

GEOG 3050: Development and the City
University of Guelph
Department of Geography
Winter 2024

Instructor: Dr. Bharat Punjabi

Teaching Assistants: TBA

Instructor's Office location:

Class Time: Mondays,
Wednesdays, and Fridays: 2:30 pm-
3:20pm

Class location: Located on
Webadvisor

Wednesdays: on Zoom

Instructor's Email: bpunjabi@uoguelph.ca

Undergraduate Calendar description: "This course examines different theoretical and policy perspectives of urbanization and urban development, as well as social, economic and environmental living conditions in cities of the Global 'South'. It refers to concrete examples of cities in their national and international context, paying due attention to diversity and the fluidity of urban-rural boundaries. Specific urban development issues, including migration, housing, employment, health and environment are also addressed."

Prerequisites: GEOG*2030 or IDEV*2400

Course link website for GEOG*3050: <https://courselink.uoguelph.ca/d2l/home/859837>

Course Objectives:

- To encourage and develop intellectual engagement with the processes and outcomes of urbanization in the Global South;
- To familiarize students with both urban forms and social processes that occur in cities in the Global South;
- To introduce students to a number of case studies of urban centres in the Global South;
- To develop research, reading, and writing skills, as well as critical thinking

Synopsis of Proposed Course Outline

This course has been designed as an introductory course for students in undergraduate programs in development studies and geography. Students who have some background in the social sciences (planning, geography, architecture, history, anthropology, economics and political science) are more likely to feel comfortable with the course material. But the instructor will try to give any extra support to students from other disciplines if they decide to register.

The purpose of this course is to analyze, to better understand the geography and political economy of the urban mega region in India and China. It will highlight the key intellectual contributions on this subject and will give students a strong conceptual and methodological grounding in this topic. Major influences from the intellectual disciplines of planning, geography, political science, social anthropology and economics on urban Asia will be summarized first. Later, the influence of multilateral organizations like the World Bank and UN Habitat to policies will be presented and broader level policy shifts will be identified in the context of economic globalization. Theories that have been developed or applied in the urban Asian context, viz. the anthropologist, Clifford Geertz's early work on urban informality in the 1960's, W Arthur Lewis's dual sector model from development economics and finally, Terry McGee's formative contribution on the Asian *desakota* and recent post-colonial critiques will be first presented as paradigmatic contributions from the field of urban studies in Asia. These theories will form the bedrock of the course and students are expected to pay a lot of attention to this content presented in the first four weeks of the course. This initial material will then be placed in the public policy and governance context and issues involving jurisdiction, sovereignty and levels of initiative at the urban level will also be covered.

A second major objective of this course is to give students a rigorous grounding in the urban context of Asia where they can merge intellectual/critical/theoretical frameworks with the policy context of urbanization in other developing countries. Thus, while reading from the main lists, we will cover disparate ideas from fields as wide ranging as urban geography, development economics, post-colonial studies, political ecology, the institutional literature in urban studies. The course will move from providing a synoptic overview of the main arguments in critical urban studies literature to covering major policy questions.

A third objective of this course will be to develop a deeper understanding of contemporary urbanization in India and China through the main textbooks and other readings in this course. This section will thus have a focus on urban spatial patterns, city-systems, the persistence of urban informality in India, the challenge of migration to cities in India and China

and the achievements and failures of industrialization in both countries. Finally, this section will also focus on how institutional reform influences the capacities and abilities of urban local governments to environmental challenges in the urban parts of India and China through a focus on urban environmental issues. While the textbook will help us understand these issues, comparisons will be made between Chennai (**the focus of the book by Krupa Ge**) and other Indian and Asian cities. Here, we shall examine how some parts of urban Asia have been able to solve problems of collective action in the environmental context (e.g., pollution, water management) sphere and the problems and potential of co-operation between cities and towns in the Asian mega region.

