

# **GEOG743/EES79903 Urban Geographic Theory**

Fall, 2012

Class hour:	TBA
Class location:	Fully Online (Access Blackboard at <a href="http://bb.hunter.cuny.edu">http://bb.hunter.cuny.edu</a> )
Professor:	<a href="#">Hongmian Gong</a>
Office and phone:	HN1050, 212-772-4658
Office hours:	Tuesday 2:00-3:00 p.m., or by appointment.
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Department office and phone:	HN1006, 212-772-5265

## **Course Description and Learning Outcomes**

This course focuses on spatial analysis of contemporary and theoretical issues concerning the economic growth, transportation, land use, globalization and technological impacts, social segregation, and urban governance in metropolitan areas. We will discuss a topic each week, reading and responding to articles that link a contemporary urban issue to new and traditional urban geographic theories. Emphasis will be placed on the urban experience of developed countries, especially the U.S., although urban issues in developing countries will also be briefly discussed.

Students will be exposed to some theoretical frameworks, approaches, and methodologies used in urban geographical studies. They are expected to learn the types and aspects of urban geographical research from the examples provided and discussed in the course. They will be guided to conduct an urban geographical study of their own and present it in the research paper format.

This course is designed for graduate students only. It is offered entirely online in seminar format this semester, although students are welcome to come meet the professor during office hours.

## **Prerequisite**

Permission of department.

## **Textbooks and Readings**

No textbook is required for this course.

Reading assignments will be given out in Blackboard throughout the semester.

## **Course Evaluation**

Grade will be based on the following Criteria.

Weekly reading posting	40%
Weekly Blackboard discussions	30%
Research paper	30%

1. A late (after midnight on Tuesday) reading posting or paper will be marked down 5% each day.
2. No incomplete (IN) is given as a grade unless it is under the most extraordinary, and documented, circumstances. To request IN as a grade, you must contact the instructor by Dec. 18 and complete a Contract to Resolve Incomplete Grades.

## **Class Schedule** (based on a Tuesday class meeting once per week)

Week 1 (August 28): Introduction  
Week 2 (September 4): Cities in information age  
Week 3 (September 11): Telecommunications and the city  
-----September 14 (Friday): Last day to drop the class without a grade of "W"-----  
Week 4 (October 2): Telecommuting  
Week 5 (October 9): GPS/GIS for urban transportation  
-----October 9 (Tuesday): Last day to drop the class with the grade of "W"-----  
Week 6 (October 16): Neighborhoods and social capital  
Week 7 (October 23): Intraurban analyses  
Week 8 (October 30): Spatial mismatch  
Week 9 (November 6): New location theory  
Week 10 (November 13): Knowledge-based services  
Week 11 (November 20): Growth of temporary help services  
Week 12 (November 27): Globalization and financial Services  
Week 13 (December 4): Urban Housing Markets  
Week 14 (December 11): Urbanization in developing countries  
Week 15 (December 18): Research paper due

## **Hunter College Policy on Academic Integrity**

Hunter College regards acts of academic dishonesty (e.g., plagiarism, cheating on examinations, obtaining unfair advantage, and falsification of records and official documents) as serious offenses against the values of intellectual honesty. The College is committed to enforcing the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity and will pursue cases of academic dishonesty according to the Hunter College Academic Integrity Procedures.

## **ADA Policy**

In compliance with the American Disability Act of 1990 (ADA) and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Hunter College is committed to ensuring educational parity and accommodations for all students with documented disabilities and/or medical conditions. It is

recommended that all students with documented disabilities (Emotional, Medical, Physical, and/or Learning) consult the Office of AccessABILITY, located in Room E1214B, to secure necessary academic accommodations. For further information and assistance, please call: (212) 772- 4857 or (212) 650-3230.

### **Syllabus Change Policy**

Except for changes that substantially affect implementation of the evaluation (grading) criteria, this syllabus is a guide for the course and is subject to change with advance notice. Any changes made to the syllabus will be posted under Announcements in Blackboard.