

**Urban Landscape Analysis**  
**GEOG 454/654**  
**Spring '08 Syllabus**  
**Lecture 4:00-5:15 T and R, MS 227**

**Instructor:** Dr. Scott D. Bassett  
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**Office Hours:** Wednesday 2-5pm

**Course Description:** This course is intended to be an intermediate course in planning. The class is intended to give you a general understanding of the urban landscape, specifically knowledge on how urban landscapes have come about both from a regional and within city perspective. The class is designed to allow maximum flexibility for students allowing you to either take a qualitative or quantitative approach to your final papers.

**Course Goals:**

- Goal 1. Provide an understanding of how urban landscapes develop.
- Goal 2. Provide a knowledge base for understanding some simple ways to analyze urban landscapes.

**Required Text:**

None; however, readings will be posted online or handed out during the class.

Most of the readings will come from the books below:

Herbert, D. T. and C. J. Thomas. 1997. *Cities in space City as place, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.*  
Kaplan, D. H., J. O. Wheeler, S. R. Holloway and T. W. Hodler. 2004. *Urban Geography.*  
Harris, R., P. Sleight and R. Webber. 2005. *Geodemographics, GIS and Neighbourhood Targeting.*

**Assignments/Exams:**

Undergraduate students may choose to write for either topic listed for paper 1 or paper 2. Graduate students must write two papers to fulfill all the requirements for this course. Papers should be 5 to 8 pages in length with 1.5 line spacing.

Exam/Assignments	Undergraduate (%)	Graduate (%)
Exam 1	100 (28.5%)	100 (20%)
Exam 2	100 (28.5%)	100 (20%)
Paper 1: Description of a City—Planning perspective	150 (43.0%)	150 (30%)
Paper 2: Urban Analysis Methodology	N/A	150 (30%)
Total	350	500

**Grades:**

93-100% (4.0)	= A	90-92.9% (3.7)	= A-
87-89.9 (3.3)	= B+	83-86.9 (3.0)	= B
80-82.9 (2.7)	= B-	77-79.9 (2.3)	= C+
73-76.9 (2.0)	= C	70-73.9 (1.7)	= C-
67-69.9 (1.3)	= D+	63-66.9 (1.0)	= D
60-63.9 (0.7)	= D-	Below 60 (0.0)	= F

**Lecture Attendance Policy:** With no assigned text I suggest you attend class lectures in order to take notes and perform well on the exams. Subsequently, attending class is your option and I would suggest you notify me via e-mail if you will not be able to attend class on any given day.

**Assignments:** Assigned work must be completed prior to the start of class. Failure to turn in papers on time will result in a reduction in grade.

**Fieldtrip:** There will be a single four hour field trip towards the end of this class. During that week no class will be held and the field trip will act as a replacement for the scheduled lecture time.

**Cheating (i.e. direct copying of work):** Cheating is unacceptable and if done will result in the student receiving an F for the course. Collaboration among students is encouraged, however, all written work must be in the students own words.

**URBAN LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS (GEOG 454/654)**  
**Spring '08 Course Outline**

<b>Week 1</b> 22 January	<b>Lecture:</b> Syllabus and What is Urban? <b>Goals:</b> Course overview, Understand Urban Definition <b>Book:</b> Herbert and Thomas Chapter 1	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 2</b> 29 January	<b>Lecture:</b> What is Urban Geography? <b>Goals:</b> Familiarize all with subfields of Urban Geography <b>Book:</b> Kaplan Chapter 1	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 3</b> 5 February	<b>Lecture:</b> Origins of Cities <b>Goals:</b> Familiarize all with Ancient Civilizations and their cities <b>Book:</b> Kaplan Chapter 2	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 4</b> 12 February	<b>Lecture:</b> International Cities <b>Goals:</b> A look at modern cities around the globe <b>Book:</b> None	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 5</b> 19 February	<b>Lecture:</b> U.S. Cities ( <b>No Class on Thursday</b> ) <b>Goals:</b> A look at U.S. City Form <b>Book:</b> Kaplan Chapter 3	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 6</b> 26 February	<b>Lecture:</b> U.S. Cities and U.S Census demographics <b>Goals:</b> To understand the interactions among regions <b>Book:</b> www.census.gov	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 7</b> 4 March	<b>Lecture:</b> Geodemographics and <b>Exam 1</b> <b>Goals:</b> Understand city interactions and test work <b>Book:</b> Harris Chapter 1	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 8</b> 11 March	<b>Lecture:</b> Geodemographic models and data <b>Goals:</b> Utility of geodemographics and data required <b>Book:</b> Harris section 4.5 and Chap 5	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 9</b> 18 March	<b>Lecture:</b> Urban Social Space <b>Goals:</b> Familiarize all with the social use of urban space <b>Book:</b> Herbert Chapter 11	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 10</b> 25 March	<b>Lecture:</b> No Class Spring Break	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 11</b> 1 April	<b>Lecture:</b> Urban Landscape Change <b>Goals:</b> How have urban/suburban changed, change detection <b>Book:</b> Luck and Wu 2002.	<b>Homework:</b> Graduate first paper due
<b>Week 12</b> 8 April	<b>Lecture:</b> Urban Growth Models <b>Goals:</b> Understand growth models and how they work <b>Book:</b> Deadman et al. 1993; Soares et al. 2002.	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 13</b> 15 April	<b>Lecture:</b> Urban Growth Assessment <b>Goals:</b> Determine potential urban growth impacts <b>Book:</b> Landis 1994; Solecki and Oliveri 2004	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 14</b> 22 April	<b>Lecture:</b> Urban Growth Assessment, <b>Exam 2</b> <b>Goals:</b> Highlighting urban growth impacts <b>Book:</b> Landis 1994; Solecki and Oliveri 2004.	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 15</b> 29 April	<b>Lecture:</b> Reno Field Trip <b>Goals:</b> Familiarize Class with Reno <b>Book:</b> None	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 16</b> 6 May	<b>Lecture:</b> Field Trip Discussion <b>Goals:</b> Discuss Reno's Urban Landscape <b>Book:</b> None	<b>Homework:</b> None
<b>Week 17</b> 8 May	<b>Lecture:</b> Finals Week	<b>Homework:</b> Final Paper Due