

SOC196H1F – LEC0101: Global Cities, Urban Refugees: Connecting South and North
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Department of Sociology
University of Toronto
Fall 2021

Location and Time: Tuesdays, 11:10-1:00pm EST, Innis College Building, Room 204*

Office Hours: Thursdays, 2-3pm via Zoom

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*Please note the course is currently scheduled as in-person for Fall 2021 starting Tuesday, Sept. 14 and in-class attendance is required (the class will not be recorded). Due to ongoing Covid-19 regulations, students have the option to attend the course online between September 9-23. This option should be reserved for students who are unable to arrive at UofT or other extenuating circumstances and in-person attendance during this time is highly encouraged for students able to attend. After September 23, the class will only be held in-person without an option for online instruction.

All times listed are in Eastern Standard Time (EST) – Toronto.

Zoom log-in details for the first two weeks of seminars and office hour appointments will be distributed via a separate email and class announcement.

Additionally, you will be receiving regular communication, including weekly assignment checklists, via email and Quercus so please make sure that your email address is up-to-date and correct for the course.

Brief Overview of the Course:

The majority of refugees and asylum seekers today live in cities, above all, in the Global South. This course will introduce and critically assess key theories and concepts on forced migration in relation to cities from a global perspective. By drawing on a wide range of literature and case studies from around the world, the course will explore and compare cities across the Global South and North around questions of law, governance, and politics related to urban refugees and asylum seekers.

Objectives of the Course:

By the end of the course, students should have a stronger understanding of a) critical theories around “global” cities and urbanization in the Global South, b) the intersection between cities and urban refugees and related issues of law, policies, and politics in countries around the world; and c) academic writing and communication skills in general.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Restricted to first-year students. Not eligible for CR/NCR option.

Readings: You are required to have **all the assigned reading completed before the scheduled lecture times.** *All of the readings will be available through links available on the course webpage on Quercus.*

Class Format, Requirements, and Grading

1 - Seminar Attendance/Participation	10 points
2 - Reflection Papers	10 points
3 - Midterm	25 points
4 - Final Test	25 points
5a - Research Paper Proposal	5 points
5b - Research Paper	20 points
5c – Research Paper Discussion	5 points
	Total: 100 points

Letter Grading Scale:

90-100 = A+	77-79 = B+	67-69 = C+	57-59 = D+	
85-89 = A	73-76 = B	63-66 = C	53-56 = D	49 or below = F
80-84 = A-	70-72 = B-	60-62 = C-	50 – 52 = D-	

- 1) ***Seminar Attendance and Participation:*** Attendance and participation in the scheduled seminars is required for the course. This is a First Year Foundations course, meaning that we have the unique opportunity for a small class size and active and lively discussion. Therefore, it is crucial that you attend seminars and **come prepared for discussion by thorough reading and note-taking of the assigned readings prior to each seminar.** The expectation is to attend seminars in-person starting September 14 (or if necessary, prior to September 23 by Zoom with video on) and actively participate in group discussions. Participation will also include periodic discussion posts (3-4 sentences per post; 1 sentence response to a classmate’s post) to topics posted on the online discussion forum on the course’s Quercus page – see schedule below (10 points total).
- 2) ***Reflection Papers:*** Throughout the course, you will be required to write two brief reflection papers on the course readings. You may choose any **two readings throughout the course to write brief reflection papers (1 page, double-spaced max.)**. You must complete and submit via Ouriginal your reflection paper for a given reading prior to the seminar time that the reading is assigned (e.g., a reflection paper for the September 28 reading would be due on September 28 by 11:10am via Ouriginal online). The first reflection paper is due at the latest by Oct. 12, 11:10am and the other paper is due at the latest by Dec. 7, 11:10am. The papers should be a critical reflection to the reading, rather than a general summary of the readings, and we will discuss the expectations for these papers further in the first day of class (10 points total).

- 3) **Midterm:** There will be an in-class midterm on October 19 at 11:10am. (25 points total).
- 4) **Final Test:** There will be an in-class final test on November 30 at 11:10am. (25 points total).

Make-Up Tests & Missed Due Dates: *Students cannot make up tests unless for exceptional circumstances (e.g., personal and family medical emergencies). Students who miss a test for a valid reason and wish to take a make-up test must give me a written request for special consideration which explains why the test was missed, accompanied by proper documentation from a college registrar. While medical notes will not be required; students will need to declare their absence on ACORN on the day of the missed test or due date of assignment, and email the instructor directly. Students with personal reasons are also to contact their College and have the college email the instructor directly. A student who misses a test and the subsequent make-up test for a valid reason will not have a third chance to take the test, and the mark assigned for the test will be a zero.*

Marking Tests: *If you feel that your test answers were not properly assessed you may request a remark. If you would like to request a remark, you must make the request within one week of receiving the mark and you would need to attend office hours or schedule an appointment (as opposed to solely communicating over email) to go over the test. Finally, please note that a remark request will lead to a thorough review of your test, and that compared to your original mark, the new mark may go up, remain the same or go down based on the new assessment.*

- 5) **Research Paper:** The research paper consists of 3 parts: a) a brief proposal on what the paper will focus on; b) the research paper itself; c) discussion of key findings in an online forum and in-person during the last seminar (December 7).