Required Textbooks:

1) Krupa Ge 2019: Rivers Remember: # ChennaiRains and the Shocking Truth of a Manmade Flood. Kindle Edition

2) Sean Fox and Tom Goodfellow: Cities and Development. Routledge. 2016

Several readings are provided through web links in this syllabus. Other readings are provided through the ARES course reserves system. It is your responsibility to access these readings, if you experience any difficulties accessing these readings, please contact me via email.

Assignments and Due Dates:

- 1) Critical analysis of the readings based on any part of Krupa Ge's book: Each paper will be 1000-1200 words max. and is worth 15 marks each. Each of these papers will be due at the beginning of class on **February 15th and March 8th** should reflect the theoretical content taught in the first few weeks of the course. Both papers combined will be worth 30% of the total marks for the course. A copy of both papers should be submitted on Courselink. Guidelines for the critical analysis paper will be given in the second week in class
- 2) Questions and Answers assignment: You are expected to submit two or three questions on the readings for the week of January 22nd, January 29th and February 5th on **courselink**. These questions will be addressed in the class during that week. 15% of the course grade.
- 3) Final Book Review of the textbook for the course. This is due in the beginning of **the 5th of April** class and a copy has to be submitted on Courselink. Worth 20% of the total

marks for the course. Details will be provided in week four. This assignment will have a word count of 2,000 words.

- 4) Final Online Exam, **April 13th**. 35% of the total marks for the course. The final exam will be based on the entire content of the course. An exam guide will be shared in class on March 29th. The final exam will be posted ahead of April 13. The exam will be posted for three days and you will have two hours to complete the exam once you start it

POLICY ON USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:

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Weekly Reading List:

January 8th 2024

Introduction: Political Economy and other approaches to urbanization.

Compulsory Readings

Chapter 1 from Sean Fox and Tom Goodfellow “Cities and Development”

Patricia McCarney and Richard Stren (2016) Urbanization as a transformative force. Chapter 2 in World Cities Report. Pg. 27-45

Link: <http://wcr.unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/WCR-2016-Full-Report.pdf>

UN Habitat(2017) The New urban Agenda. (summary)

Link: <https://habitat3.org/wp-content/uploads/NUA-English.pdf>

Un Habitat (2023) Crisis Resilient Urban Futures The Future of Asian & Pacific (Chapter 1- pg 31-47)

Link: https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2023/10/escap-2023-fs-future-asia-pacific-cities_2.pdf

15th January 2024

Theme: The Asian Mega-Region: Geography, Social Characteristics and Economic Patterns.

Compulsory Readings:

Mc Gee T.G. (1991) The Emergence of Desakota Regions in Asia. Expanding a Hypothesis. In: Ginsburg NJ, Koppel B, Mc Gee TG (Eds.) The Extended Metropolis. Settlement Transition in Asia. University of Hawaii Press, Honolulu: p. 3-26

Chapter 2 from Sean Fox and Tom Goodfellow "Cities and Development"

22nd January 2024

Theme: Models, Frameworks and Metaphors in Asian Urbanization: The Contributions of Geertz, Friedmann, Lewis, McGee and their role in our knowledge and understanding of the Asian urban context.

Compulsory Readings

- 1) Friedmann J; Douglass M. "Agropolitan development: towards a new strategy for regional planning in Asia in Lo FC, Salih K, ed. Growth pole strategy and regional development policy: Asian experience and alternative approaches. Oxford, England, Pergamon, 1978. 163-92
- 2) Geertz, Clifford. Chapters 1 & 2 in Peddlers and Princes: Social Development and Economic Change in Two Indonesian Towns (to be provided online the U of Guelph course reserves)
- 3) Chapter 3 from Sean Fox and Tom Goodfellow
- 4) The Lewis model explained: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1cgvYrGBW6w>
Financial Times: China Migration at a turning point. <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/767495a0-e99b-11e4-b863-00144feab7de.html#axzz4JmWVQoJO>
- 5) The Economist: The largest migration in history. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KNXg-kYk-LU>

29th January, 2024

Theme: Contemporary Indian Urbanization: Major Patterns, Conundrums and Policy Challenges.

