This course takes a comparative approach toward the study of social, economic, and political factors that led to the emergence and transformation of modern cities in the United States and selected areas of Latin America. We consider the city in its dual image: as a center of progress and as a redoubt of social problems, especially underdevelopment and inequality. We give attention to the historical processes that have resulted in the spatial aggregation and desegregation of populations differentiated by social class and race.

Readings come from two sources:

♦ Books available at the U-Store and in the Library Reserve Room.
   Readings in packet available at Pequod.

February 1, 3
Introduction: The sociological enterprise: methods and approach.- Cities in a historical perspective.- Urbanization and industrialization.- Rural-urban migration.- The dual image of the city.

Readings:


February 8, 10, 15, 17
Classical Models of Urban Development: Concentric zoning, aixiate growth and multiple nuclei.- Ecological theories.- The city as organism.- Political economy and the critique of classical models.- Land use and the market.- Transforming time and space into commodities.- The city in the era of world economic integration. The global city.

Readings:


February 15, 17, 22
Inter- and Intra-urban Processes in Latin America: A review of theories of socioeconomic development.- Colonialism and its legacy.- Modernization and metropolitan change.- The effects of Import-Substitution Industrialization.- Export-Processing Industrialization and the “opening to the exterior”.

Readings:


March 1, 3, 6

Readings:

March 10, 22, 24
Urban Poverty and Labor Patterns in Latin America and the Caribbean: The structure of formal employment.- Social stratification.- Gender, race and ethnicity in the labor market.- Industrial and service sectors.- The informal economy.-

Readings:


March 29, 31
Cities and States in Latin America and the Caribbean: From nationalism to internationalism.- The state and civil society.- Predatory and embedded states.- Changing notions of citizenship.

Readings:


April 5, 7, 12
Inter-and Intra-urban Processes in the United States: The colonial city. Industrialization and international migration.- Suburbs, exurbs, and edge cities.- The role of race and ethnicity in the design of the American city.- Aggregative and disaggregative processes.- Residential segregation.- From slums to ghettos.- The global city.

Readings:

April 14
**Poverty and Marginality in the American City:** The meaning of poverty in the land of plenty.- Social capital and spatial segregation.- The War Against Poverty.- The War Against Welfare.- Poverty and the state.- Poverty and the private sector.- Unemployed or unemployable? The gender dimensions.- Public housing: a historical sketch.- A word on the homeless.- The misery of citizenship.

Readings:


April 19, 21

Readings:


April 26, 28
**Immigrants and the Transformation of Cities:** Types of migrants.- Labor migration.- The immigrant enclave.- Gender and class in the process of migration.- Self-employment

Readings:


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**Course Requirements**

♦ Attendance is mandatory. Lectures complement readings. During our meetings together we will cover topics that may not be explicitly discussed in the readings. Unjustified absences may result in the subtraction of points from the final grade.

♦ Regular attendance to the Colloquium Series on Migration and Development.

♦ You are responsible for having read the materials above by the dates indicated.

♦ Take home midterm and final exams, consisting of 5 questions each. Each question requires a maximum 3-page double-spaced response.

♦ The grading criteria are as follows:
  a. Familiarity with assigned readings = 33 points
  b. Clarity of expression and logical coherence = 33 points
  c. Evidence of comparative analytical ability = 33 points