

**Geography 340  
Cities and Planning  
University of Victoria  
Fall 2020**

*We acknowledge with respect the Lekwungen peoples on whose traditional territory the university stands and the Songhees, Esquimalt and WSANEC peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.*

<b>Instructor:</b>	Reuben Rose-Redwood, Ph.D.
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<b>Office hours:</b>	By appointment via Zoom
<b>Course time:</b>	Mondays and Thursdays, 1:00pm-2:20pm PST
<b>Course location:</b>	Fully online and blended (mix of synchronous and asynchronous sessions)

**ETHICS OF CARE IN THE TIME OF COVID-19**

*I appreciate that this is a difficult time for everyone with a global health crisis, economic hardship, and social inequities unevenly affecting people around the world, including students at UVic. Your education is important, but your health and well-being come first. If there are any health, economic, or related issues that are having a negative impact on your ability to take this course throughout the semester, please feel free to let me know, and I'll do my best to find a reasonable accommodation when possible.*

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Welcome to GEOG 340—Cities and Planning! This course provides an overview of key thematic areas related to cities and planning in the North American context. The main goal of the class is to offer a critical examination of the history of urban planning and contemporary issues in urban geography, with a particular focus on the historical geography of urbanization, changing approaches to urban planning and governance, the politics of urban renewal, neoliberal urbanism, housing and homelessness, gentrification, immigrant communities, and utopian speculations on the urban future. We shall explore these issues and more in relation to various North American cities to illuminate the complexities of the urban experience.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

- Provide a broad overview of the key concepts and perspectives in urban geography and planning
- Examine the main geographical processes of urbanization and the history of urban planning in North America

- Assess the major political, economic, social, and cultural changes that have transformed contemporary urban landscapes in North America
- Critically analyze the politics of urban development and social inequality within capitalist societies

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

- Acquire a general understanding of the major concepts and approaches in contemporary urban geography and planning
- Acquire an in-depth knowledge of the historical and contemporary processes of urbanization and planning in the North American context
- Develop the ability to critically assess the contested politics that have shaped the urban experience
- Improve competency in critical urban analysis by writing and presenting a group research project.

## **CLASS FORMAT**

Due to COVID-19, the format for this course will be hybrid, consisting of a mix of synchronous Zoom sessions (i.e. short lectures and discussions) and asynchronous course material posted to Brightspace (i.e. audio-lectures, films, etc.). For the most part, Monday classes will be synchronous (real-time) Zoom sessions and Thursday classes will be asynchronous audio-lectures or films posted to Brightspace. The only Thursday classes that will be synchronous Zoom sessions will be the first day of class, Sept. 10, and the last two Thursdays of the semester (Nov. 26 and Dec. 3) when we'll be doing group research presentations. Otherwise, all other Thursdays will be asynchronous. For our Monday Zoom sessions, students will be expected to have read the assigned readings prior to class each day. In addition to the take-home midterm and take-home final exam, the main assignments for the course will be a group research paper and presentation.

## **ZOOM CLASS SESSIONS**

All links and instructions for joining Zoom class sessions are available at the end of this syllabus under the heading "Zoom Links for Synchronous Class Sessions." I will also send out email reminders with the instructions for joining Zoom lectures each week. In order to access Zoom sessions, make sure you have logged into your Zoom account via UVic's web portal (<https://uvic.zoom.us>) first before trying to access this class's Zoom session links.

## **READINGS**

### **Required Course Texts**

- All reading materials will be available on the Brightspace page for this class (<https://bright.uvic.ca>).

