

LLS 4910/8916- cross listed with SOC 4800/8806-001

Meeting times: Tuesdays-Thursdays: 1:00-2:15 pm

Location Course description

Over the past forty years, Latin American cities have boomed. In 1950, 40 percent of the region's population was urban, but by 1990 it was up to 70 percent. Today, about 80 percent of the region's population lives in cities, a higher proportion than the group of most

The course format will be a combination of lectures, in-class audiovisual materials, student presentations and class discussions. Student participation is expected throughout the class. Students will be reading between 50 to 70 pages each week. Students are expected to complete **all** required readings and write weekly memos **prior** to class meetings. Attendance is mandatory. Multiple absences will affect students' grades. Extenuating circumstances need to be discussed with the instructor, ideally in advance.

- Attendance and participation 20%  
(includes submission of weekly reading memos on blackboard)  
***Every Monday before 10:00 am***, students will submit electronically reading memos (1 single spaced page at maximum) through blackboard. These memos should include: a brief summary of the main points of the readings, your critical comments, and two questions/topics you would like to discuss in class. Some weeks you will be asked to provide additional comments, or answer specific questions based on the readings or a video shown in class. Check the discussion board a week in advance to familiarize with those questions before reading the assigned course material. No late reading memos will be accepted.
- Class Presentations 15%  
(includes presentations based on the assigned readings, term papers and film critique)  
Students will take turns leading the discussion sections of the class. Put extra effort in drafting your discussion questions based on the assigned reading(s) for

- Film critique 20%  
Students will watch one film or documentary related to course content (list of suggested films

*Disabilities:* Reasonable accommodations are provided for students who are registered with Disability Services and make their requests sufficiently in advance. For more information, contact Disability Services (MBSC 111, Phone: 554-2872, TTY: 554-3799) or go to the website: [www.unomaha.edu/disability](http://www.unomaha.edu/disability)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup>: What does Urban Latin America look like and why should we care?

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>: What is urbanization? How are cities defined? What does it mean to be urban?

Assigned readings:

Lampard, Eric. E. 1965. "Historical aspects of urbanization". In: Philip M. Hauser and Leo F. Schrone (eds) *The Study of Urbanization*. John Wiley and Sons Inc: New York. Pp. 519-550.

Wirth, Louis. 1938. "Urbanism as a way of life"

February 5<sup>th</sup>: Urban centers in Neocolonialism in Latin America (1840-1930)

Assigned Readings

One of the following case studies from Gilbert, Joseph and Mark D. Szuchman. 1995. *I Saw a City Invincible* (Available through E-Book Library): Chapter 6 (Bogotá), Chapter 7 (Lima), Chapter 8 (Buenos Aires), Chapter 9 (Sao Paulo), Chapter 11 (Mexico).

February 10<sup>th</sup>: The Industrialization by Substitution of Imports period (1940 to 1980)

February 12<sup>th</sup>: Characteristics of the ISI city

Assigned readings:

Roberts, Bryan. 1995. "Urbanization and Industrialization". In: *The Making of the Citizens: Cities of Peasants Revisited*. Taylor and Francis Ltd.: London, UK. Pp. 55-86.

February 17<sup>th</sup>: Cities and Megacities during the structural adjustment in Latin America (1980 –1995)

Assigned Readings:

One of the following country case studies from Portes, Alejandro, José Itzigsohn and Carlos Dore Cabral. 1994. *The Urban Caribbean Transition to the New Global Economy* (This book is on reserve at Criss Library): Chapter 3 (Costa Rica), Chapter 4 (Haiti), Chapter 5 (Guatemala), Chapter 6 (Dominican Republic)

One of the following city case studies from Gilbert, Alan (Ed.) *The Mega-City in Latin America*: Chapter 6 (Buenos Aires), Chapter 7 (Lima), Chapter 8 (Mexico City), Chapter 9 (Rio de Janeiro), Chapter 10 (Sao Paulo), Chapter 11 (Bogotá). Book available online:

<http://www.unu.edu/unupress/unupbooks/uu23me/uu23me00.htm#Contents>

February 19<sup>th</sup>: The Free Market city (1990s to the present)

Assigned Readings:

Roberts, Bryan and Alejandro Portes. 2005. "The Free-



March 12<sup>th</sup>: Consolidated Settlements, Subsidized Home Ownership and the New Housing Policy Agenda  
Assigned readings:

April 7<sup>th</sup>: Labor Market Trends and Economic Informality

Assigned readings

Portes, Alejandro and Kelly Hoffman. 2003. Latin American Class Structures: Their Composition and Change in the Neoliberal Era. *Latin American Research Review* Vol. 38 (1): 41-82.

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April 21<sup>st</sup>: Decentralization and Political Participation

Assigned readings

Campbell, Tim. 2003. "The Backdrop to Revolution and the Seeds of Reform". In: *The Quiet Revolution: Decentralization and the Rise of Political Participation in Latin American Cities*. Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2003. Pp: 13-30.

April 23<sup>rd</sup>: The Case of Participatory budgeting

Assigned readings

Rodgers, Dennis. 2011. "Separate but Equal Democratization? Participation, Politics, and Urban Segregation in Latin America". Working paper 16. United Nations University/World Institute for Development Economics Research. Pp.1-15.

Souza, Celina. 2001. "Participatory budgeting in Brazilian cities: Limits and Possibilities in Building Democratic Institutions". *Environment and Urbanization* Vol. 13 (1): 159-184.

April 28<sup>th</sup>: Legacies of urban planning

Assigned readings