Compulsory Readings:

Om Mathur 2021. Chapter 2 in the State of Cities Report (provided online the U of Guelph course reserves)

Om Mathur 2017 How urban is India. Financial Express, November 1st

<http://www.financialexpress.com/opinion/open-letter-to-cea-arvind-subramanian-how-urban-is-india/914665/>

The Economist. 2013: Is India Becoming More Urban?

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gtMeyAs7Vz0>

Ananya Roy 2009. Why India cannot plan its cities. Informality, Insurgence and the Idiom of Urbanization. Planning Theory. Volume: 8; Issue: 1; Page: 76-87.

Isher Ahluwalia 2011. TED Talk- Role of Cities In India's Development

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NvSuUZw0j0M>

Vivek Dehejia 2016 Can India develop without industrialization? Livemint, August 6, 2016

Link: <http://www.livemint.com/Sundayapp/UZ4Gyf1IzqR0i6lqoiZ1PJ/Can-India-develop-without-industrialization.html>

Dani Rodrik 2015 Premature deindustrialization in the developing world

Link: http://rodrik.typepad.com/dani_rodriks_weblog/2015/02/premature-deindustrialization-in-the-developing-world.html

World Resources Institute 2023. Why India needs to rethink its methodology in measuring urbanization.

Link: <https://wri-india.org/blog/measuring-urbanization-why-india-needs-re-think-its-methodology>

Link: http://rodrik.typepad.com/dani_rodriks_weblog/2015/02/premature-deindustrialization-in-the-developing-world.html

5th Feb, 2024

Theme: Rural-Urban Migration: Migrants in India and China

Chapters 4 and 5 from Fox and Goodfellow

Compulsory Readings:

Chan, Kam Wing, 2015. "Five Decades of the Chinese Hukou System," in Robyn R. Iredale and Fei Guo (eds.), [*Handbook On Chinese Migration, Identity and Wellbeing*](#), Edward Elgar Publishing Ltd, Cheltenham, UK, pp.23-47 (to be made available online University of Guelph course reserves)

Solomon Benjamin, 2008 Occupancy Urbanism: Radicalizing Politics and Economy beyond Policy and Programs. International Journal of Urban and regional Research. Volume 32, Issue 3, Pages 719–729 (to be made available online, the University of Guelph library course reserves)

Suggested Readings:

Liza Weinstein and Xuefei Ren 2009. The Changing Right to the city: Urban Renewal and Housing Rights in globalizing Shanghai and Mumbai. City and Community. December 2009 (to be provided online, University of Guelph course reserves)

Dipti Jain 2016. Circular migration is holding back India's urbanization

Link: <http://www.livemint.com/Politics/p9l9OfhAoycxqPq9wShSml/Circular-migration-is-holding-back-Indias-urbanization.html>

The Hindu 2016. Only Gandhi wrote on paupers. Interview with Jan Breman.

Accessed at <http://www.thehindu.com/opinion/interview/jan-breman-takes-a-long-view-of-the-changes-hes-seen-in-india-over-half-a-century/article8261990.ece>

Chandrashekhar and Sharma, Ajay 2014. Urbanization and Spatial Patterns in internal migration in India. Accessed at <http://www.igidr.ac.in/pdf/publication/WP-2014-016.pdf>

NDTV 2013. Distress Migration: from Bharat to India

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbLaFwOzHiY>

12th February, 2024

Contd. Migrants in India and China

Compulsory Readings:

Chapters 4 and 5 from Fox and Goodfellow

February 26th, 2024

Theme: Disasters and Urban Informality in India

Compulsory Readings:

Saskia Sassen 2015. Bringing Cities into the Global Climate Framework India in Craig Johnson et al The Urban Climate Challenge (available online course reserves)

