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ARH 371/771 – ANTH 371. Cities in History

Spring 2007
Dell Upton

Read and retain this syllabus. You are responsible for following all the deadlines and instructions contained in it. It also has useful advice.

Instructor's office hours: Monday 2-4 in 111 Campbell or by appointment.

Instructor's e-mail: du2n@virginia.edu

Course meets Tuesday/Thursday 5:30-6:45 in Wilson 402

This lecture course will introduce you to the history of cities around the world, from the beginnings of cities to the present, locating urban forms in their visual, social, cultural, political, and symbolic contexts. Throughout the semester, we will consider the origins and changing nature of cities through time and across cultures; the nature of urban life and culture; the relationships between the physical city and urban life and between formal plans and policies and three-dimensional urban artifacts; the contrast between cities that are the results of a single overarching plan and those that are the results of many people's efforts; and concepts of urban citizenship and responsibility and their effects on urban forms.

Each class session will take as its starting point one major city and one or two principal themes, but over the course of the hour we will move outward from those points. Although the course ranges over the entire history of cities, it will be heavily weighted toward the last 500 years.

E-mail policy: The primary mode of personal communication between the instructor and TAs and students in the course is face-to-face discussion. I hold office hours and I am also glad to make other mutually convenient appointments to meet you. This is the only forum in which to discuss your academic or career interests, questions about the course, clarification of ideas presented in lectures and readings, topics and strategies for your papers, concerns about grades, requests for accommodations, exceptions, or extensions, or other such complex matters. E-mail is appropriate only for quick messages and replies. You are welcome to e-mail me with *brief* questions or comments (e.g., a request for an appointment, a question that can be answered in a sentence or two). I regret to say, however, that owing to state budget cuts, operators are no longer standing by the terminal to take

and respond to your messages 24 hours a day. I will answer your messages as I have the opportunity, but cannot guarantee immediate responses. Note also that **e-mail messages (particularly last minute e-mail messages) cannot be accepted as fulfilling class obligations or providing excuses for failing to do so.**

Cell-phone policy: Please turn off your cell phone before coming to lecture or leave it home. No excuses.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

For everyone:

- Regular attendance at **lectures**.
- Completion of all **reading assignments**.

The readings present important information, methods, and interpretations not contained in the lectures (and vice versa).

No extensions or make-ups will be granted except for a written medical excuse presented in a timely manner.

IN ADDITION:

For students enrolled in ARH/ANTH 371:

- A **term paper** of 10-12 pages. There are two due dates:
- If you wish to have your paper returned **with comments**, your paper is due at the beginning of class Thursday, **April 5**.
- If you only wish to receive a grade and don't care about comments, your paper is due at the beginning of class, Thursday, **April 19**.

You choose the due date that best suits your schedule and desires. **Your choice will not affect your grade.** All term papers will be returned at the final examination.

You should choose a currently existing and occupied city (e.g., Moscow or Fargo yes; Troy or Tenochtitlàn no) for which you can find a detailed map. It would be easier to choose a city that you have visited, but you are free to choose any city you wish with two exceptions: you may not write about a city covered extensively in the lectures or the readings or one that you have studied in another course. Obtain a detailed map of the city and write a paper interpreting a particular aspect of the city's physical history (don't try to write a general or inclusive history of the

city). You may – should – use whatever primary and secondary sources you can find (the bibliography posted on Toolkit is a good starting point), but your map should be a major source of evidence and you should refer to it in detail in analyzing your city.