Students will have an option of working alone or in pairs for the research paper. The paper will involve each student choosing a city/neighborhood to discuss a specific topic of interest related to refugee policies/politics and specific criteria from the course. Students will then write a research paper (3-5 pages max.) that analyzes a selected city/neighborhood per person (i.e., 1 city for individual papers; 2 different cities for pairs). Students will discuss the key findings of their papers in an online forum in-person during the last seminar of the course (Tuesday, December 7).

- a) The **research paper proposal is due by November 5, 11:59pm via Ouriginal online** (5 points total).
- b) The **research paper is due by December 7, 11:10am via Ouriginal online** (20 points total).
- c) **Paper discussions will take place in an online forum prior to and during the in-person seminar on December 7, 11:10am-1pm** (5 points total).

Lateness Policy: *Papers will be considered late if they are turned in 10 minutes after the deadline. You will lose 3 points per day for lateness.*

Office Hours, Emails, Appointments: Please feel free to email me at jg.johnson@utoronto.ca with any questions you may have (with **SOC196 in the subject line**) and I will respond in a timely manner Mon. – Fri. I also encourage you to attend my office hours (Thursdays, 2-3pm via Zoom) for more further questions and discussion. If you cannot make office hours due to scheduling conflicts, then please contact me to meet by appointment.

Ouriginal: Normally, students will be required to submit their course essays to the University’s plagiarism detection tool for a review of textual similarity and detection of possible plagiarism. In doing so, students will allow their essays to be included as source documents in the tool’s reference database, where they will be used solely for the purpose of detecting plagiarism. The terms that apply to the University’s use of this tool are described on the Centre for Teaching Support & Innovation web site (<https://uoft.me/pdt-faq>).

Assignments not submitted through Ouriginal will receive a grade of zero (0 %) unless students instead provide, along with their tests, sufficient secondary material (e.g., reading notes, outlines of the paper, rough drafts of the final draft, etc.) to establish that the test they submit is truly their own. The alternative (not submitting via Ouriginal) is in place because, strictly speaking, using Ouriginal is voluntary for students at the University of Toronto.

Plagiarism: Be careful to avoid plagiarism. It is a serious academic offense with serious penalties (see the “[Code of Behavior on Academic Matters](#)”). If you are using someone else’s ideas, do not present them as your own. Give proper references if you are using somebody else’s ideas, and use quotation marks if you are quoting. When in doubt, it is always safer to over-reference --you are not going to be punished for that. Please also be aware that turning in an old paper, or large parts thereof, for credit in a second (or third etc.) course, is considered an academic offense that results in students being referred off to the Office of Academic Integrity.

Accessibility Needs: The University of Toronto is committed to accessibility. If you require accommodations for a disability, or have any accessibility concerns about the course, the classroom or course materials, please contact Accessibility Services as soon as possible at: <https://lsm.utoronto.ca/ats/>.

Learning Support: Learning Strategists at U of T help students ‘learn how to learn’ by developing effective learning skills and habits. They cover topics such as: on-line learning, time and energy management, effective reading and note-taking, test and exam preparation, motivation, procrastination, and academic stress.

- Students taking Innis College courses are welcome to book 1-1 appointments and register for groups and workshops with the Innis College Learning Strategist: meghan.litteljohn@utoronto.ca - innislife.utoronto.ca/office-of-student-life/staff-support.
- In addition, the Department of Academic Success offers several programs, services, and resources, and has Learning Strategists embedded at each college and several faculties: studentlife.utoronto.ca/department/academic-success.

Research Help: *This course has dedicated library page set up to assist students for research and writing. The [SOC 196 Course Guide](#) can be accessed through [the research guides page of the](#)

[UTL website](#) using the drop down menu for course guides. It can also be made available in the Quercus course site under the Library Resources" menu option. For further research assistance, students are also encouraged to contact the sociology librarian, Colin Deinhardt (colin.deinhardt@vicu.utoronto.ca) to set up an appointment.*

University of Toronto Libraries provides access to a vast collection of online and print resources <onesearch.library.utoronto.ca>. Get help navigating UTL and web resources and developing research skills for your course work by

- **Contact the Innis College Librarian**, Kate Johnson <katej.johnson@utoronto.ca> with any questions or to set up an online meeting
- **Use ASK: Chat with a Librarian** (online service): onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/ask-librarian
- **Stream films and media** through UTL: mediacommons.library.utoronto.ca/streaming-video
- **Explore UofT Research Guides**: guides.library.utoronto.ca

Writing Help: The University of Toronto expects its students to write well, and it provides a number of resources to help you.