## **ASSIGNMENTS & GRADING SCHEME**

Your final grade will be based on the following calculation:

Midterm Exam	25%
Final Exam	25%
Group Research Paper	30%
Group Research Presentation	20%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Grading Scale

Grade	Grade point value	Grade scale	Description
<b>A+</b> <b>A</b> <b>A-</b>	9 8 7	90-100% 85-89% 80-84%	<b>Exceptional, outstanding and excellent</b> performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
<b>B+</b> <b>B</b> <b>B-</b>	6 5 4	77-79% 73-76% 70-72%	<b>Very good, good and solid</b> performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
<b>C+</b> <b>C</b>	3 2	65-69% 60-64%	<b>Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory.</b> These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
<b>D</b>	1	50-59%	<b>Marginal</b> Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.
<b>F</b>	0	0-49%	<b>Unsatisfactory</b> performance. Wrote final examination and completed course requirements; no supplemental.
<b>N</b>	0	0-49%	<b>Did not write examination or complete course requirements by the end of term or session; no supplemental.</b>

### COURSE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: BRIGHTSPACE

We will be using the Brightspace course management system as a medium for the posting of relevant course materials and related course information (<https://bright.uvic.ca>). Zoom videos and audio-lectures will be posted on Brightspace at the end of each week.

## ASSIGNMENTS

### **Take-Home Midterm Exam (25%) and Take-Home Final Exam (25%)**

The course will have a take-home midterm exam (25%) and a take-home final exam (25%). Each exam will consist of a series of essay questions and students will have one week to submit their essay responses on Brightspace. The final exam will be cumulative, although it will focus more on material from the second half of the semester.

### **Group Research Project: Paper (30%) and Presentation (20%)**

The main assignment for this course is the Group Research Project, which consists of a Group Research Paper (30%) and a Group Research Presentation (20%). Students will be assigned to groups for their group research project by the course instructor. Each group will then select a topic related to urban planning within the context of a specific city in Canada or the United States and write a 1-page proposal, which should include a preliminary title, 1 paragraph summary of the topic, and a preliminary bibliography of at least 5 academic sources (generally focused on the broad theme) and 5 media and/or policy sources (focused specifically on the case study) that your group proposes to examine. I will provide feedback to each group on their proposal, and research papers will be due via Brightspace submission by 11:59pm Pacific Standard Time on the last day of class (December 3). The last three Zoom class sessions at the end of the semester will also be devoted to the group research presentations.

We will discuss the details of the research project further in class, but the end product will consist of:

- (1) **RESEARCH PAPER:** Each group will write and submit a 10-15 page research paper, double-spaced, 12-pt font, 2.54 cm margins, following the APA author-date citation style (<https://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/documents/apa.pdf>). The paper should be subdivided into sections with bold headings and should include an Introduction section, Literature Review section, Case Study section, and Conclusion section. Paper should be submitted via Brightspace by 11:59pm Pacific Standard Time on the last day of class (Dec. 3).

*Note:* All images, maps, photographs, etc., should be listed with appropriate reference numbers (e.g., Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.) in an appendix at the end of the paper, not within the text itself, although you should make direct reference to each figure in the body of the essay, by saying “(Figure 1),” etc., at the end of a sentence just as you would for in-text citations. Make sure to also include a “figure caption” that describes the content of each figure that is placed directly below the image.

#### Paper Rubric

Papers will be assessed in relation to the following considerations:

- a) Quality of writing
- b) Quality of structure/organization
- c) Quality of content
- d) Demonstration of critical thinking skills
- e) Proper use of citations/bibliographic references (no plagiarism, please!)

- (2) **RESEARCH PRESENTATION:** Each group will give a presentation on their research paper to the class at the end of the semester (estimate approx. 15-20 minutes per presentation although this may vary depending on class enrollments and the number of research teams).

#### Presentation Rubric

Presentations will be assessed in relation to the following considerations:

- a) Quality of oral delivery
- b) Quality of structure/organization
- c) Quality of the content
- d) Quality of design, aesthetic appeal, and creativity of visual aids for presentation

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Since face-to-face office hours are not possible this semester, I will be holding office hours by appointment via Zoom. If you would like to speak with me about anything related to the course, your degree program, urban studies, or life generally, please feel free to send me an email ([redwood@uvic.ca](mailto:redwood@uvic.ca)) and we'll arrange a time that works for us to meet virtually.

