

Welcome to Urban Sociology

Soc. 305-001

Urban Sociology Online

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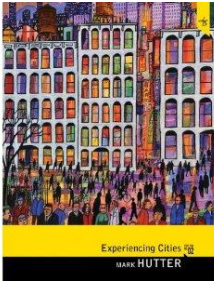


Ever wonder what all those headlines about cities are talking about?

Thinking about moving to a city in the near future? Maybe one of the top ten Money Magazine's best places to live...

And the winners are.....learn whether or not it would be a smart move or not and for whom?

The purpose of this page is to provide you with an outline of the course. It is your responsibility to be prepared for class discussion by reading the assigned material. The class web site will provide details, changes, and additions.



Text - *Cities, Experiencing Cities* 2nd edition and My Search Lab with
E Text SAC, 2/E

Author Mark Hutter, Rowan University

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Course Description:

The rise of cities has been one of the most dramatic developments in human history. In this class we will develop a Sociological understanding of our increasingly urban society and the impacts of the urbanization on individuals and communities. I have designed the course to give you practice in developing and sharpening your scholarly abilities: writing, critical thinking, and analyses.

We will be looking at

Historical developments

Urban Planning and Theories

City Imagery and the Social Psychology of City Life

The Social Psychology of City Life

City People

City Places

The Urban World

Course Outline:

I. Urbanization and key terms defined

II. Emergence of Cities

a. The first cities

b. Pre-industrial cities in Europe

III. The Growth of American cities

a. Colonial settlement: 1624-1800

b. Urban expansion: 1800-1860

c. The Metropolitan era: 1860-1950

d. Urban decentralization: 1950-present

IV. Suburbs and Central cities

a. Urban renewal

V. The Sunbelt: Post-industrial cities

VI. Megalopolis: Regional cities and Edge cities

VII. European Theory: Urban Life versus rural life

a. Ferdinand Toennies- *Gemeinschaft* and *Gesellschaft*

b. Georg Simmel

c. Weber

VIII. American Research: Urbanism as a way of life

a. Robert Park

b. Louis Wirth

c. Critical evaluation

IX. Urban Ecology

- a. Urban ecology defined
- b. The concentric zone model
 - c. The sector model
 - d. The multiple-nuclei model
 - e. Social analysis
 - f. Critical evaluation
 - g. An integrated analysis
 - h. Critical evaluation
- X. Trends and Problems
 - a. Demographics, economics, and politics
 - b. Housing problems
 - c. Social Problems
 - d. The future of American cities
 - e. Critical evaluation
- XI. Cities of the Twenty first century
 - a. Some possible scenario

Assigned Reading Schedule:

Reading assignments will be posted in the Assignments and Activities Folder. Students are expected to read one to two chapters per week.

Course Organization:

The course objectives will be achieved through a program of weekly assigned chapter readings, power point presentations, weekly discussion forums and or assignments, and reading review quizzes. There will be a Smart Moves Final project. Students may elect to work in groups of 2 on this assignment.

Readings and assignments

Will be posted in the Weekly Assignments and Activities Folder on Tuesdays, course work will be due the following Tuesday unless otherwise posted.

A weekly schedule detailing reading assignments, examinations, and exercises will be assigned by the instructor in class and posted in the specific week of the class.

Final:

Students will be responsible for a project "Smart Moves." Students will choose a city they would like to move to and research whether in fact it would be a smart move and for whom. The project will be presented to the class by making a PSA a Public Service Announcement on their research findings. Students are encouraged to work in groups of 2 projects requirements/description can be found under course resources.

Written Assignments:

Students will be given one week notice for the dates of tests, and any written assignments.

The instructor reserves the right to change topics covered or the order in which they are covered at her discretion (after notifying the class in advance).



Course Grades

- 1) Weekly Discussions and Readings 50 points
 - 2) Weekly Reading Review Quizzes 25 points
 - 3) Final Smart Moves Project and Presentation 25 points
- Total 100 points