- Visit the Writing at U of T website (advice.writing.utoronto.ca)
- Book a one-on-one meeting with your College Writing Centre (writing.utoronto.ca/writing-centres)

Quercus Help: Seeking technical help with Quercus?

- **Student Quercus Guide** - Information on how to navigate Quercus, access your courses, and download mobile apps: uoft.me/qstudents
- **Quercus for Students** - Blog posts are written by UofT students who share their experiences and tips when using the Quercus academic toolbox: qstudents.utoronto.ca

****In general, I realize that we are currently living through exceptional times and conditions. If there are certain events or circumstances that limit or challenge your full participation in the course, please do not hesitate to contact me as early as possible.****

Class Schedule

****All course materials (including readings) and assignments will be accessible via Quercus.****

Tuesday, September 14: Course Overview

- Discussion Post 1: Posted Tues., Sept. 14, 5pm; Due by Sun., Sept. 19, 11:59pm

Tuesday, September 21: Globalization and Forced Migration

Castles, Stephen. 2003. "Towards a Sociology of Forced Migration and Social Transformation." *Sociology* 37(1):13-34.

Tuesday, September 28: "Global" Cities

Tyrnauer, Matt. 2006. *Citizen Jane: Battle for the City*. (Documentary Film).

Saskia, Sassen. 2007. "The Global City." Pp. 168-178 in *A Companion to the Anthropology of Politics*, edited by D. Nugent and J. Vincent. Malden MA: Blackwell.

Tuesday, October 5: "Ordinary" Cities

Robinson, Jennifer. 2015. "World Cities, or a World of Ordinary Cities." Pp. 66-72 in *The Global South Cities Reader*, edited by Faranak Miraftab and Neema Kudva. Milton Park UK: Routledge.

Goldman, Michael, and Wesley Longhofer. 2009. "Making World Cities." *Contexts* 8(1): 32-36.

- Discussion Post 2: Posted Tues., Oct. 5, 5pm; Due by Sun., Oct. 10, 11:59pm

Tuesday, October 12: Case Study: Johannesburg, South Africa

Simone, AbdouMaliq. 2004. "People as Infrastructure: Intersecting Fragments in Johannesburg." *Public Culture* 16(3):407-429.

- 1st Reflection Paper Due (at the latest) by Tues., Oct. 12, 11:10am.

Tuesday, October 19: Midterm

Tuesday, October 26: Urban Refugees in the Global South

Fábos, A. and G. Kibreab. 2007. "Urban Refugees: Introduction." *Refuge: Canada's Journal on Refugees*, 24(1): 3-11.

Landau, Loren. B. 2014. "Urban Refugees and IDPs." *The Oxford Handbook of Refugee and Forced Migration Studies*, edited by E. Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, G. Loescher, K. Long, and N. Sigona. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

- Discussion Post 3: Posted Tues., Oct. 26, 5pm; Due by Sun., Oct. 31, 11:59pm

Tuesday, November 2: Urban Refugees, Urban Spaces

Lyytinen, Eveliina. 2015. "Congolese Refugees "Right to the City" and Urban (In)Security in Kampala, Uganda." *Journal of Eastern African Studies*. 9(4):593-611.

Fontanari, Elena. 2015. "Confined to the Threshold: The Experiences of Asylum Seekers in Germany." *City* 19(5):714-726.

- **Research Paper Outline via Ouriginal Due by Sun., Nov. 7, 11:59pm**

Tuesday, November 9: Reading Week, No Class

Tuesday, November 16: Rethinking Refugee "Camps" and "Cities"

Fiddian-Qasmiyeh, Elena. 2020. "Shifting the Gaze: Palestinian and Syrian Refugees Sharing and Contesting Space in Lebanon." Pp. 402-414 in *Refugee in a Moving World: Tracing Refugee and Migrant Journeys across Disciplines*, edited by E. Fiddian-Qasmiyeh. London: UCL Press.

Mould, Oli. 2017. "The Calais Jungle: A Slum of London's Making." *City* 21(3-4): 388-404.

- Discussion Post 4: Posted Tues., Nov. 16, 5pm; Due by Sun., Nov. 21, 11:59pm

Tuesday, November 23: Urban Refugees, Politics, and Citizenship

Nyers, Peter. 2010. "No One is Illegal Between City and Nation." *Studies in Social Justice* 4(2): 127-143.

- All Reflection Papers Due (at the latest) by Tues., Nov. 23, 11:10am via Ouriginal.

Tuesday, November 30: Final Test

Tuesday, December 7: Research Paper Due

- **Research Paper Due via Ouriginal by Dec. 7, 11:10am**
- **Research Paper Discussions in online forum and in seminar, Dec 7, 11:10-1pm**