### **EMAIL**

Send all email to me using the email address listed on the first page of the syllabus ([redwood@uvic.ca](mailto:redwood@uvic.ca)). Please include the course number (GEOG 340) in the email subject title. I will do my best to respond promptly to your questions.

### **UVIC'S ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY**

Academic integrity requires commitment to the values of honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. It is expected that students, faculty members, and staff at the University of Victoria, as members of an intellectual community, will adhere to these ethical values in all activities related to learning, teaching, research, and service. Any action that contravenes this standard, including misrepresentation, falsification, or deception, undermines the intention and worth of scholarly work and violates the fundamental academic rights of members of our community. This policy is designed to ensure that the university's standards are upheld in a fair and transparent fashion ([https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/index.php#/policy/Sk\\_0xsM\\_V](https://www.uvic.ca/calendar/undergrad/index.php#/policy/Sk_0xsM_V)).

### **PLAGIARISM**

All class assignments should be prepared by the student(s) submitting the assignment. Plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty, will not be tolerated in this course. Plagiarism consists of: (a) submitting someone else's work as your own without the use of proper citation or (b) paraphrasing another's ideas without acknowledging the author's work through citation. The use of an editor, whether paid or unpaid, is prohibited unless the instructor grants explicit written authorization. If you have any questions concerning matters of plagiarism, please see the following link: <http://www.uvic.ca/library/research/citation/plagiarism/index.php>

## **UVIC'S ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT FOR STUDENTS WITH A DISABILITY**

Students with diverse learning styles and needs are welcome in this course. In particular, if you have a disability/health consideration that may require accommodations, please feel free to approach me and/or the Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL) as soon as possible. The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals, and arrange appropriate accommodations (<https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal>). The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course.

## **UVIC POSITIVITY AND SAFETY STATEMENT**

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting, providing, and protecting a positive and safe learning and working environment for all its members.

## **COURSE POLICY ON RECORDING OF LECTURES AND USE OF COURSE MATERIALS**

According to the university's [Intellectual Property Policy](#) (GV0215), professors and instructors are the authors of their original course materials, lecture notes, and lecture presentations. Accordingly, they own copyright in these materials. Occasionally, students enrolled in a course may ask to record lectures because they would like to review the material at a future date. A lecture constitutes an instructor's intellectual property. A student must get permission to record the lecture from their instructor. Any material for the course (e.g., lecture notes, PowerPoints, syllabus, including a recording of a lecture) is made solely for the use of the student registered in the course for research and private study only. These materials must not be posted online or shared with other students without the instructor's permission. In some cases, a student with a perceptual disability will be eligible for an academic accommodation to record a lecture. Please visit the [Centre for Accessible Learning \(CAL\) website](#) for more information. You should be aware that there are [policies and legislation](#) regarding academic accommodation. Should you have any questions please contact the [Copyright Office](#).

## **SEXUALIZED VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE AT UVIC**

UVic takes sexualized violence seriously, and has raised the bar for what is considered acceptable behaviour. We encourage students to learn more about how the university defines sexualized violence and its overall approach by visiting [uvic.ca/svp](http://uvic.ca/svp). If you or someone you know has been impacted by sexualized violence and needs information, advice, and/or support please contact the sexualized violence resource office in Equity and Human Rights (EQHR). Whether or not you have been directly impacted, if you want to take part in the important prevention work taking place on campus, you can also reach out:

Where: Sexualized violence resource office in EQHR; Sedgewick C119  
Phone: 250.721.8021  
Email: [svpcoordinator@uvic.ca](mailto:svpcoordinator@uvic.ca)  
Web: [uvic.ca/svp](http://uvic.ca/svp)

## **COURSE EXPERIENCE SURVEYS (CES)**

I value your feedback on this course. Towards the end of term, as in all other courses at UVic, you will have the opportunity to complete an anonymous survey regarding your learning experience (CES). The survey is vital to providing feedback to me regarding the course and my teaching, as well as to help the department improve the overall program for students in the future. The survey is accessed via MyPage and can be done on your laptop, tablet, or mobile device. I will remind you and provide you with more detailed information nearer the time but please be thinking about this important activity during the course.