Internet sources are not acceptable. The Internet can be helpful as a source of images, preliminary bibliographical references, or to retrieve occasional odd bits of factual data (Now, what *was* Le Corbusier’s middle name, anyway?), but scholarly books and journal articles must be your major sources of information for a paper in this or any other academic course. You may use the Internet as a substantive source only if it provides information not available other places (the burden of proof is on you). For example, if you were planning to discuss visitors’ reactions to Paris and located a web site or discussion list on which visitors described their own feelings about the city, that would be a valid use of web sources. However, if you were interested in the physical history of Paris or changes in population over the past 150 years, you could find many books and articles that discuss these kinds of issues more carefully and reliably than web sites. **Use the library – use *all* the libraries!**

All papers must be typed, double-spaced, and literately written. For format and style of paper and footnotes, consult one of the standard style manuals (*MLA Style Sheet*, *Chicago Manual of Style*, Kate Turabian). Your paper must be illustrated as necessary to make your points and the illustrations should be pertinent to what you are saying. Illustrations must not, under any circumstances, be cut out of any publication, nor do they count in the page total.

- A **mid-term examination**, to be held in class **February 22**.
- A **final examination**, which is scheduled for Thursday morning, **May 10, 9-12 a.m.**

Grading:

- Mid-term: 20%
- Term paper: 45%
- Final examination: 35%

You must complete all three to pass the course.

For students enrolled in ARH/ARAH/ANTH 771:

- All the **readings** assigned for ARH/ANTH 371, *plus* occasional additional graduate readings (marked “**G**” in the attached *Schedule of Meetings, Readings, and Assignments*).
- A **term paper** of 15-20 pages, on a topic of your choice, due at the beginning of class, **April 19**. This should not be a city study like the undergraduate papers, but treat a more focused or specialized aspect of urban history or anthropology. The physical city should be a central part of your paper. The rules for format and quality of presentation outlined above apply to graduate papers as well.
- Anyone who is troubled by having a final grade based on the term paper alone may take the mid-term and final examinations if s/he wishes, but you must do both or neither.

Toolkit as a resource: Toolkit will be an important resource for you in this course. I will post the syllabus and miscellaneous announcements there. You should **check the on-line syllabus periodically** for minor adjustments. Note that at the top of the syllabus is fine print saying “rev. xx/xx/2007”. This will allow you to determine whether you have the latest version.

I have also posted on Toolkit a fairly extensive **bibliography** that you will want to consult in framing your term paper. This bibliography is by no means exhaustive: it doesn't contain every worthwhile book and not every book on it is equally useful. Most important, it contains no journal articles, which will be critical resources for you. Many topics for which there are no book-length studies are treated in one or more articles in scholarly and professional journals and edited collections.

In addition, I will post two other items before each lecture: (1) a **study aid** containing an outline of each day's lecture. It will not substitute for your own notes but it will help you follow the structure and it will provide dates and the proper spelling of unfamiliar words; (2) A simple **map** of the title city of the day's lecture and occasionally some other maps or images as well. You should **print these out** and bring them to class with you as aids to your own looking, listening, and note-taking.

BOOKS TO BUY:

[I will also place these books on reserve at the Fine Arts Library.]

- Spiro Kostof, *The City Shaped: Urban Patterns and Meanings through History* [1991]
- Peter Hall, *Cities of Tomorrow: An Intellectual History of Urban Planning and Design in the Twentieth Century* [3d ed.; 2002]

All other readings will be found on Toolkit.

Schedule of Meetings, Readings, and Assignments

Jan. 18. **INTRODUCTION**

Jan. 23. **UR**

Reading: Kostof, *City Shaped* [hereafter *CS*], 9-45

G: Don Martindale, “Prefatory Remarks: The Theory of the City,” in Max Weber, *The City* [1958]

Jan. 25. **ATHENS**

Reading: *CS*, 52-69

James E. Vance, Jr., *The Continuing City: Urban Morphology in Western Civilization* [1990], chap. 2, “The Gods Look Down: The Classical City”

Jan. 30. **CONSTANTINOPLE/ISTANBUL**

Reading: Zeynep Çelik, *The Remaking of Istanbul*, chap. 1, “An Architectural Survey of the City”

Feb. 1. **CAIRO**

Reading: Nezar AlSayyad, *Cities and Caliphs: On the Genesis of Arab Muslim Urbanism* [1991], chap. V, “Planned Capital Cities or Imperial Palaces?”

