
UP 204, SPRING 2024

Instructor: Ozge Yenigun
E-mail: yenigun2@illinois.edu
Office: Temple Hoyne Buell Hall, Room 312
Office Hours: By appointment via email
Lecture: M, W 10:00–10:50 am
Location: Temple Buell Hall | Room 223

Chicago: Planning and Urban Life

Lab: F 10:00–10:50 am
Location: 901 W Oregon | Room 101
Teaching Assistant: Ar'Mand Erving
Email: aerving2@illinois.edu
Office Hours: Tuesdays, 12 – 1 pm

COURSE DESCRIPTION

With nearly 3 million residents, Chicago ranks as the third largest city in the United States. This thriving metropolis is a vibrant place to live and work with a very rich history. It has served as a living laboratory for social scientists for much of that history and continues to offer many lessons for urban planners. UP 204 provides a broad introduction to social science theories and analysis methods and uses the city of Chicago as a semester-long case study to examine how people, communities, and governments plan a city. Other American cities are occasionally leveraged to draw comparisons and place topics of discussion within a broader regional and national context. This course focuses on describing, explaining, and ultimately understanding cities and regions, through the lens of Chicago. The city is unique yet exemplifies many of the qualities and conflicts that make urban areas interesting. To analyze the structure and development of the city and its region the course draws upon theories and methods of several social science disciplines including economics, geography, political science, anthropology, and sociology. Specific topics presented and discussed in this course are drawn from urban history; urban sociology; economics of urban and regional growth; urban and regional structure; urban form and function; urban government and politics; and the planning profession.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the course is to stimulate thinking about the complexity, role, values, and problems of urban and regional systems, and to raise awareness about the importance of planning and designing for quality urban environments. Students who have successfully completed UP 204 will be able to:

1. Distinguish key historical phases of urban development.
2. Discuss the process, forces, and factors of urbanization.
3. Apply fundamental social science theories and models of urban and regional structure.
4. Identify the three fundamental dimensions of sustainability.
5. Summarize each of these dimensions and articulate examples of how they are related within an urban planning context.
6. Debate issues and topics related to contemporary urban life.
7. Describe the social life, activities, and interactions of people in urban environments.
8. Use publicly available data and standard computer software to conduct basic analyses.
9. Develop an integrated vision for sustainability that embraces their personal lives, professions, local communities, and the world-at-large.
10. Understand relationships between global environmental and economic trends and their impact on diverse cultures and communities.

COURSE FORMAT

UP 204 follows a lecture and discussion format. Specifically, the Monday and Wednesday meetings consist of a lecture that presents the primary themes and concepts from the assigned readings, with an opportunity for questions and comments from students. The Friday sessions alternate between: (1) structured discussion of topics related to the lectures and readings and (2) lab exercises that involve data collection and analysis.

REQUIREMENTS & EVALUATION

Students are expected to attend and participate during class meetings. The class participation component of the final grade consists of (1) attendance at lecture and discussion sessions as well as (2) active involvement in the discussion, careful listening, and respect for the opinions of others.

Most weeks there will be a lab exercise or structured discussion session and each student is expected to submit a short report (1-2 pages) following the Friday morning meeting. The details of these lab reports and reaction papers will be specified in the instructions distributed at the end of each discussion or lab session. It is imperative that students attend the lecture sessions and complete the assigned readings in order to effectively complete the lab exercises and participate in the structured discussions.

There will also be a midterm examination that will focus on the concepts covered in lectures and applied in the discussion (lab) sessions. A study guide will be distributed two weeks prior to the date of the exam to help students prepare. Students will form groups (5-6 students) to create and present an [ArcGIS Story Map](#) that focuses on one or more issues that you see as particularly important for the future of Chicago. More detailed instructions and a brief tutorial will be provided. The remainder of the final grade is derived from a final exam, with a study guide distributed two weeks prior to the date of this exam as well. The weight assigned to each of these elements is shown in the table below:

ASSIGNMENT	CONTRIBUTION
Class Attendance and Participation	10%
Lab Exercises (5)	20%
Reaction Papers (5)	20%
Midterm Exam	15%
ArcGIS Story Map & Presentation (groups of 5-6 students)	15%
Final Exam	20%

Assignments must be submitted via the course (Canvas) website by 11:59 pm on the listed due date, unless otherwise noted. If Canvas crashes or is unavailable, please send the assignment to the instructor and your teaching assistant via email attachment. *In fairness to all students, five points will be deducted for late assignments, with an additional five points deducted for each subsequent day until it is received. No exceptions can be made without a formal notice from the Emergency Dean. Due dates for assignments are not flexible, so please make your travel plans and schedule other commitments accordingly.*

The final grade for the course is derived from the components listed above, subject to the percentage weights listed in the preceding table. All of these components are scored on a 100 point scale, which makes it easy for students to gauge their standing as the semester progresses—grades are not curved.

