

# SOC 205H1F Urban Sociology: University of Toronto: Summer 2017

Tuesday and Thursday 6.00-8.00 pm  
Room 1071, Sydney Smith Hall, 100 St. George Street. Toronto  
Course website: <https://portal.utoronto.ca> (login using your utorid)

Instructor: Sarath Chandrasekere Ph.D.  
E-Mail: [sara.chandrasekere@utoronto.ca](mailto:sara.chandrasekere@utoronto.ca) Phone: 647-972-6578  
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 4.00-5.30 pm & by appointment  
Room 389, 725 Spadina Ave. Toronto.

Teaching Assistant: Ms. Angela Hick (Ph.D. Student)  
E-mail: [angela.hick@mail.utoronto.ca](mailto:angela.hick@mail.utoronto.ca)  
Office Hours: Thursdays 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Room 225F, 725 Spadina Ave. Toronto

## OVERVIEW

The theoretical and methodological underpinnings of urban sociology are broad, reflecting a range of disciplines and approaches. This course first reviews theories of urban genesis and urban form; the interrelationship of urbanization, industrialization and modernization, issues in urban living (housing, transportation, urban-renewal, poverty, unemployment, etc.); urban social networks (ethnic and cultural heterogeneity, neighbourhood, community and other voluntary associations). In doing so, we will compare and contrast different theoretical and methodological approaches for understanding urban life. Second, the course covers several special topic areas in urban sociology: homelessness, gentrification, multiethnic cities, globalization, residential segregation, crime, and public space. Third, the course offers real world observation and examples that speak to the strength and limitations of particular theory, data, and methods for studying urban problems.

### Prerequisites

Completion of 0.5 SOC at the 100 level is required to take this course. Students without this prerequisite will be removed at any time discovered and without notice.

## EVALUATION

Type	Weight	Dates
In-Class Test 1	25%	May 23rd
In-Class Test 2	25%	June 01st
In-Class Test 3	25%	June 08th
Participation Exercises	25% (5% x 5)	On-Going

**No Final Examination for this course**

### **In Class Tests (25% each,)**

The term tests will consist of multiple choice, true false or short answer questions. The questions are designed to capture the main concepts, themes, and debates within the course. These questions will be based on our class discussions and the required readings. The in-class test includes all the material up to and including the class before the test. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that they have read all material. The test is closed book, which means that no outside material or aids will be permitted. The tests will cover all lecture and readings assigned in the syllabus even if they have not been explicitly covered in class. Students who miss the test should not presume that they would be able to write a make-up test. The decision to grade a make-up test is at the sole discretion of the instructor. Students who miss a test must submit officially acceptable University of Toronto documentation outlining the specific reason why the student was unable to write the test on the assigned date. The reason for missing test must be beyond a student's control (personal illness, religious observances, court subpoena, funeral). Requests for make-up tests based on other course workload, employment, childcare, transportation, poor time management, etc. will not be granted. The date for the make-up tests will be announced after each test.

### **Participation Exercises (25%, through on-going assignments)**

Throughout the course you will be required to do 5 mini in-class on-line and time-sensitive assignments based on the readings and weekly topics. **You will require registration with the Tophat (tophat.com) to do these exercises.** You may have already received an invitation from the Tophat regarding your registration. The purpose of these exercises is to keep you focused on the readings and to demonstrate your engagement with the course material. They will also serve as preparation for the 3 term tests. It is essential that students keep up with the readings. There are no make-up options for these exercises. Students who do not attend a class will forfeit that week's participation mark. Even though these assignments may not seem to be worth a lot, failure to participate in class will have an impact on your final grade.

### **Lecture Slides/Notes**

Lecture slides will be posted before or after class. They are provided to benefit in-class note taking. Besides the posted lecture slides, I often incorporate a range of audiovisual material into lectures. It is important to complete all required readings and attend class because the tests and assignments will cover both required readings and in-class material.

