

URB 640
URBAN REGIONS AND URBAN CHANGE

Dr. Len Evenden
Office: HC 3276

Wednesdays, 5:30-9:20pm
Room: HC 1525

Course Description

The aim of this course is to develop perspectives on the study of urbanization by applying systematic approaches to specific regional and case contexts. Major theoretical and conceptual themes will be reviewed. The Canadian urban experience will necessarily be referred to, as it forms the common ground among members of the course. But most emphasis will be placed upon urbanization and urban problems in international and global contexts. Members of the course will be expected to develop an interest in a particular region of the world, outside North America, assemble a personal bibliography (including web sites) and report to the class on their enquiries. Readings for class reports will be assigned each week on a rotational basis.

Course Outline

The following schedule may be modified to accommodate a timetable for reporting and the numbers of students enrolled. Any such changes will be discussed in class.

Week

- 1 Introduction: preliminaries and overview of literature. Reading assignments.
- 2 Overview of literature continued.
- 3 Global and international approaches.
- 4 Global and international approaches.
- 5 North American and European urban patterns and experience. Case studies.
- 6 North American and European urban patterns and experience. Case Studies.
- 7 Socialist approaches to urban development: Russia, Eastern Europe and China.
- 8 Socialist approaches to urban development: Russia, Eastern Europe and China.
- 9 Third World urban patterns and experience.
- 10 Third World urban patterns and experience.
- 11 Globalization, localization and urbanization. Technologies of communications, transfer and concentration.
- 12 Community formation in urban context
- 13 Conclusion

Course Grade

*This structure of grades may be modified:

Presentations and participation	30%
Two term papers (35% each)	70%

Texts

No particular text will be assigned, apart from *The Canadian Oxford Atlas*, available from the bookstore. But it will be clear from the above that extensive reading will be expected. Certain items, from a list of references to be supplied, will be highlighted and commented upon in the early classes. Class members are expected to develop familiarity with those works.