## **STUDENT WELLNESS**

A note to remind you to take care of yourself. Do your best to maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester by eating well, exercising, getting enough sleep, and taking some time to relax. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. All of us benefit from support during times of struggle. You are not alone.

Counselling Services - Counselling Services can help you make the most of your university experience. They offer free professional, confidential, inclusive support to currently registered UVic students. <https://www.uvic.ca/services/counselling/>

Health Services - University Health Services (UHS) provides a full service primary health clinic for students, and coordinates healthy student and campus initiatives. <https://www.uvic.ca/services/health/>

Centre for Accessible Learning - The CAL staff are available by appointment to assess specific needs, provide referrals and arrange appropriate accommodations. The sooner you let us know your needs the quicker we can assist you in achieving your learning goals in this course. <https://www.uvic.ca/services/cal/>

Elders' Voices - The Office of Indigenous Academic and Community Engagement (IACE) has the privilege of assembling a group of Elders from local communities to guide students, staff, faculty and administration in Indigenous ways of knowing and being. <https://www.uvic.ca/services/indigenous/students/programming/elders/index.php>

## **COURSE SCHEDULE**

Below is the course schedule for the entire semester. I will do my best to stick to this schedule, although I do reserve the right to make changes if necessary.

### ***Course Schedule***

#### **Week 1**

Thursday, September 10: Course overview

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

## **Week 2**

Monday, September 14: The North American urban experience in global context

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*Readings*

Reece, J. (2018). "In Pursuit of a Twenty-First Century Just City: The Evolution of Equity Planning Theory and Practice." *Journal of Planning Literature* 33(3): 299-309.

Thursday, September 17: Urban historical transformations I

**[Asynchronous Audio-Lecture Posted on Brightspace]**

*No assigned readings*

## **Week 3**

Monday, September 21: Discussion of readings and group research project

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*Readings*

Ulmer, C. (2017). "Of Crossings, Conduits, Networks and Channels: The Circulation of Foreign Planning Innovations within English Canada, 1900-1914." *Urban History* 44(4): 678-697.

\* **NOTE:** Please be prepared to discuss the assigned readings by Reece and Ulmer during class today (Monday, Sept. 21).

Thursday, September 24: Urban historical transformations II

**[Asynchronous Audio-Lecture Posted on Brightspace]**

*No readings*

## **Week 4**

Monday, September 28: From modernism to the new urbanism

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*Readings*

"Charter of Athens" (1933)

<http://portal.uur.cz/pdf/charter-of-athens-1933.pdf>

"Charter of the New Urbanism" (1999)

<https://www.cnu.org/who-we-are/charter-new-urbanism>

\* **NOTE:** Please be prepared to discuss the assigned readings on the "Charter of Athens" and the "Charter of the New Urbanism" during class today (Monday, Sept. 28).

\* **NOTE:** Proposal with bibliography for Group Research Project due today, submit via email to [redwood@uvic.ca](mailto:redwood@uvic.ca) (Monday, Sept. 28).

Thursday, October 1: Film—*Citizen Jane: Battle for the City*

**[Asynchronous Film on Brightspace]**

*Film Link:* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tid\\_MAtHbno](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tid_MAtHbno)

*Readings*

Jacobs, J. (1961), "The Uses of Sidewalks: Safety," from *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, R. LeGates and F. Stout (eds.), *The City Reader*, New York: Routledge, pp. 106-111.

### **Week 5**

Monday, October 5: Guest speaker—Lindsay Chase, Director of Development Services, Town of View Royal

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

Thursday, October 8: *Film—Remember Africville*

**[Asynchronous Film on Brightspace]**

*Film Link:*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=13&v=28cvg6iD7IA&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=13&v=28cvg6iD7IA&feature=emb_logo)

*Readings*

Loo, T. (2010). "Africville and the Dynamics of State Power in Postwar Canada." *Acadiensis* 39(2): 23-47.

