Comparative Urbanization

Government 4293/6293
Spring 2016

Instructor: Jeremy Wallace Email: wallace@cornell.edu
Time: T 2:30-4:25 Place: Uris Hall G20
Office Hours: W 2:00-4:00 Place: White Hall 211

For the first time in history, more than half of the world’s people reside in cities. Why do people congregate in cities? How do states address urbanization, and how does urbanization affect states? This course investigates cities and their political economy. Particular emphasis will be placed on contemporary urbanization in the developing world, where most of the growth in cities is taking place.

Course Requirements and Grading:

Participation & Attendance - 25% Responses (4) - 20% Research Paper - 55%

Participation & Attendance – The course is a seminar and so your attendance and active participation in the discussion is required, as such and following extensive research: laptops/phones/tablets will not be used during our discussions. Starting in week 3, a student will lead the discussion of the week’s readings. Responses – Each student will write 4 responses of ~500 words each during the semester. Responses synthesize the readings of the week. Research Paper – By the date of the final session, students are expected to turn in a research paper (~6000 words for 4293 students, ~8000 words for 6293 students). On the way, a draft outline must be turned in by the end of Week 7, and a 3000+ word draft similarly electronically submitted by Week 11 and discussed during Week 12.

Integrity and Accommodation:

Each student in this course is expected to abide by the University’s Code of Academic Integrity. In compliance with university policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for student with disabilities.
Schedule of Readings

All of the readings are linked or on Blackboard.

Week 01 [2/2] — Introductions

Week 02 [2/9] — On Writing and Research


Week 03 [2/16] — February Break [No Class]

Week 04 [2/23] — Cities: Ideas and Comparisons


Week 05 [3/1] — Histories


Week 06 [3/8] — Urban Economics


**Week 08 [3/22] — Housing and Slums**


**Week 09 [3/29] — Spring Break [No Class]**

**Week 10 [4/5] — Dangers: Disease, Debris, and Deadly Air**

Week 11 [4/12] — City Governments


Week 12 [4/19] — Discussion of Drafts and Incorporation

[1] Student Drafts


[5] TBD

Week 14 [5/3] — China’s Cities


Week 15 [5/10] — Student Presentations