

World Cities (*Master*) (Feb 5th 2013)

2nd semester, 1st Block 2012-2013

University of Amsterdam

Instructor: Dr. Francois Bonnet (f.c.a.bonnet@uva.nl, Spinhuis 1.18)

Location:

Tuesday, 15h-17h, BG 2.29

Thursday, 15h-17h, BG 2.29

Credits: 6 EC (Master)

Course Description

Beyond the relatively stable cities of North America and Western Europe, there is a world where rapid urbanization transforms societies and reshapes our very relation to the planet. The course aims at critically assessing the coming impact of three major engines to urban change: economic development; population growth; and climate change. This course examines how globalization affects the life chances in cities.

The penetration of capitalism in former Third-World countries has triggered new patterns of economic inequalities and poverty at the global stage. New patterns of migration have been generated. Socioeconomic inequalities have intersected with ethnic diversity to create a highly dynamic yet a socially fragmented social structure. The demographic transition and the resulting population growth drive enormous transformations in terms of patterns of migration and urbanization. Climate change and environmental concerns become increasingly salient. New patterns of urbanization pose grave problems of environmental justice, allocation of resources, the associated urban problems.

We will study how these engines of change affect cities in a global perspective. How to make cities sustainable? What is the foreseeable consequence of mass poverty and the sprawl of slums? What type of urbanism can respond to these global challenges? How can cities respond to new challenges in terms of getting access to water? This is the type of questions we will try to answer.

The aim of the course is to sensitize students to global trends concerning urban life. It aims at providing a big-picture perspective at the challenges—environmental, social demographic, economic—that future generations will have to deal with. We will use case studies in different part of the world to concretely make sense of the problems at stake.

Course Structure

Each session (except for the first week) will feature:

- A presentation (by the lecturer) of the issue at stake
- A discussion of the weekly readings
- A group presentation by students

Attendance

Students are expected to attend all lectures. Students who miss more than 3 meetings will lose 2 points on their final grade.

Plagiarism and fraud

All exams and papers will be checked for plagiarism and fraud (and when found out, consequences will be serious). For university regulations and procedures in case of plagiarism and fraud see:

http://www.ishss.uva.nl/Rules_Regulations_Procedures/plagiarism.htm

Assessment

Group presentations (40% of the final grade)

Each session (except for the first week), there is a topic (related to the session's theme) that is presented by a group of students. Students form groups of 2 or 3 students and make an oral presentation, using powerpoint (NOT PREZI).

Group presentations feature a lot of data, maps, graphics, tables, figures, charts, etc. It is crucial that anything that appears on the powerpoint is referenced. Presentations last 25 minutes.

Grading elements:

- Visual quality (clarity, neatness) of the presentation
- Quality of the oral delivery
- Amount of data and information
- Overall substantive quality of the presentation

Final essay (60% of the final grade)

The final essay is a take-home exam that consists of a literature review.

Students select a topic, which is authorized by the lecturer. Students research the topic, and identify the 10 most relevant academic references (books and articles, but also reports from international organizations). They organize a presentation of these 10 references according to a cleavage (theoretical, ideological, topical, etc.). A literature review at the same time provides a key to understanding the positioning of a text in the field, and summarizes the substantive content of the text.

Length: between 2800 and 3200 words.

Schedule: **final deadline March 24th** (23h59), intermediary deadline March 4th (get your selected readings authorized).

Retake policy

Retakes are possible only if the grade is below 5,5. Retakes cannot receive a higher grade than 6,5.

Organizational meeting (February 5th)

0. Introduction: the possibility of society collapse (February 7th)

The debate between Malthus and Condorcet & Godwin; the possibility of society collapse; climate change.

Diamond, Jared 2005, "Chapter 2: Twilight at Easter", in *Collapse. How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, New York: Viking

Stern, Nicholas. "Executive summary" in *The economics of climate change: the Stern review*. Cambridge University Press, 2007. Available at http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/Executive_Summary.pdf

1. Demographic trends in an urbanizing world (February 12th)

The demographic transition and the urbanization of the world.

Mandatory readings

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2012). *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2011 Revision*.

Kundu, Amitabh. "Exclusionary Urbanisation in Asia: A Macro Overview." *Economic & Political Weekly* 44, no. 48 (2009): 48-58.

Presentation

Consequences of gender imbalance in China or India

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Aging

Debates about the idea of demographic / fertility transition

Resources

White, Michael J., Eva Tagoe, Catherine Stiff, Kubaje Adazu, and Daniel Jordan Smith. "Urbanization and the fertility transition in Ghana." *Population Research and Policy Review* 24, no. 1 (2005): 59-83.

