

**University of Colorado, Boulder**  
**ENVD 4100-001: GLOBAL CITIES**

Syllabus, Fall 2015

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-10:45



Tori Derr, PhD, Senior Instructor

Email: victoria.derr@colorado.edu

Office Hours: Tuesdays/Thursdays 11:30-12:30 or by appointment, ENVD 146

### **Course Description**

Cities are dynamic spaces, in their form and *raison d'être*. Cities once were and continue to be sites of optimism – representing places of hope, potential prosperity, culture, and diversity. They have also been and continue to be contested territories, places of struggle, poverty, segregation, and disappointment. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century represents many social, cultural and economic shifts within the world: a shift into a majority-urban population, with a projected majority of the world's population living in "slums" or informal settlements; shifts in who holds and negotiates power; shifts in who has a say in how cities develop; shifts in the environmental impacts and risks cities face. This course will explore opportunities and dilemmas of "global cities," "megacities," "world cities," and "ordinary cities." It will emphasize perspectives of cities from the Global South, and how diverse actors conceive of cities and the people who live within them. It will also explore theory and practice about equitable participation, governance, and development within these contexts.

### **Learning Objectives**

- Students will understand the context, historical and present, of urbanization and development
- Students will be able to define and critique "global," "megacity," "world," and "ordinary" city frameworks
- Students will gain an understanding of regional contexts of cities from the Global South, including from Latin America, Africa and Asia
- Students will examine the motivations for and effects of policy and practice on urban citizens
- Students will critically reflect on how international, regional, and local issues of diversity, economics, environment, power and politics affect individuals and groups within cities both within and outside the contexts of urban planning

### **Course Materials [both texts at CU Bookstore]**

Required Text: *Cities of the Global South Reader*, Edited by Faranak Miraftab and Neema Kudva, 2015. Routledge Urban Reader Series. Available at the University bookstore.

Optional Text: *Now Urbanism: The Future City is Here*, Edited by Jeffrey Hou, Benjamin Spencer, Thaisa Way, and Ken Yocom. [We read 5 chapters from this text.]

### **Course Requirements and Assessments**

Students enrolled in the course are expected to:

- Attend class and actively participate

- Read assigned readings and prepare for thoughtful engagement in class discussions
- Complete all assignments
- Navigate the Desire2Learn (D2L) website to access course readings, assignments and resources and monitor grades. NOTE: Assignment deadlines are firm; readings and topics may shift and will be noted on D2L. It is the students' responsibility to follow any changes to the syllabus as noted on D2L.
- Follow course and university policies (noted at end of syllabus)
- Communicate with the instructor via office hours or email:  
[victoria.derr@colorado.edu](mailto:victoria.derr@colorado.edu)

Grades will be posted on Desire2Learn as they are assigned throughout the semester.

Global City research project	20%
Synthesis Papers 1 and 2 (20% each)	40%
Reading Shorts (10 @ 2% each)	20%
Cumulative Exam	20%

Attendance: Attendance and respectful participation are expected. Students who miss more than 3 classes in the semester, or who fail to maintain respectful behavior and attitudes, will have their grade reduced on a pro rata basis. Use of electronic devices in class is NOT allowed and will result in grade reductions.

## Weekly Course Schedule

### Intro to Global Cities, Weeks 1 & 2

Tues, August 25	Introduction to Class. Introduce Global City Research Assignment.
Thurs, August 27	Watch Megacities, Part I, 55 minutes
Tues, Sept 1	Read and Discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- "Messy Urbanism" (Mumbai), from <i>Now Urbanism</i> (D2L)</li> <li>- "The City Experienced" (Tehran), from GS Reader.</li> </ul>

### Historical Underpinnings, Weeks 2 & 3

Thurs, Sept 3	Lecture. Read and Discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- King, "Colonialism and Urban Development," GS Reader</li> <li>- Massey, "Cities Interlinked," GS Reader</li> </ul> <b>Reading Short 1 Due</b>
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Tues, Sept 8	<b>Pin Up Global City Research Assignment</b>
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## Urban Economy, Development and Tropes of Value, Weeks 3-6