### **Week 6**

Monday, October 12: *NO CLASS—THANKSGIVING BREAK*

*No assigned readings*

Thursday, October 15: *NO CLASS—TAKE-HOME MIDTERM EXAM*

*No assigned readings*

\* **NOTE:** Midterm take-home exam questions will be released by 9am today (October 15). The exam essays should be submitted via Brightspace by the end of the day at 11:59pm Pacific Standard Time on Thursday, October 22.

### **Week 7**

Monday, October 19: Guest speaker—Caleb Horn, Planner, City of Nanaimo

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

Thursday, October 22: *Changing consumerscapes in the commodity world*

**[Asynchronous Audio-Lecture Posted on Brightspace]**

*Readings*

Parlette, V. and Cowen, D. (2011). "Dead Malls: Suburban Activism, Local Spaces, Global Logistics." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 35(4): 794-811.

\* **NOTE:** Take-Home Midterm Exam is due today (Oct. 22) to be submitted via Brightspace by no later than 12:00am (midnight) Pacific Standard Time.

### **Week 8**

Monday, October 26: Discussion of films and readings

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

\* **NOTE:** Please be prepared to discuss the assigned films (*Citizen Jane* and *Remember Africville*) and assigned readings by Loo and Parlette/Cowen during class today (Monday, Oct. 26).

Thursday, October 29: Regimes of urban governance and the politics of scale  
**[Asynchronous Audio-Lecture Posted on Brightspace]**  
*No assigned readings*

### **Week 9**

Monday, November 2: Housing, homelessness, and the politics of urban revitalization  
**[Zoom Class Session]**

*Readings*

Maharawal, M. and McElroy, E. (2018). “The Anti-Eviction Mapping Project: Counter Mapping and Oral History toward Bay Area Housing Justice.” *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* 108(2): 380-389.

\* **NOTE:** Please be prepared to discuss the assigned reading by Maharawal/McElroy during class today (Monday, Nov. 2).

Thursday, November 5: *Film—Priced Out: 15 Years of Gentrification in Portland, Oregon*  
**[Asynchronous Film on Brightspace]**

*Film Link:*

<https://webapp.library.uvic.ca/videos/view.php?vfn=Priced-Out.mp4>

*No assigned readings*

### **Week 10**

Monday, November 9: *NO CLASS—READING BREAK*  
*No assigned readings*

Thursday, November 12: Immigration, sanctuary, and the social geography of cities  
**[Asynchronous Audio-Lecture Posted on Brightspace]**

*Readings*

Fakhrashrafi, M., Kirk, J., and Gilbert, E. (2019). “Sanctuary Inter/rupted: Borders, Illegalization, and Unbelonging.” *The Canadian Geographer* 63(1): 84-99.

### **Week 11**

Monday, November 16: Guest speaker—Jasmindra Jawanda, Urban Cultural Planner  
**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

Thursday, November 19: Utopian and dystopian visions of urban futures  
**[Asynchronous Audio-Lecture Posted on Brightspace]**

*Readings*

Pinder, D. (2002). “In Defence of Utopian Urbanism: Imagining Cities After the ‘End of Utopia.’” *Geografiska Annaler: Series B* 84(3-4): 229-241.

## **Week 12**

Monday, November 23: Discussion of readings, final exam review, and course wrap-up

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

\* **NOTE:** Please be prepared to discuss the assigned readings by Fakhrashrafi et al. and Pinder as well as the film *Priced Out* during class today (Monday, Nov. 23).

Thursday, November 26: Group presentations I

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

## **Week 13**

Monday, November 30: Group presentations II

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

Thursday, December 3: Group presentations III

**[Zoom Class Session]**

*No assigned readings*

\* **NOTE: GROUP RESEARCH PAPER DUE TODAY (DECEMBER 3)**

\* **NOTE: The final exam will be a take-home exam due during finals period. More details to be provided in class.**

\* **NOTE: September 25, 2020: Last day for adding courses that begin in the first term.  
October 31, 2020: Last day for withdrawing from first-term courses without penalty of failure.**

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