Seto, Karen C., Roberto Sánchez-Rodríguez, and Michail Fragkias. "The new geography of contemporary urbanization and the environment." *Annual review of environment and resources* 35 (2010): 167-194

2. Global urban inequalities (February 14th)

Mandatory readings

Davis, Mike. 2007 "The urban climacteric", pp. 1-20, in *Planet of Slums*. Verso,
Sassen, Saskia. 1991 "Overview", in *The Global City*. second edition. Princeton:
Princeton University Press

Presentation

New forms of poverty in the North

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Urbanization without development

Resources

Scott, Allen, and Michael Storper. "Regions, globalization, development." *Regional studies* 37, no. 6-7 (2003): 549-578

3. Water scarcity: governance and conflicts (February 19th)

Mandatory readings

Jaglin, Sylvie. "The right to water versus cost recovery: participation, urban water supply and the poor in sub-Saharan Africa." *Environment and Urbanization* 14, no. 1 (2002): 231-245.

Swyngedouw, Erik. "Power, nature, and the city. The conquest of water and the political ecology of urbanization in Guayaquil, Ecuador: 1880-1990." *Environment and planning A* 29 (1997): 311-332.

Presentation

Clean water and sanitation in poor cities

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Water conflicts

Water and gender in the Global South

Resources

Gandy, Matthew. "Rethinking urban metabolism: water, space and the modern city." *City* 8, no. 3 (2004): 363-379.

Kiparsky et al 2012 Climate and Water : Knowledge of Impacts to action and adaptation
Wolf, Aaron T. 2007 "Shared waters: conflict and cooperation." *Annu. Rev. Environ. Resour.* 32: 241-269.

Griffin, Ronald C. "The Origins and Ideals of Water Resource Economics in the US." (2012).

Ray, Isha. "Women, water, and development." *Annu. Rev. Environ. Resour.* 32 (2007): 421-449.

Gleick, Peter H. "Water use." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 28, no. 1 (2003): 275-314.

4. Food systems: how many humans can be fed? (February 21th)

Mandatory readings

- Vermeulen, Sonja J., Bruce M. Campbell and John S.I. Ingram 2012, "Climate Change and Food Systems", *Annual Review of Environment and Resources*, vol. 37, pp. 195-222
- Godfray, H. Charles J., et al. "Food security: the challenge of feeding 9 billion people." *science* vol. 327 (2010): 812-818.

Presentation

Famines

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

- Why cannot farmers feed themselves? Productivity gaps and subsidies
Price fluctuations on global markets
Food and informal economy in the Global South's cities
Deforestation
Slow food

Resources

- Devereux, Stephen. "Sen's entitlement approach: critiques and counter-critiques." *Oxford Development Studies* 29, no. 3 (2001): 245-263.
- Rukuni, Mandivamba. "Africa: addressing growing threats to food security." *The Journal of Nutrition* 132, no. 11 (2002): 3443S-3448S.
- Phillips, Lynne. "Food and globalization." *Annu. Rev. Anthropol.* 35 (2006): 37-57.
- Zimmerer, Karl S. "Biological diversity in agriculture and global change." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 35 (2010): 137-166.
- Baro, Mamadou, and Tara F. Deubel. "Persistent hunger: Perspectives on vulnerability, famine, and food security in Sub-Saharan Africa." *Annu. Rev. Anthropol.* 35 (2006): 521-538

5. Energy and natural resources (February 26th)

Remember that for next week, you have to have a list of readings that I can authorize so that your final paper will be even better.

Mandatory readings

- Watts, Michael. "Resource curse? Governmentality, oil and power in the Niger Delta, Nigeria." *Geopolitics* 9, no. 1 (2004): 50-80.
- Clark, Brett, and John Bellamy Foster. "Ecological Imperialism and the Global Metabolic Rift Unequal Exchange and the Guano/Nitrates Trade." *International Journal of Comparative Sociology* 50, no. 3-4 (2009): 311-334.

Presentation

Peak: oil, gas, coal, metal, rare earths, and so on

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Energy transition

Depletion scenarios: economic collapse or steady-state economy (Herman Daly)

Ecodistricts

Biofuels

Carbon tax

Resources

Bauquis, Pierre-René. "A reappraisal of energy supply and demand in 2050." *Oil & Gas Science and Technology* 56, no. 4 (2001): 389-402.

Ross, Michael. "A closer look at oil, diamonds, and civil war." *Annu. Rev. Polit. Sci.* 9 (2006): 265-300

Jorgenson, Andrew K., and Brett Clark. "The economy, military, and ecologically unequal exchange relationships in comparative perspective: A panel study of the ecological footprints of nations, 1975-2000." *Social Problems* 56, no. 4 (2009): 621-646

6. Urban consequences: A planet of slums? (February 28th)

Mandatory readings

Davis, Mike. 2007 "Slum ecology" and "A Surplus Humanity", in *Planet of Slums*. Verso, 2007

Smart Alan. 2001. "Unruly places: Urban governance and the persistence of illegality in Hong Kong's urban squatter areas." *American Anthropologist* 103(1):30-44.

