

GEOG*4200: Social Life of Cities
PROVISIONAL Fall 2024

Fall 2024

Tuesdays & Thursdays: 10:00-11:20am

Prerequisites: GEOG*2260 (GEOG*3050 recommended)

Course Overview

This course examines the “socio-spatial” dynamics of city life. Focusing primarily on Toronto and cities in the Global North we consider ways in which social relations and processes configure city space and how the geography of the city, in turn, shapes social life.

Course Objectives:

- To develop students’ knowledge of themes and topics in urban social geography;
- To encourage a critical intellectual engagement with the physical forms and social functions that are found in modern urban environments in the Global North and Toronto;
- To investigate the causes and consequences of urban change
- To develop research, reading, and writing skills, as well as critical thinking.

Field Trip to Toronto & Course Fee:

Hands-on experiential and engaged learning is an important pedagogic and political element of this course. **On Friday November 8th** we will be visiting the city of Toronto for a full day. The cost of the field trip (per student) is normally in the range of 20-30\$.

Evaluation:

Class participation & seminar engagement: 40%

Toronto Field Trip reflection: (10%)

Term Paper: (25%)

Take-home final exam: 25%

Readings:

The readings for this course consist of peer-reviewed academic articles that are available in the University of Guelph library system, as well as relevant readings from the media and civil society. Access to these readings is available through Course link.