

## SEMESTER AT SEA COURSE SYLLABUS

**Discipline: Interdisciplinary Studies (Urban Studies, Geography, History)**

**Fall 2008**

**SEMS 480-3: Global Cities**

**Upper Division**

**Faculty Name: Martha Works**

**Suggested Pre-requisites:** Upper division standing; Introduction to Human Geography, Sociology, or Anthropology recommended.

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course examines the relationship between globalization and urban growth and change from historical and geographical perspectives. Course includes an overview of urbanization and how networks of interaction (trade, migration, communication) have shaped urban places; how cities function within their regions; and how physical environment, cultural history and economic processes affect urban form, structure, and sense of place. We will use cities along the route as case studies to analyze how symbols of globalization are present in the landscape of regional centers in Brazil, Southern Africa, and Southeast Asia, and how cities of various sizes and historical backgrounds serve different functions in national and international contexts. Finally, we investigate the concept of a “global city” and the social, political, and economic forces that result in major world centers of trade, finance, culture, and telecommunication such as Hong Kong, Shanghai and Tokyo. The organizing theme for the class is “urban landscapes” and the representation of economic, political, and cultural structures in the landscape. In addition to quizzes and a project on a selected city or suggested topic, students will be responsible for a field book to include maps, sketches, and notes about characteristics of the towns and cities we visit.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

*Students will learn to identify and analyze:*

1. The ways in which historical patterns of political hegemony and economic exchange affect the character and landscape of cities.
2. How historical and contemporary patterns and policies of migration have influenced the cultural landscape of cities.
3. How contemporary patterns of globalization affect cities of all sizes and be able to identify how global influences are manifest in city signs, symbols, and structures
4. What functions distinguish a ‘global city’
5. How cities are connected through networks of interaction that include migration, communications, trade, and how landscapes of production and consumption are represented by these interactions.
6. And they will learn how to conduct field work in cities

## TOPICAL OUTLINE OF COURSE

Prior to arriving at each port we will have an overview of the region and the regional context for urbanization and a discussion of the options for field work at each site. (See section on field work options).

Class meetings and topics:

1. Introduction to class and to our approach to studying cities in this class. What is a city?
2. Global patterns and process with focus on urbanization in Brazil  
**Read:** Abrahamson, Chapter 1 (“Introduction: Identifying Global Cities”); Clark, Chapter 1 (“Global Patterns and Perspectives”); Brunn and Williams, Chapter 4 (“Cities of South America”)
3. Global City: Sao Paulo [*Prepare for field trips in and around Salvador, Bahia, Brazil*]  
**Read:** Schiffer (in Sassen, reserve), “Sao Paulo: Articulating a Cross-Border Region,” and Buechler (in Brenner and Keil, reserve), “Sao Paulo: Outsourcing and Downgrading of Labor in a Globalizing City”
4. Origins and development of cities, theories of urban origins  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 4 (“Urban growth and urbanization: historical patterns”); Brunn and Williams, Chapter 1, (“World Urban Development”)
5. How and why have cities grown?  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 3 (“Urban population and places”); “The World Goes to Town,” (*Economist*, electronic reserve)
6. African cities, structure and function, with focus on Southern Africa [*Field trips in and around Walvis Bay, Namibia*]  
**Read:** Brunn and Williams, Chapter 8 (“Cities of Sub-Saharan Africa”)
7. South Africa: the roles of location, mining, tourism, and race in shaping urban dynamics [*Field trips in and around Capetown, South Africa*]  
**Read:** Abrahamson, Chapter 2 (“People, Places, and Lifestyles”); Crankshaw and Parnell (in Gugler, on reserve), (“Johannesburg: race, inequality, and urbanization”)
8. Economic landscapes of the city & cities as forces in economic growth; port cities and the geography of connectivity  
**Read:** Abrahamson, Chapter 4 (“Cities in the Global Economy”)
9. Differences between regional and global cities; urban development as a global phenomenon  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 4, (“Urban Development as a Global Phenomenon”)
10. Focus on Indian cities and the impacts of colonialism, religion, ethnicity and globalization (examples of Chennai, Pondicherry, Madurai, and Bangalore)  
**Read:** King (in Brenner and Keil, on reserve), “World cities: Global? Post-

colonial? Postimperial?"; Brunn and Williams, Chapter 9 ("Cities of South Asia")