- Thurs, Sept 10      Lecture. Read and Discuss:
- Goldman, "Development and the City," GS Reader
  - Robinson, "World Cities, or a World of Ordinary Cities?" GS Reader
- Reading Short 2 Due**
- Tues, Sept 15      Watch Slumdog Millionaire, with short discussion
- Thurs, Sept 17      Watch Slumdog Millionaire, with short discussion
- \*\*No reading this week, but 4 articles for next week, so plan time wisely and start reading accordingly!\*\***
- Tues, Sept 22      Lecture. Read and Discuss:
- Bromley, "Working in the Streets of Cali, Colombia: Survival Strategy, Necessity or Unavoidable?" GS Reader
  - Mitra "Anchoring Transnational Flows: Hypermodern Spaces, GS Reader
  - Also read article from:  
[http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2015/may/07/india-100-smart-cities-project-social-apartheid?CMP=share\\_btn\\_tw](http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2015/may/07/india-100-smart-cities-project-social-apartheid?CMP=share_btn_tw)
  - Read from D2L: Patico, Jennifer. 2006. To be happy in a Mercedes: Tropes of value and ambivalent visions of marketization
- Reading Short 3 Due**
- In Class: Show clip from : Lagos:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5\\_9m4je3ck](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x5_9m4je3ck)
- Thurs, Sept 24      Guest Speaker: Carl Worthington, Oz Architecture. African Cities
- Tues, Sept 29      Watch *Wasteland*, Lucy Walker, João Jardim, Karen Harley, Arthouse Films, 99 min
- Thurs, Oct 1      Read and Discuss: 13,001, A Waste Odyssey, from *Now Urbanism*  
Finish *Wasteland*  
Roundtables: Articulate and discuss ideals and principles of global, world, ordinary cities.
- Synthesis Paper 1 Due (end of day Friday)**

## Housing and Migration, Weeks 7 and 8

- Tues, Oct 6      Lecture. Housing Policy, Readings from GS Reader, pages 122-139
- In class:  
MoMA, Small Scale Big Change, Quinta Monroy:  
[http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2010/smallscalebigchange/projects/quinta\\_monroy\\_housing](http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2010/smallscalebigchange/projects/quinta_monroy_housing)
- Thurs, Oct 8      Read and Discuss:
- Self-Help and Suburbanization in Jakarta, GS Reader

- Rigg: Building the neo-liberal family: Dislocated families, fragmented living, fractured societies (D2L)

Tues, Oct 13

Read and Discuss:

- Castells, "Squatters and the State. . ." in GS Reader
- Nuisance Cities, *Ecologies of Urbanism* (D2L)

**Reading Short 4 Due**

## **Ecologies of Urbanism; Cities of Risk and Resilience, Weeks 9-11**

Thurs, Oct 15

Read and Discuss:

- From the Frying Pan to the Floodplain: Negotiating Land, Water, and Fire in Chennai's Development, Coelho and Raman, in *Ecologies of Urbanism in India* (D2L)
- Rigg: The poverty of sustainable development in SE Asia (D2L), pages 162-170

Tues, Oct 20

Lecture. Read and Discuss:

- Finish Rigg: The poverty of sustainable development in SE Asia

**Reading Short 5 Due: on Frying Pan and Sust Dev readings (Oct 15-20)**

Thurs, Oct 22

Maquilapolis: City of Factories

Tues, Oct 27

Guest Speaker: Willem van Vliet: UN Habitat

Read and be prepared to discuss general programme and report findings from at least one Flagship Report:

<http://unhabitat.org/un-habitat-at-a-glance/>

Thurs. Oct 29

Lecture (Resilient Cities). Read and Discuss:

- Davis, Reverberations in Mexico City, GS reader
- Crisis Mapping in Relief Efforts in Nepal:

[http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-32603870?SThisFB&fb\\_ref=Default](http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-32603870?SThisFB&fb_ref=Default)

**Reading Short 6 Due**

Tues. Nov 3

Watch *Climate Refugees*

Thurs. Nov 5

Finish *Climate Refugees*

Read and Discuss:

- Climate Dangers and Atoll Countries, GS Reader

## **Public Space and the Right to the City, Week 12**

Tues, Nov 10

Read and Discuss:

- Caldeira, "Imprinting and Moving Around: New Visibilities and Configurations of Public Space in São Paulo," *Public Culture* 24(2):385-419. (D2L)

In Class: Watch Ciclovía: <http://www.streetfilms.org/ciclovía/>

**Reading Short 7 Due**

- Thurs, Nov 12      Lecture. Read and Discuss:
- World Charter for the Right to the City
  - Tomlinson, "International Best Practice, Enabling Frameworks and the Policy Process: A South African Case Study." GS Reader
- In Class: Watch Short film from MoMA: Red Location  
[http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2010/smallscalebigchange/projects/red\\_location\\_museum\\_of\\_struggle](http://www.moma.org/interactives/exhibitions/2010/smallscalebigchange/projects/red_location_museum_of_struggle)  
<http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/PE-residents-force-anti-apartheid-museum-to-close-20140731>

### **Governance, Week 13**

- Tues, Nov 17      Read and Discuss:
- Appadurai, "Deep Democracy: Urban Governmentality and the Horizon of Politics." GS Reader
  - Mascarenhas, "Sovereignty. . ." GS Reader
- Thurs, Nov 19      Roundtables: Articulate and discuss how international, regional, and local issues of diversity, economics, power and politics affect individuals and groups within cities
- Synthesis Paper 2 Due (end of day on Friday)**

### **Fall Break, Week 14**

- Tues, Nov 24      Fall Break: No Class
- Thurs, Nov 26      Fall Break: No Class