Krupa Ge 2019 Rivers Remember pages 1-57 (Text book)

Pushpa Arabindoo 2016. Unprecedented natures. An anatomy of the Chennai floods. City November 2016, 20(6) p.800-821 (available online library course reserves)

N Bhuvana and Arul Aram 2019 . Facebook and Whatsapp as disaster management tools during the Chennai (India) floods of 2015. International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction Volume 39, October 2019,

4th March, 2024

Theme: Disasters and urban informality in India

Compulsory Readings

- 1) Emily Boyd and Aditya Ghosh (2015). Climate Change adaptation in Mumbai, India in Craig Johnson et al The Urban Climate Challenge (Taylor and Francis)
- 2) Krupa Ge 2019. Rivers Remember pg 58-121

Chapters 6 and 8 from Fox and Goodfellow

March 11th

Contd.

- 1) Krupa Ge Rivers Remember (2019) pg 122-179

March 18th

Contd. Krupa Ge (2019) pg.122-179

March 25th

Contd Krupa Ge (2019) pg. 122-179

April 1st 2024

COVID 19 and the future of Asian mega city regions

Readings:

- 1) Edward Glaeser 2022 "Urban Resilience". Urban Studies. Vol 59, Issue 1, 2022 (provided online)
- 2) Chapter 9 from Fox and Goodfellow
- 3) Raghuram Rajan 2023. Tamil Nadu needs manufacturing to be a trillion dollar economy
Link: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/tamil-nadu-needs-mix-of-low-skilled-high-skilled-manufacturing-to-be-trillion-dollar-economy-raghuram-rajan-and-arvind-subramanian-12011591.html>

April 5, 2024

Course review

April 7th

Course review

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Standard Statements

E-mail Communication

As per university regulations, all students are required to check their <mail.uoguelph.ca> e-mail account regularly: e-mail is the official route of communication between the University and its students.

When You Cannot Meet a Course Requirement

When you find yourself unable to meet an in-course requirement because of illness or compassionate reasons, please advise the course instructor (or designated person, such as a teaching assistant) in writing, with your name, id#, and e-mail contact. See the undergraduate calendar for information on regulations and procedures for Academic Consideration.

Drop Date

The last date to drop one-semester courses, without academic penalty, is on the undergraduate calendar. For regulations and procedures for Dropping Courses, see the Undergraduate Calendar.

Copies of out-of-class assignments

Keep paper and/or other reliable back-up copies of all out-of-class assignments: you may be asked to resubmit work at any time.

Accessibility

The University of Guelph is committed to creating a barrier-free environment. Providing services for students is a shared responsibility among students, faculty and administrators. This relationship is based on respect of individual rights, the dignity of 11

the individual and the University community's shared commitment to an open and supportive learning environment.

Students requiring service or accommodation, whether due to an identified, ongoing disability or a short-term disability should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities as soon as possible.

For more information, contact CSD at 519-824-4120 ext. 56208 or email csd@uoguelph.ca or see the website: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/csd/>

Academic Misconduct

The University of Guelph is committed to upholding the highest standards of academic integrity and it is the responsibility of all members of the University community – faculty, staff, and students – to be aware of what constitutes academic misconduct and to do as much as possible to prevent academic offences from occurring. University of Guelph students have the responsibility of abiding by the University's policy on academic misconduct regardless of their location of study; faculty, staff and students have the responsibility of supporting an environment that discourages misconduct. Students need to remain aware that instructors have access to and the right to use electronic and other means of detection.

Please note: Whether or not a student intended to commit academic misconduct is not relevant for a finding of guilt. Hurried or careless submission of assignments does not excuse students from responsibility for verifying the academic integrity of their work before submitting it. Students who are in any doubt as to whether an action on their part could be construed as an academic offence should consult with a faculty member or faculty advisor. 12