11. Socio-economic consequences of urban growth: rural-urban migration, and squatter settlements in India [*Field trips in and around Chennai, India*]  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 5 ("Socio-economic consequences of global urban development"), Abrahamson, Chapter 5 ("Inequality")
12. Southeast Asia: impacts of colonialism, religion, ethnicity and globalization, Part II (Penang, Malacca, Singapore, Ho Chi Minh) [*Field trips in and around Penang, Malaysia*]  
**Read:** Brunn and Williams, Chapter 10 ("Cities of Southeast Asia")
14. Social and political landscapes of cities: race, class and ethnicity  
**Read:** Salaff (in Gugler, on reserve) "Singapore: forming the family for a world city"; Abrahamson, Chapter 3 ("Immigration");
15. Cultural landscapes of cities: language, religion and the arts [*Field trips in and around Ho Chi Minh*]  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 6 ("Urban culture and global urban society"); Abrahamson, Chapter 6 ("Global Culture and the Cultural Industries")
16. Global Cities: Hong Kong and Shanghai [*Field trips in and around Hong Kong/ Shanghai*]  
**Read:** Brunn and Williams, Chapter 11 ("Cities of East Asia"); Meyer (in Sassen, on reserve), "Hong Kong: Global Capital Exchange"; Gu and Tang (in Sassen on reserve), "Shanghai: Reconnecting to the Global Economy"; Wu and Yusuf (in Gugler, on reserve), "Shanghai: remaking China's future global city"
17. Global City: Tokyo-Yokohama [*Field trips in and around Kobe-Yokohama*]  
**Read:** Machimura (in Brenner and Keil, on reserve), "The Urban Restructuring Process in Tokyo in the 1980s: Transforming Tokyo into a World City"; Knox and McCarthy (on reserve), Chapter 10 ("The City as Text: Architecture and Urban Design")
18. Landscapes of production and consumption in the city  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 7 ("World cities")
19. Getting around: traffic and transit in the city  
**Read:** García (in Sassen, on reserve), "Communication Grids: Cities and Infrastructure"
20. Urban landscapes of poverty, power and politics  
**Read:** In Brenner and Keil (on reserve): Fainstein, "Inequality in Global City-regions"; Robinson, "Global and World Cities: A view from off the Map"; Simon, "The World City Hypothesis: Reflections from the Periphery"
21. Environmental issues in the city [*Field trips in and around Honolulu (1 day)*]  
**Read:** Clark, Chapter 8 ("The future urban world")

22. Reflection on world cities: Urban culture, global urban society, and cosmopolitanism  
**Read:** Abrahamson, Chapter 7 (“The Global Cultural Industries Hierarchy”); Marcuse (in Brenner and Keil), “Space in the Globalizing City”
23. The future of the city—cities of the future  
**Read:** Abrahamson, Chapter 8 (“Some Final Thoughts”)

**Required Texts:** Clark, David. 2003. *Urban World/Global City*. Routledge: London.

Abrahamson, Marc. 2004. *Global Cities*. Oxford: New York.

Brunn, Stanley, and Jack F. Williams. 2003. *Cities of the World: World Regional Urban Development*. Harper & Row: New York.

**Assignments:** Report on *Urban Landscapes of the Global City* (how are culture, economy, inequality, ethnicity, and processes of globalization represented in one of the cities we visited?) 10 page report including at least one map, at least one photo or illustration and 5 sources (your field notes can be one of your sources).

In-class exercises and group projects based on readings and field work

Field notebook – turn in for review at classes 5, 10, 14, 20

## **FIELD COMPONENT**

Each student is required to complete THREE practica (either Faculty Directed or Independent) and a final assignment based on field work. You are required to participate in the Salvador FDP and at least one other practica under my direction (Shanghai or Tokyo) At least two of your practica should be faculty-directed field trips led by me (see list below), since they are central to the material covered in this class. The third practica can be an Independent Practicum developed as part of a regularly-offered SAS trip, or it may stand alone. If an Independent Practicum is selected, then the student must meet with me prior to arriving in the port-of-call to discuss his or her approach and objectives. Each student will keep a field notebook in which to record field observations from at least 3 practica (either my Faculty-Directed Practica [FDP] or practica you do independently [IND]) and in which you will keep field notes for your final assignment for the class. Your journal should include field maps and sketches, photographs and other illustrations, as well as your notes from the field.

There are two parts to the field requirements for this class, both to be recorded in a field book you keep for this class:

- 1) field notes from the 3 required practica and;
- 2) notes you take for the final project for this class: Global City/Urban Vignette

Your field book is a source of primary data—your observations—and should be considered as a

resource for the work you do and the contributions you make to this class. For the practica students will record the work we do (observations, maps, sketches) and incorporate any material we collect or generate (or what we agree to in the case of independent practica) in their field book. Key questions to keep in mind and record information/observations/reflections about are: How are the common elements of city structure (CBD, residential landscapes of the rich and poor, industry, transportation, auto-oriented commerce, traditional markets) reflected in (or absent from) this city? How are patterns of ethnicity and/or international migration reflected in the population or the built environment? What cultural and historical processes shaped this city? What economic patterns are evident, either of the urban region or its hinterland? And most important for this particular class, how is globalization and global influence present in the landscape of the city?