### **Participation and Citizenship, Week 15**

- Tues, Dec 1      Lecture. Read and Discuss:
- Malone: Children's Rights and the Rapid Crisis of Urbanization, 2015. *International Journal of Children's Rights* (D2L)
  - Baiocchi, "The Citizens of Porto Alegre," GS Reader
- Reading Short 8 Due**
- Thurs, Dec 3      Read and Discuss:
- Forget about Utopia, Brillembourg and Klumpner, *Now Urbanism* (D2L)
  - The Informal Urban Communities Initiative, Lomas de Zapallal, Lima Peru, Spencer et al. *Now Urbanism* (D2L)

### **End of Semester**

- Tues, Dec 8      Roundtables & Exam Review
- Thurs, Dec 10      Exam Review

### **Final Exam, as scheduled by CU**

## **COURSE POLICIES**

### **Attendance**

Attendance and respectful participation are expected. Students who miss more than 3 classes in the semester, or who fail to maintain respectful behavior and attitudes, will have their grade reduced on a pro rata basis. Use of electronic devices in class is NOT allowed and will result in grade reductions.

### **Global City research project, 20%**

Students will begin the semester by researching a "global" city and presenting it to class to broaden our collective geographies and begin to understand how global and world cities are defined and developed.

### **Synthesis Papers 1 and 2, 40%**

Students will complete two short (4-6 page) papers that synthesize readings and develop their conceptual understanding of a global city. Papers may take the form of a photo-essay, but must be of high quality and add to the substance of the work. 2 papers, 20% each.

### **Reading Shorts, 20%**

Everyone is expected to complete the required readings and participate in the discussions. Students will bring their own critical evaluation and views to the discussion through written reading "shorts" and discussion. Students will write a 1/2 page summary of the readings and create 3 critical reflection questions. Spelling and grammar count! 8 shorts, 2.5% each.

### **Exam, 20%**

A comprehensive exam will be issued in the exam period at the end of the semester. This will cover readings, lectures, films, discussion materials, and guest lectures. Some "take home" questions will be issued during the semester.

### **Extra Credit: Up to 2%**

At any time in the regular semester (weeks 1-15) you may submit up to 2 current events that relate to topics covered in class. To receive credit you must submit a paragraph as to how it relates to course topics as well as a source, preferably a web link so that it can be shared with the class. Students may complete no more than 2 extra credit assignments for a maximum of 1 percentage point per current event topic (or a total of 2% of the final grade).

### **Deadlines, Plagiarism, and Grades**

Written assignments are due at the beginning of class by hard copy and electronically via Desire2Learn just prior to the start of class. Late assignments will be marked down by one full letter grade for each late day. All assignments must be submitted through D2L and a hard copy provided in class for written assignments. Plagiarism checkers will be used through D2L. Students are responsible for monitoring the posting of grades for assignments that they have handed in and should notify the professor immediately of missing or incorrect grades. The deadline for bringing missing grades to my attention is December 10, 2015.

## Final Grade Calculation

Grades will be based on the following scale:

A	95-100%	C	74-76%
A-	90-94%	C-	70-73%
B+	87-89%	D+	67-69%
B	84-86%	D	64-66%
B-	80-83%	D-	60-63%
C+	77-79%	F	59% or lower

## University Policies

1. **Disabilities** – If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit a letter to the instructor from Disability Services in a timely manner (for exam accommodation, provide your letter at least one week prior to the exam) so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities. Contact Disability Services at [303-492-8671](tel:303-492-8671) or by e-mail at [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu). If you have a temporary medical condition or injury, see Temporary Medical Conditions: Injuries, Surgeries, and Illnesses guidelines under Quick Links at Disability Services website and discuss your needs with your professor.

2. **Religious Observance** – Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. Please inform your professor in a timely manner so that any necessary alternative arrangements may be made. See policy details at [http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac\\_relig.html](http://www.colorado.edu/policies/fac_relig.html).

3. **Learning environment** – Students and faculty each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with differences of race, color, culture, religion, creed, politics, veteran's status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity and gender expression, age, disability, and nationalities. Class rosters are provided to the instructor with the student's legal name. I will gladly honor your request to address you by an alternate name or gender pronoun. Please advise me of this preference early in the semester so that I may make appropriate changes to my records. See policies at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/classbehavior.html> and at [http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student\\_code](http://www.colorado.edu/studentaffairs/judicialaffairs/code.html#student_code).

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regarding discrimination or harassment can be obtained at <http://www.colorado.edu/odh>.

4. **Academic honesty & plagiarism** – All students of the University of Colorado at Boulder are responsible for knowing and adhering to the academic integrity policy of this institution. Violations of this policy may include: cheating, plagiarism, aid of academic dishonesty, fabrication, lying, bribery, and threatening behavior. All incidents of academic misconduct shall be reported to the Honor Code Council ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu); [303-735-2273](tel:303-735-2273)). Students who are found to be in violation of the academic integrity policy will be subject to both academic sanctions from the faculty member and non-academic sanctions (including but not limited to university probation, suspension, or expulsion). Other information on the Honor Code can be found at <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/honor.html> and at <http://www.colorado.edu/academics/honorcode/>