FINAL GRADE	TOTAL	FINAL GRADE	TOTAL
A	94 to 100	C	74.0 to 76.99
A-	90.0 to 93.99	C-	70.0 to 73.99
B+	87.0 to 89.99	D+	67.0 to 69.99
B	84.0 to 86.99	D	64.0 to 66.99
B-	80.0 to 83.99	D-	60.0 to 63.99
C+	77.0 to 79.99	F	Less than 60.0

Detailed instructions for completing each assignment will be provided. Submitted assignments will be graded and returned promptly with detailed feedback. The general grading rubric is as follows:

- An assignment at the A level demonstrates original thought and synthesis of ideas, sophisticated, cogent analysis, and is clearly written or presented. Outstanding work.
- An assignment at the B level presents above average analysis with appropriate evidence to support the ideas and is clearly written or presented. Very good work.
- An assignment at the C level shows a basic level of understanding, with analysis limited to the most obvious arguments. Writing is competent. Adequate work.
- An assignment at the D level misunderstands or misrepresents the material, or is so poorly written or presented as to obscure the analysis. Inadequate work.

In academic discourse, your opinions must be supported with appropriate evidence and logical arguments. Your grade will reflect the quality of your work and fulfillment of the expectations outlined in this syllabus.

READING MATERIAL

There is no required text for this course. All assigned readings and supplementary material have been posted on the UP 204 Canvas website: <https://canvas.illinois.edu>

COURSE POLICIES

Disability Services: This course will accommodate students with documented disabilities. Please refer to the Disability Resource Guide (<http://disability.illinois.edu/disability-resource-guide>) for more information and inform the instructor of any requests at the beginning of the semester.

Academic Integrity: The [UIUC Student Code](#) requires all students to support academic integrity and abide by its provisions, which prohibit cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitation of these and related infractions. According to Section § 1-401, “students have been given notice of this rule by virtue of its publication” and “regardless of whether a student has actually read this rule, a student is charged with knowledge of it.” The provisions of the Student Code are applicable to this course. *In written work, all ideas (as well as data or other information) that are not your own must be cited.*

Diversity: The Department of Urban and Regional Planning (DURP) is committed to creating an environment of inclusion and opportunity that is rooted in the very goals and responsibilities of practicing planners. Conduct that interferes with the rights of another or creates an atmosphere of intimidation or disrespect is inconsistent with the environment of learning and cooperation that the program requires. By enrolling a course in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning, students agree to be responsible for maintaining a respectful environment in all DURP activities, including lectures, discussions, labs, projects, and extracurricular programs. We will be governed by the University Student Code. Please see the [Student Code Article 1—Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) for further details.

Course Attendance: Attendance will be taken in lecture and discussion sections, and unexcused absences from sessions will lower your course participation grade. Excused absences may be granted at the discretion of the instructor and the teaching assistant for health emergencies or in situations where religious beliefs, observances, and practices or work requirements irregularly conflict with course attendance. If you are unable to attend a lecture or a discussion session, you must notify your instructor and TA in advance of that session in order for an excused absence to be approved. An excused absence will not be approved if you notify your instructor and TA after the session. In addition to notifying your instructor and TA prior to the beginning of the session you will miss, documentation (for example, an official note from McKinley Health Center or the Emergency Dean) must be provided in order for an excused absence to be approved.

Counseling Services: The [Counseling Center](#) is committed to providing a range of services intended to help students develop improved coping skills in order to address emotional, interpersonal, and academic concerns. The [Counseling Center](#) provides individual, couples, and group counseling. All of these services are paid for through the health services fee. The [Counseling Center](#) offers primarily short-term counseling, but they do also provide referrals to the community when students could benefit from longer term services.