For the final project you will create an “urban vignette” organized either thematically (a topic) or regionally (a specific city) around a specific aspect of the urban environment that reflects global influences. Your theme could be globalized ‘food’, ‘people/migration’, ‘commerce’, ‘sports’ in a cross-section of cities; or you could look at global influences in a particular city we visit. In this vignette I expect students to take at least 10 photographs, each to have a 200 word caption. The project will also include an essay on the city or topic and maps, either field maps, or collected maps where you indicate where the photographs were taken. Your project could also be in the form of a field guide (but must include components mentioned above: essay, photos, captions, maps, as well as other supporting material). The field book should be one of your sources for the essay (along with other references). I will collect field books at intervals during the voyage and we will share material and discuss your urban field experiences and observations during class.

You may satisfy the practica requirement by participating in 3 of the following and making observations about urban cultural landscapes, particularly the ways in which globalization and global influences are reflected in cities.

#### SUGGESTED PRACTICA:

BRAZIL: Urban Geography of Salvador (FDP); City Orientation: Architecture and Urban Development; Service Project: Calabar Community; Bicycling in Pitacu Park; Urban Ecology; The Best of Rio de Janeiro

SOUTH AFRICA: City Orientation; Khayelitsha Township Visit

INDIA: Chennai City Orientation; Delhi/Agra/Jaipur; Delhi/Agra/Varanasi

MALAYSIA: Kuala Lumpur; Singapore

VIETNAM: City Orientation

CHINA: Comparing Pudong and the Bund (FDP); City Orientation: Historic Hong Kong; Architectural Walking Tour (IND); Beijing; Shanghai City Orientation; Shanghai on the Rise:

JAPAN: Modern Tokyo: Global City (FDP); Yokohama & Tokyo Overnight; Yokohama City Orientation

## METHODS OF EVALUATION

4 quizzes at 25 points each (classes 3, 6, 10, 20)	= 100 points (20%)
Final exam (essay)	= 100 points (20%)
Project	= 100 points (20%)
Class participation in exercises, informal report on project, and group work	= 100 points (20%)
Field book	= 100 points (20%)
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Total	500 points

[90-100% - A; 80-89% - B; 70-79 % - C; 60-69% - D; <60% - F]

## REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

**AUTHOR:** Clark, David.  
**TITLE:** *Urban World/Global City*  
**PUBLISHER:** Routledge: London.  
**ISBN #:** 0415320984  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2003  
**COST:** 39.95

**AUTHOR:** Abrahamson, Marc  
**TITLE:** *Global Cities*  
**PUBLISHER:** Oxford: New York  
**ISBN #:** 0195142047  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2004  
**COST:** \$29.95

**AUTHOR:** Brunn, Stanley, and Jack F. Williams  
**TITLE:** *Cities of the World: World Regional Urban Development*  
**PUBLISHER:** Rowman and Littlefield  
**ISBN #:** 9780847698981  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2003  
**COST:** 80.00

## RESERVE LIBRARY LIST

**AUTHOR:** Sassen, Sakia  
**TITLE:** *Global Networks, Linked Cities*  
**PUBLISHER:** Routledge  
**ISBN #:** 0 415 93613 0  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2002  
**COST:** 34.95

**AUTHOR:** Gugler, Josef  
**TITLE:** *World Cities Beyond the West: Globalization, Development and Inequality*  
**PUBLISHER:** Cambridge  
**ISBN #:** 0521536855  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2004  
**COST:** \$37.99

**AUTHOR:** Brenner, Neil and Roger Keil  
**TITLE:** *The Global Cities Reader*  
**PUBLISHER:** Routledge  
**ISBN #:** 0 415 32345 2  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2006  
**COST:** 59.95

**AUTHOR:** Knox, Paul L. and Linda McCarthy  
**TITLE:** *Urbanization, An Introduction to Urban Geography*  
**PUBLISHER:** Pearson/Prentice Hall  
**ISBN #:** 0 13 142450 5  
**DATE/EDITION:** 2005  
**COST:** 115.00

#### **ELECTRONIC COURSE MATERIALS**

**AUTHOR:**  
**ARTICLE/CHAPTER TITLE:** The World Goes to Town: A special report on cities  
**JOURNAL/BOOK TITLE:** *The Economist*  
**VOLUME:**  
**DATE:** May 5, 2007  
**PAGES:**