Presentation

The governance of slums

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Consequences (urban consequences) of structural adjustment program in the Global South

Resources

Babb, Sarah. "The social consequences of structural adjustment: recent evidence and current debates." *Annual Review of Sociology* (2005): 199-222.

Varley, Ann. 2002. "Private to public: debating the meaning of tenure legalization", *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 26(3), p.449-461

U. N. Habitat, "The challenge of slums." *Global Report of Human Settlements, UN HABITAT* (2003).

Tayyab, M. 2010. "Surplus Humanity' and Margins of Legality: Slums, Slumdogs, and Accumulation by Dispossession", *Chapman Law Review*, 14 (16)

7. Consequences on migration trends (March 5th)

Remember that for March 4th, you have to present your selected readings to me (emails, informal meetings, anything) so that I can authorize them so that you can proceed with your final paper.

Mandatory readings

Reuveny, Rafael. "Climate change-induced migration and violent conflict." *Political Geography* 26, no. 6 (2007): 656-673.

Tacoli, Cecilia. "Crisis or adaptation? Migration and climate change in a context of high mobility." *Environment and Urbanization* 21, no. 2 (2009): 513-525.

Presentation

Internal migrations in developing countries

Resources

Massey, Douglas et al. 1993, "Theories of International Migration: A Review and Appraisal", *Population and Development Review*, 19(3), pp. 431-466

Smith, Paul J. "Climate change, mass migration and the military response." *Orbis* 51, no. 4 (2007): 617-633.

Brown, Oli 2008, *Migration and Climate Change*, Geneva: International Organization for Migration

Stojanov, R., and J. Novosák. "Environmental migration in China." *Geographica* 39 (2006): 65

Vertovec, Steven. "Super-diversity and its implications." *Ethnic and racial studies* 30, no. 6 (2007): 1024-1054

8. Cities and climate change (March 7th)

Mandatory readings

Bulkeley, Harriet, and Kristine Kern. "Local government and the governing of climate change in Germany and the UK." *Urban Studies* 43, no. 12 (2006): 2237-2259.

Grimm, Nancy B., Stanley H. Faeth, Nancy E. Golubiewski, Charles L. Redman, Jianguo Wu, Xuemei Bai, and John M. Briggs. "Global change and the ecology of cities." *science* 319, no. 5864 (2008): 756-760.

Presentation

Urban strategies to prevent climate change's damaging consequences

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Urban agriculture

Resources

- Kahn, Matthew E. "Urban growth and climate change." *Annu. Rev. Resour. Econ.* 1, no. 1 (2009): 333-350.
- Barrios, Salvador, Luisito Bertinelli, and Eric Strobl. "Climatic change and rural–urban migration: The case of sub-Saharan Africa." *Journal of Urban Economics* 60, no. 3 (2006): 357-371.
- Bulkeley, Harriet. "Cities and the governing of climate change." *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 35 (2010): 229-253

9. Cities and environmental crises (March 12th)

Mandatory readings

- Auyero, Javier, and Debora Swistun. "The social production of toxic uncertainty." *American sociological review* 73, no. 3 (2008): 357-379.
- Klinenberg, Eric. "Denaturalizing disaster: A social autopsy of the 1995 Chicago heat wave." *Theory and Society* 28, no. 2 (1999): 239-295.

Presentation

New risks of epidemics in a global world

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Biodiversity
The concept of sustainability
The environmental Kuznets curve

Resources

- Rudel, Thomas K., J. Timmons Roberts, and JoAnn Carmin. "Political economy of the environment." *Annual Review of Sociology* 37 (2011): 221-238
- Ali, S. Harris, and Roger Keil, eds. *Networked disease: emerging infections in the global city*. Vol. 44. Wiley-Blackwell, 2011

10. The possibility of coordination towards collective action (March 14th)

Mandatory readings

- Hardin, Garrett. 1968 "The Tragedy of the Commons." *Science* 162: 1243-1248
- Ostrom, Elinor. *Governing the commons: The evolution of institutions for collective action*. Cambridge University Press, 1990, chapters 1 and 2

Presentation

Climate change negotiations

Suggestions for literature reviews (final essay)

Managing global fish stocks

Resources

- Hoffmann TC. 2002. "Coral reef health and effects of socio-economic factors in Fiji and Cook Islands". *Mar. Pollut. Bull.* 44:1281–93
- Palsson G. 1998. "Learning by fishing: Practical engagement and environmental concerns". In Berkes F, Folke C, eds. 1998. *Linking Social and Ecological Systems: Management Practices and Social Mechanisms for Building Resilience*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge Univ. Press, pp. 48–66
- Aswani S. 1999. "Common property models of sea tenure: a case study from Roviana and Vonavona Lagoons, New Georgia, Solomon Islands". *Hum. Ecol.* 27:417–53