Feb. 6. **CHANG’AN**

Reading: Heng Chye-Kiang, “Kaifeng and Hangzhou: The Birth of the Commercial Street,” in *Streets: Critical Perspectives on Urban Space* [1994], ed. Zeynep Çelik, Diane Favro, & Richard Ingersoll

Feb. 8. **NO CLASS**

Feb. 13. **FLORENCE**

Reading: *CS*, 46-51

Colin Platt, *The English Medieval Town* [1979], chap. 2, “The Urban Landscape”

G: Mark Girouard, *Cities and People: A Social and Architectural History* [1985], chap. 5, “Bruges and Venice”

Feb. 15. **ROME**

Reading: CS, chap. 4

Feb. 20. **CUZCO**

Reading: Adriana von Hagen & Craig Morris, *The Cities of the Ancient Andes* [1998], chap. 9, “City and Countryside in the Inka Empire”

G: Brian S. Bauer, *Ancient Cuzco: Heartland of the Inca* [2004], chap. 10, “Inca Cuzco”

Feb. 22. **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

Feb. 27. **NEW YORK**

Reading: Paul Groth, “Streetgrids as Frameworks for Urban Variety,” *Harvard Architectural Review* 2 [spring 1981]: 68-75

G: David M. Scobey, *Empire City: The Making and Meaning of the New York City Landscape* [2002], chap. 3, “The Rule of Real Estate”

Mar. 1. **PARIS 1**

Reading: Donald J. Olsen, *The City as a Work of Art: London – Paris – Vienna* [1986], chap. 5, “The Vienna of Franz Joseph”

G: David Harvey, *Consciousness and the Urban Experience: Studies in the History and Theory of Capitalist Urbanization* [1985], chap. 3, “Paris, 1850-1870”

Mar. 6 **SPRING BREAK**

Mar. 8 **SPRING BREAK**

Mar. 13. **LONDON**

Reading: CS, chap. 2

G: Christine Meisner Rosen, “Noisome, Noxious, and Offensive Vapors, Fumes and Stenches in American Towns and Cities, 1840-1865,” *Historical Geography* 25 (1977): 49-82

Mar. 15. **PARIS 2**

Reading: Victor Hugo, *Notre-Dame de Paris* [1831], book 3, chap. 2, “A Bird’s Eye View of Paris”

T. J. Clark, *The Painting of Modern Life: Paris in the Age of Manet and His Followers* [1984], chap. 1, “The View from Notre Dame”

G: Thomas Hall, *Planning Europe’s Capital Cities: Aspects of Nineteenth-Century Urban Development* [1997], chap. 14, “Brussels”

Mar. 20 **CHICAGO**

Reading: *CS*, 69-75
CT, chap. 6

Mar. 22. **SHAHJAHANBAD/NEW DELHI**

Reading: William S. Logan, *Hanoi: Biography of a City* [2000], chap. 3, “Hanoi: Building a Capital for French Indochina”

G: Vikramaditya Prakash, *Chandigarh’s Le Corbusier: The Struggle for Modernity in Postcolonial India* [2002], chap. 2, “The Master Plan: Contesting Conceptions of the Modern”

Mar. 27. **EDO/TOKYO**

Reading: *CT*, chap. 12

James L. McClain, “Edobashi: Power, Space, and Popular Culture in Edo,” in *Edo and Paris: Urban Life and the State in the Early Modern Era* [1994], ed. James L. McClain, John M. Merriman, & Ugawa Kaoru

G: Carola Hein, “Visionary Plans and Planners: Japanese Traditions and Western Influences,” in *Japanese Capitals in Historical Perspective: Place, Power and Memory in Kyoto, Edo and Tokyo* [2003], ed. Nicolas Fiévé & Paul Waley