### **Academic Integrity and Academic Offences**

Academic integrity is fundamental to learning and scholarship at the University of Toronto. Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in this academic community ensures that the U of T degree that you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement, and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves. Familiarize yourself with the University of Toronto's Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters (<http://www.governingcouncil.utoronto.ca/policies/behaveac.htm>). It is the rulebook for academic behaviour at the U of T, and you are expected to know the rules. **Potential offences include, but are not limited to:**

### **In papers and assignments:**

- Using someone else's ideas or words without appropriate acknowledgement.
- Copying material word-for-word from a source (including lecture and study group notes) and not placing the words within quotation marks.
- Submitting your own work in more than one course without the permission of the instructor.
- Making up sources or facts - Including references to sources that you did not use.

- Obtaining or providing unauthorized assistance on any assignment including working in groups on assignments that are supposed to be individual work, having someone rewrite or add material to your work while “editing”.
- Lending your work to a classmate who submits it as his/her own without your permission.

**On tests and exams:**

- Using or possessing any unauthorized aid, including a cell phone.
- Looking at someone else’s answers.
- Letting someone else look at your answers.
- Misrepresenting your identity.
- Submitting an altered test for re-grading.
- Misrepresentation.
- Falsifying or altering any documentation required by the University, including doctor’s notes.
- Falsifying institutional documents or grades.

The University of Toronto treats cases of academic misconduct very seriously. All suspected cases of academic dishonesty will be investigated following the procedures outlined in the Code. I take plagiarism very seriously and will forward suspected cases to the proper authorities. The consequences for academic misconduct can be severe, including a failure in the course and a notation on your transcript. If you have any questions about what is or is not permitted in this course, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have questions about appropriate research and citation methods, seek out additional information from me, or from other available campus resources like the U of T Writing Website.

**If you are experiencing personal challenges that are having an impact on your academic work, please speak to me or seek the advice of your college registrar.**

**COURSE PROCEDURES AND RULES**

Electronic communication and electronic learning technology:

Email communication is rapid, convenient, and efficient—and you are encouraged to use it to enhance your learning and experience in the course. With that said, it is essential that you follow a few rules:

- Students are encouraged to speak with the instructor about questions and concerns during office hours.
- The instructor and TA will not answer private email questions about course content.
- All course communication should be conducted through your UtorMail account. Emails from non-University of Toronto email accounts will automatically be deleted and will receive no response.
- All emails must include the course code (e.g., SOC205) in the subject line.
- All emails should be signed with the student’s full name and student number.
- Emails from students will generally be answered within 48 hours of receipt. Please do not send a repeat email (e.g., “did you get my email?”).
- Please treat emails as you would any other professional communication. All general questions about the course that are NOT addressed on the syllabus and course website will either be answered in class or posted on the Blackboard.
- Emails that do not follow these guidelines will not receive a response.

**Religious observance Information about the university's policy on scheduling of classes and examinations and other accommodations for religious observances is available at:**

<http://www.vicereprovooststudents.utoronto.ca/publicationsandpolicies/guidelines/religiousobservances.htm> 3.

## **Grade appeals.**

The instructor takes the marking of assignments very seriously and will work diligently to be fair, consistent, and accurate. Nonetheless, mistakes and oversights occasionally happen. If you believe that to be the case, you must adhere to the following rules:

- If it is a mathematical error (e.g., grades on individual components not tallied up correctly) the remedy is easy and can be taken care of expeditiously. Simply alert the instructor of the error.
- You will have the opportunity to view each test once they are marked. You will need to take notes at the test viewing about what you feel was unfairly graded. The TAs will NOT discuss how things were graded or engage in a discussion about your marks at the test viewing. All grade appeals are to be submitted to the instructor. The instructor will then regard your whole test, so make sure your requests for more marks are worth a grade appeal.

In the case of more substantive appeals, you must:

1. Wait at least 48 hours after receiving your mark.
2. Carefully re-read your assignment, all assignment guidelines and marking schemes, all of the grader's comments, and so forth.
3. Please note that academic scholarship is merit-based, not need-based. The fact that you feel you want or need a higher grade is not sufficient. You must have good reason to believe you in fact earned a higher grade than you were awarded. All appeals must be received within 7 days of receiving your mark.

## **If you wish to appeal:**

A. You may submit to the instructor a written explanation of why you think your mark should be altered. Please note statements such as "I need a higher grade to apply to X" are not compelling. Please also note that upon a re-grade your mark may go down, stay the same, or go up.

