

Geography 277 OAS/OAC (5365/5366)

Spring 2008 Geography of Cities Syllabus

Welcome to Geography 277 – ‘Geography of Cities’.

This is a five-credit course that fulfills a social science requirement for the Associate in Arts and Sciences (AAS) Degree at Bellevue Community College. There are no prerequisites for this class.

My name is: George C. Walker

Mailing address:

*Geography Department
Social Science Division/Room D110
Bellevue Community College
3000 Landerholm Circle SE
Bellevue WA 98007*

Phone 425-564-2333 (*messages read in a.m.*)

Fax 425-564-3108

Division Office phone 425-564-2331 (*24 hour message line*)

Distance Education Office 425-564-2438

My email is gwalker@bcc.ctc.edu Please use this form of communication if at all possible unless you are taking this class as an online class and then you should contact me through Vista online email.

Course Description:

A study of the location and functions of cities as well as their internal layout and the cultural and economic components of these urban areas - case studies will cover all regions of the world from North America to Europe, Japan, Latin America, Africa and Asia.

Course Objectives:

1)Urban Origins – An Urbanizing World

A study of the evolution of urban areas from ancient beginnings to Victorian cities of Anglo-America. Case studies of towns and cities e.g. the north eastern coalfield of England. The American City - colonial imprints and the booster cities of the ‘West’ and the growth of metropolitan America

2) Urban Growth and Morphology

The Central Business District / Inner City areas / suburbanization; an evaluation of the CBD – its demise – and renewal / suburban growth in America. Case studies of urban redevelopment schemes.

3) *Living in the City*

Impact of immigration on urban growth in North America - a study of immigration to the USA from mid-1800's to present and its impact on urban growth.

A study of ethnicity and residential segregation in the USA and the UK – and a comparison with the Japanese experience; characteristics of Latino and Asian migration to the city and a study of urban poverty; social and environmental issues in the city; and problems of pollution.

4) *Urban Geography of the Developing World*

Case studies of cities in the developing world: for example, Egypt, Pakistan, Bolivia and Peru.

The city in the developing world experience - 'Western' façades hide the grim truth of unrelenting growth - the slum and shanty town experience.

5) *Cities in the Twenty First Century*

Contemporary problems are considered by an analysis of - conflict in Jerusalem; issues of urban size in Tokyo; and physical components of the environment and the impact of Hurricane Katrina on New Orleans.

Format:

(a) Long Essay – 'The significance of the creative class in urban development' - it will be worth 25% of the final grade for the class.

(b) Module Quizzes 1 thru 4 – each will be worth 15% of the final grade for the class – total 60%.

(c) Module Quiz 5 (which also is the Final Examination) – this will be worth 15% of the final grade for the class

(a) Long Essay

'The significance of the creative class in urban development'

This will be a 1500-2000 word essay. This will be started at the end of Module 2 and will be submitted online ten days before the end of the quarter – it will be worth 25% of the final grade for the class.

(b) The Five Modules

The course material is subdivided into **Five Modules**. You should proceed through each Module in the following way.

1) Each one begins with '**Class Notes**' that highlight and focus on the major components of that particular topic area. Read carefully through this material and make your own notes that highlight the key points. You will be tested on this material in the Module Quiz.

2) Now turn your study toward the '**Recommended Reading Section**' of the Module. There will be a series of articles that you need to read – each has a number of questions that you will need to answer. Complete this section before you progress onto the quiz – you will be tested on these questions and your general understanding of the material from the Module in the Module Quiz.

Please note that in all of the Module Quizzes 1 thru 5 there will be some questions that require written answers and some that will be multiple choice questions.

3) If you have completed stages 1 and 2 above - you are now in a position to answer the

Module Quiz. But, before you attempt the quiz carefully read through all your notes and the answers to the questions from all of the material that you have read in the readings in the module. All of the questions on the quiz will be taken directly from the questions from the Recommended Reading articles as well as the Class Notes. **You will only have one chance to do each module quiz – and once you start you must continue and you will be limited to 90 minutes.**

5) There are in all **5 Module Quizzes (remember that Module Quiz 5 is also the Final Exam.) and all answered online.** You will have access to the Module Quizzes usually from 11 am on a Thursday until 11 pm on the following Wednesday – you must take the quiz sometime during this period. **As you will see – this regimen is intended to help to keep you on target and complete the various exercises in a timely manner.** If you fail to complete a quiz on time and the instructor considers you had a good enough reason to allow you to make-up the quiz the instructor will penalize you a minimum of 25% of your score for the made-up quiz. Please note that there will be no make-up opportunities for Module Quiz 5 (the Final).

(c) Module Quiz 5 - The Final Examination

This will be a 90 minute online final examination and the material covered will be from the final module just as in the first four module quizzes.

General Education Requirements:

Below are the course outcome and ratings (more than a value of 1) and explanation for General education requirements -

Cultural Diversity: Value 3 - Importance of culture in the urban landscape in both the form and structure of the built environment and in the attitudes and attributes displayed by those who share this space.

Critical Thinking, Creativity, and Problem Solving: Value 2 - Analysis of urban landscapes as they change over time. Using data selected from census returns to evaluate change. Study changes in migratory trends between urban areas and their hinterlands.

Historical and Intellectual Perspectives: Value 2 Importance of a review of historical factors in the appreciation of the city of today. Dynamics of cultural change through time as ideas and knowledge is diffused globally.

Grading:

The total mark allocation for the course is 535 marks.

Each of the 5 Module Quizzes will be worth a total of 80 marks - 15% each of the total mark.

The Essay will be worth 135 marks - 25% of the total mark.

The Grading Scale is:

A	4.0	480 +
---	-----	-------

A-	3.7	454-479
B+	3.3	426-453
B	3.0	400-425
B-	2.7	374-399
C+	2.3	348-373
C	2.0	320-347
C-	1.7	292-319
D+	1.3	265-291
D	1.0	238-264
F		237 and less

Required Text:

'Annual Editions – Urban Society', 13th edition, by Fred Siegel and Harry Siegel (ed) published by McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2008 ISBN -13-9780073397436 and access to a good atlas – such as a Rand McNally Atlas

Participation:

You are responsible for:

1. the ***technical aspects*** of your computer/email/printer etc. Please look at the BCC Distance Education website for the Vista Tutorial and for hardware requirements.
2. ***reading*** the appropriate material as specified.
3. taking part in ***email discussions/please do not use voice email when contacting me/*** fellow students can be a helpful resource for those 'difficult questions'.
4. keeping ***comprehensive personal notes/journals/diagrams/maps*** relevant to material studied.
5. ***timely completion*** of quizzes and the final examination/please note that there are ***no make-up tests*** available - you should not leave tests to the last minute in case you have a technical problem - this is a very important consideration/you should have a back-up plan should your system 'crash' at the wrong time.
6. ***please review the Bellevue Community College academic calendar posted at <http://distance-ed.bcc.ctc.edu> for all details regarding registration and withdrawal policy and procedures and distribution of final grades/you should be familiar with the Social Science Division policy for cheating and plagiarism/if you require special student services contact Disability Support Services at 425-564-2498 or call in on campus.***

Please remember there are no make-up opportunities for quizzes or the final examination; it is important to make a commitment to this online class in just the same way as you would a classroom based class.

**PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
Revised Fall 2006**

Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue Community College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue Community College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services.

Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BCC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional

circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

Students With Special Needs

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are required to meet with the Disability Support Services (DSS) office, room B233-G (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DSS office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class must review the DSS accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Support Services, or review those needs with the instructor as well.

Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and secretaries will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BCC Web site.

Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

**If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue Community College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (A251), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*