Mar. 29. **CAPE TOWN**

Reading: A. J. Christopher, *The Atlas of Apartheid* [1994], chap. 4, “Urban Apartheid”

G: Rafael Marks & Marco Bezzoli, “The Urbanism of District Six, Cape Town,” in *Africa’s Urban Past* [2000], ed. David M. Anderson & Richard Rathbone

Apr. 3. **LOS ANGELES 1****Reading:** *CT*, chap. 9Spiro Kostof, *The City Assembled: The Elements of Urban Form Through History* [1992], 254-66**G:** Chauncy D. Harris & Edward L. Ullman, “The Nature of Cities,” *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 242 [1945]: 7-17Apr. 5. **GREENBELT****Reading:** *CS*, chap. 3*CT*, chap. 4**G:** Richard Harris & Robert Lewis, “The Geography of North American Cities and Suburbs, 1900-1950: A New Synthesis,” *Journal of Urban History* 27 no. 3 [Mar. 2001]: 262-92**TERM PAPERS ON WHICH AUTHORS WISH TO RECEIVE
COMMENTS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS TODAY**Apr. 10. **BRASÍLIA****Reading:** *CT*, chap. 7Le Corbusier, *The City of To-Morrow and Its Planning* [1929], chap. I, “The Pack-Donkey’s Way and the Man’s Way”James Holston, *The Modernist City: An Anthropological Critique of Brasília* [1989], chap. 4, “The Death of the Street”**G:** Margareth da Silva Pereira, “The Time of the Capitals: Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo: Words, Actors and Plans,” in *Planning Latin America’s Capital Cities 1850-1950* [2002], ed. Arturo AlmandozApr. 12. **NO LECTURE**Apr. 17 **SINGAPORE****Reading:** Khoo Salma Nasution & Gwynn Jenkins, “George Town, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia: Development Strategies and Community Realities,” in *The Disappearing “Asian” City: Protecting Asia’s Urban Heritage in a Globalizing World* [2002], ed. William S. Logan

G: Brenda S. Yeoh, *Contesting Space in Colonial Singapore: Power Relations and the Urban Built Environment* [2d ed.; 2003], chap. 1: “Power Relations and the Built Environment in Colonial Cities”

Apr. 19. **SHANGHAI**

Reading: *CT*, chap. 11

G: Pamela Yatsko, *New Shanghai: The Rocky Rebirth of China’s Legendary City* [2003], chap. 2, “Building the New Shanghai”

G: Duanfang Lu, *Remaking Chinese Urban Form: Modernity, Scarcity and Space, 1949-2005* [2006], chap. 3, “Work Unit Urbanism”

ALL OUTSTANDING TERM PAPERS DUE AT BEGINNING OF CLASS TODAY

Apr. 24. **LOS ANGELES 2**

Reading: Mike Davis, “Fortress Los Angeles: The Militarization of Urban Space,” in *Variations on a Theme Park: The New American City and the End of Urban Space* [1992], ed. Michael Sorkin

G: Teresa P. R. Caldeira, “Fortified Enclaves: The New Urban Segregation,” in *Cities and Citizenship* [1999], ed. James Holston

Apr. 26. **LAS VEGAS**

Reading: Hal Rothman, *Neon Metropolis: How Las Vegas Started the Twenty-First Century* [2002], chap. 1, “Inventing Modern Las Vegas”

May 1. **CHARLOTTESVILLE**

Reading: James Robert Saunders & Renae Nadine Shackelford, *Urban Renewal and the End of Black Culture in Charlottesville, Virginia* [1998], chap. 4, “Relocation”

G: Christopher S. Combs, “A Community in Turmoil: Charlottesville’s Opposition to Public Housing,” *The Magazine of Albemarle County History* 56 [1998]: 118-53

**FINAL EXAMINATION: THURSDAY, MAY 10, 9 A.M. – 12 P.M.,
WILSON 402**