B. Attach to your written explanation, your original assignment, including all of the original comments. Submit a hardcopy of the package to the instructor during office hours.

C. You will receive a response via email or in person about your re-grade. Please note all decisions are final. The decision to re-grade is at the sole discretion of the instructor.

## **Classroom rules**

Students are expected to arrive at class on time, to turn off all electronic communication devices, and to use laptops only for note taking. Other uses (e.g., emailing, web surfing, Facebook) will result in the student being required to turn off the laptop and not to bring it to future sessions of the course.

Videotaping and recording lectures is strictly forbidden without written permission from the instructor.

## **Student Resources Accessibility & Diversity**

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach the instructor and/or the AccessAbility Centre as soon as possible. The sooner you contact them and let me know your needs, the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals for this course. Students seeking support must have an intake interview with a disability advisor to discuss their individual needs. To schedule a registration appointment with a disability advisor, please visit

**<http://studentlife.utoronto.ca/accessibility>** as soon as possible. Students are encouraged to registrar with the Centre (and, if appropriate, alert the instructor) as early in the term as possible. In many instances it is easier to arrange certain accommodations with more advance notice, so we strongly

encourage you to act as quickly as possible. With that said we understand that disabilities can be dynamic (i.e., change over time) and will do our best to accommodate you.

### **Make-Up Tests**

Students who miss a test will receive a mark of zero unless **within three days** of the missed test he/she contacts the instructor requesting special consideration and explaining why the test was missed. The instructor or TA will communicate the time and location of the make-up test. In order to take the make-up test, students must bring **proper documentation from a physician or college registrar** to the make-up test.

- In case of **illness**, you must supply a duly completed **Verification of Student Illness** or Injury form (available at [www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca](http://www.illnessverification.utoronto.ca)). A doctor's note is not acceptable. The form must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor and submitted when you take the make-up test.
- If a **personal or family crisis** prevents you from meeting a deadline, you must get a letter from your college registrar (it is a good idea anyway to advise your college registrar if a crisis is interfering with your studies). The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to the instructor, and submitted when you take the make-up test.

### **Deadlines for Submitting Papers**

Late work will not be accepted without proper documentation from a student's physician or college registrar (described above). Such documentation does not guarantee acceptance of your work.

### **Plagiarism**

Cheating and misrepresentation will not be tolerated. Students who commit an academic offense face serious penalties. Avoid plagiarism by citing properly: practices acceptable in high school may prove unacceptable in university. Know where you stand by reading the "Code of Behaviour on Academic Matters" in the Calendar of the Faculty of Arts and Science.

### **Readings**

- Most readings are from our course textbook - *Urban Canada: Sociological Perspectives* edited by Harry Hiller (3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2014), which can be purchased at the University Bookstore.
- The remaining readings are available either as web links in the class schedule below, or as downloadable files on our course webpage.

### **Comments on Writing**

The instructor and TA are willing to read over drafts of your work during visits to office hours. However, we are more able to help students who come early. All too often, papers are one or two drafts short of excellence when time expires. Revisions can make the difference between "C" and "A" work. We also encourage you to use the university's writing resources.