Irregular Attendance: Class attendance is expected of all students at the University of Illinois, however instructors must reasonably accommodate a student’s religious beliefs, observances, and practices in regard to class attendance and work requirements if the student informs his or her instructor of the conflict within one week after being informed of the attendance or work requirements. It is the instructor’s decision as to when a student’s absences become excessive and should be reported. If in the opinion of an instructor the attendance of a student becomes so irregular that his or her scholarship is likely to be impaired, the instructor may submit an [irregular attendance form](#) to the Associate Dean of the student’s college. A copy is forwarded to the student, who should contact the instructor immediately to work out a solution. If irregular attendance

continues without excuse, the instructor may request the student be withdrawn from the course. This request for withdrawal would result in a grade of E for the course. Extenuating circumstances will always be considered when supporting evidence is presented. See [Rule 1-501](#) and [Rule 1-502](#) in the Student Code for more information.

Learning Environment: Laptops, and other electronic communication devices are strongly discouraged in lecture sessions. Laptop use for the purposes of class-related note taking only is allowable – inappropriate uses will both lower your participation score but may also result in you being asked to leave the lecture section.

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF SESSIONS

SESSION	WEEK	DATE	DAY	TOPIC
1	1	Jan-17	W	Introduction and Overview: The Sustainable City
2	1	Jan-19	F	Getting started with data: Measuring Sustainability
3	2	Jan-22	M	Urban Policy and Planning: The Role of the Planner
4	2	Jan-24	W	Participation and Consensus Building
5	2	Jan-26	F	Discussion: Ashland Corridor Bus Rapid Transit
6	3	Jan-29	M	The Origins of Cities and Chicago's Early Years
7	3	Jan-31	W	The Impacts of Industrialization
8	3	Feb-2	F	Spurlock Museum Tour
9	4	Feb-5	M	The Modern Era: Foundations of Chicagoland
10	4	Feb-7	W	Suburbanization
11	4	Feb-9	F	Lab: Introduction to ArcGIS
12	5	Feb-12	M	Deindustrialization, Change and Central City Decline
13	5	Feb-14	W	Urban Renewal, Conflict and Race Riots
14	5	Feb-16	F	Lab: Employment Decentralization and Transportation Policy
15	6	Feb-19	M	Urban Renewal, Conflict and Race Riots-2
16	6	Feb-21	W	The Entrepreneurial City
17	6	Feb-23	F	Discussion: Privatization of City Parking Meters
18	7	Feb-26	M	Chicago as a Global City
19	7	Feb-28	W	Urban Sociology
20	7	Mar-1	F	Discussion: Urban Life and Culture
21	8	Mar-4	M	Mid-term Exam Study Session
	8	Mar-6	W	*** MIDTERM EXAM ***
22	8	Mar-8	F	Lab: Mid-Term Exam Review Session
				*** SPRING BREAK ***
23	9	Mar-18	M	Urban Spatial Structure
24	9	Mar-20	W	Urban Politics
25	9	Mar-22	F	Discussion: The Lincoln Yards Project
26	10	Mar-25	M	Urban Politics-2
27	10	Mar-27	W	Urban Economic Development
28	10	Mar-29	F	Discussion: Chicago Resilient Communities Pilot
29	11	Apr-1	M	Segregation in the City
30	11	Apr-3	W	*** NO CLASS (WORK ON ArcGIS STORY MAPS) ***
31	11	Apr-5	F	Lab: Mapping Racial and Income Segregation
		Apr-5	F	*** DRAFT ARCGIS STORYMAPS DUE ***
32	12	Apr-8	M	Crime and Fear in the City
33	12	Apr-10	W	Urban Poverty and Policy Responses
34	12	Apr-12	F	Lab: Identifying Food Deserts
35	13	Apr-15	M	Housing Policy and Gentrification
36	13	Apr-17	W	Planning for Affordable Housing in Chicago
37	13	Apr-19	F	Lab: Mapping Housing Affordability
		Apr-19	F	*** FINAL ARCGIS STORYMAPS DUE ***
38	14	Apr-22	M	Climate Change Impacts in the City
39	14	Apr-24	W	Student Presentations Part 1: ArcGIS Story Maps
40	14	Apr-26	F	Lab: Visualizing Vulnerability to Extreme Heat Events
41	15	Apr-29	M	Student Presentations Part 2: ArcGIS Story Maps
42	15	May-1	W	Student Presentations Part 3: ArcGIS Story Maps
		TBD		*** FINAL EXAM ***