as a source of urban/city information to be debated in class and as a means of self-education about cities.

B. City two: students will select a second city in a contrasting situation-if city one is Canadian or European city two should be a third world city or vice versa. It is important to understand national contexts as an influence on how cities work (or fail to work).

Students will keep a file folder for each of the above to record their research and activity, their questions, their learning and their reflections. Materials will be presented twice during the course and folders are to be turned in on the last day of class.

Student should provide answers to the following questions for both cities. The questions are mostly phrased in terms of contemporary times.

Where there has been dramatic shifts, please note and explain them.

1. When and how did this city originate?

2. What product or service does it produce today that keeps it going?
3. What role does the city play in the nation?
4. What role does the city play in the region, the globe?
5. What are the legal constraints on its growth and operation?
6. What major national or international forces are influencing its operation, growth and survival.
7. What are the major threats to survival (in its current state)?
8. Who are the heros/heroines of the city?
9. If the city failed or were merged or taken over, what would happen to the city?
10. A similar city fails or is taken over by your city; how would your city change?

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SOCIOLOGY 77.263 SOCIAL CHANGE SECTION L01 213 TIER

TENTATIVE COURSE OUTLINE 2001-2002

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This document along with course policies and details on grade calculations and assignments can be found on UM webpage: > Go to Information for current students > WebCT > Course list > Arts > Page 6 > 077.263 Social Change.

Required Textbooks:

Jay Weinstein, Social and Cultural Change: Social Science for a Dynamic World. Boston: Allyn and Bacon

**COURSE GOALS:** The goals of this course are to develop students' questionning, problem solving, research and communication skills in the social scientific analysis of social change. The analysis of social change requires describing change, correlating changes, theorizing change, forecasting, and designing and evaluating responses to change. We will develop these skills and practise applying them to the topics examined in the course textbook and other readings.

## Evaluation and Grading

### Course Work Value Due Dates

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- A. Exams 50% Oct 2, Nov 1, Dec 4
  - B. Term paper Assignment 30% November 15
  - C. Movement/technology Assignment 10% To be announced
  - D. Class participation 10% Every meeting
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Class participation grades will be assigned for activities in the classroom such as verbal and written responses to questions, comments, requests for feedback, contributions to in-class exercises, making reports, etc. Regular attendance is required for a good participation grade.

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