## Class Schedule

Session/ Date	Topic and Required Readings	Notes/Comments
1-May 16	Introductions, Introductions, Course Outline, and Expectations. Introduction: "Urbanization and the City"	Introduction: Urban Canada Video: Statistics Canada-2016 data
2-May 18	<b>Dynamics of Canadian Urbanization</b> Chapter 1- "Canadian urbanization in historical and global perspectives" Chapter 2: "The Dynamics of Canadian Urbanization"	<b>Participation Exercise 1 (5%)</b> Tophat Registration required
3-May 23	<b>Perspective for analyzing and interpreting cities</b> Chapter 3: "Analyzing and Interpreting the City: Theory and Method"	<b>In-Class Test 1</b>
4-May 25	<b>Rural-Urban Perspectives</b> Chapter 4: Rural and Urban: Differences and Common Ground	
5-May 30	<b>Social Ties, Social Capital, and Community</b>  Chapter 5: "Social Ties and Community in Urban Places" Read: "Gemeinschaft and Gessellschaft" entry from Wikipedia <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gemeinschaft_and_Gessellschaft">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gemeinschaft_and_Gessellschaft</a>  Read: "Community" entry from Wikipedia <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community</a>	<b>Participation Exercise 2 (5%)</b>
6-June 01	<b>Poverty and Inequality in Canadian Cities</b>  Chapter 7: "Urban Inequality and Urban Social Movements"  Hulchanski David J. 2010. "The Three Cities Within Toronto: Income Polarization among Toronto's Neighbourhoods-1970-2005"	<b>In-Class test 2</b>
7-June 06	<b>Immigration, Race and Ethnicity in the City</b>  Chapter 8: "Immigration and Race in the City" Buzzelli M.2001. From Little Britain to Little Italy: An Urban Landscape Study in Toronto in Journal of Historical Geography: 27, 4, 583-587	Flemingdon Park: The Global Village. 2002. AV Library Media Common 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor, Robarts. Videocassette #00672
8-June 08	<b>Aboriginal People in Cities</b>  Chapter 9: "Aboriginal Peoples in Urban Areas" Guimond Eric, Norbert Robitaille and Sacha Senecal. 2009. "Aboriginal Populations in Canadian Cities: Why are they growing so fast" in <i>Canadian Issues</i> , Winter 2009: 11-17.	<b>In-Class test 3</b>

<b>9-June 13</b>	<b>Gender and the City</b> Chapter 11: Gender and the City: Urban Restructuring, Social Exclusion, and Democratic Participation Pain Rachel. 2001. "Gender, Race, Age and Fear in the City" in <i>Urban Studies</i> . 38. (5-6): 899-913.	<b>Participation Exercise 3 (5%)</b>
<b>10-June 15</b>	<b>Cities and Social Pathology</b> Chapter 10: "Big Cities, Social Pathology, and Serious Crime" Chapter 14: Housing and Homelessness-Sociological factors	<b>Participation Exercise 4 (5%)</b>
<b>11-June 20</b>	<b>Consumer Society and Public Spaces in the City</b> Chapter 13: "Consumer Culture, City Space and Urban Life" Time permitting the film "The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces" will be presented and discussed	
<b>12-June 22</b>	Chapter 12: The New Urban Political Economy	<b>Participation Exercise 5 (5%)</b>

Optional but useful Material

Short video Robert Neuwirth on "shadow cities" (time-permitting, 15 minutes)  
([http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/robert\\_neuwirth\\_on\\_our\\_shadow\\_cities.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/robert_neuwirth_on_our_shadow_cities.html))

<https://youtu.be/ne0MqFZIoCw> speech by Andre Duany

Short video "Rob Forbes on ways of seeing" (time-permitting, 15 minutes)  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/rob\\_forbes\\_on\\_ways\\_of\\_seeing.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/rob_forbes_on_ways_of_seeing.html)

Short Video: "Steven Johnson tours the Ghost Map" [about the cholera outbreak in 1854 London and the impact it had on science,

Cities and modern society] (time-permitting, 10 minutes)

[http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/steven\\_johnson\\_tours\\_the\\_ghost\\_map.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/steven_johnson_tours_the_ghost_map.html)

Short Video: "Carolyn Steel: How food shapes our cities" (time permitting, 15 minutes)

[http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/carolyn\\_steel\\_how\\_food\\_shapes\\_our\\_cities.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/lang/eng/carolyn_steel_how_food_shapes_our_cities.html)

Short video: "Ellen Dunham-Jones: Retrofitting suburbia" (time permitting, 19 minutes)

[http://www.ted.com/talks/ellen\\_dunham\\_jones\\_retrofitting\\_suburbia.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/ellen_dunham_jones_retrofitting_suburbia.html)

Short video – "Steven Johnson on the Web as a city" (time-permitting, 16 minutes)

([http://www.ted.com/talks/steven\\_johnson\\_on\\_the\\_web\\_as\\_a\\_city.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/steven_johnson_on_the_web_as_a_city.html))

<https://youtu.be/waalgjQ52vM>: New urbanism 101