COURSE PREREQUISITE

URST 241 Governance in the Untied States: An Urban Focus
(or PUA 241 Survey of Public Administration)
URST 301 Theories of Urban Communities

COURSE DESCRIPTION

*Introduction to Urbanization and Demography* is intended to provide undergraduate students the basic understanding of the issues, challenges, and opportunities in urbanization process. This course explores the causes and impacts of urbanization mainly focusing on the population dynamics and local economic growth. Review on the growth history of American cities is relevant to study where the American cities are now in the process of urban growth and this will guide us to some of the current issues related to population growth, population migration, city and metropolitan development, and planned and unplanned changes. Forms and changes of cities beyond urbanization will be discussed with possible roles of public policy and planning actives.

Classes will be held in a lecture/discussion format twice a week and help sessions will be organized as needed. In addition to attending class on a regular basis, taking an active role in class discussions and being prepared for class, students will be required to complete two writing assignments and three exams.

LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR COURSE

Upon completion of this course, a student should be able to:

- Understand causes and impacts of urbanization process;
- Evaluate roles of population growth and distribution across spaces;
- Analyze issues with increasing demand on public service and quality of life in urbanized world;
- Develop understanding on sustainable urban growth and growth management
- Integrate knowledge on the role of public policy and planning for sustainable urban development
PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, a student should be able to:
• Evaluate multiple conditions of urban sustainability/resiliency and construct alternative recommendations for improvements (urban solutions: urbanization, policy & governance, economics & finance, planning & infrastructure, human dimension)
• Produce analyses that demonstrate information literacy and numeracy (analytical knowledge and skills)

CLASSROOM GOALS

Students enrolled in this course are expected to:
• Actively participate in each class; and
• Promote a classroom environment of collaboration.

TEXTBOOK

There are two required textbooks and several recommended books for further readings and these will be available from the course reserve in the library and from the bookstores:

Required


Supplement Readings (that will be helpful)

ADDITIONAL LEARNING RESOURCES

Handouts, lecture notes and other miscellaneous course material will be available at UNLV WebCampus, as needed. Please note that lecture notes available to students are designed to supplement class participation and are not meant to be a substitute for attending class.

COURSE POLICIES

Assessment
Learning outcomes listed above will be assessed by performance on writing assignments, class participation, discussion postings, quizzes and exams.

Attendance
Students are expected to attend all lectures and exams, and they are individually responsible for all materials presented. According to university policy, students missing more than two of our twice-a-week classes may be dropped from the course. For this reason, students are urged to notify the Professor when circumstances prohibit regular attendance (i.e., prolonged illness, collegiate activities, etc.).

Mandatory Final Examination
The final exam is required to receive a passing grade in the course. Any student not taking the final examination will receive a grade of “F” for the course or be granted an incomplete (“I”) for the semester by prior arrangement due to extraordinary circumstances.

No Make-up Examinations
Students must take examinations during the regularly scheduled lecture period on the dates designated in the “Course Outline.” By prior arrangement due to extraordinary circumstances, students may be given another opportunity to take an exam.

Disabilities
Students with disabilities that may affect their learning need to alert instructors during the first two weeks of the class. Accommodations will be made for these individuals.

Grading Range

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<th>Score (in %)</th>
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<td>94 or more</td>
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<td>72 – 77</td>
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<td>88 – 89</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>78 – 79</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>68 – 69</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>59 or less</td>
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Depending on class grade distributions, the above grading criteria are subject to change at the instructor's discretion. Any changes in grading criteria will be announced in class.
Grading

Final grades will be calculated as follows:

- Discussion Activities = 25%
- Quizzes = 20%
- Writing Assignment (I) = 10%
- Writing Assignment (II) = 10%
- Exam I = 15%
- Exam II = 20%

DISCUSSION & QUIZZES

There are 5 learning modules and each module is composed of two topics.

- Module 1: Urban Space & Urbanization History
- Module 2: Causes and Impacts of Urbanization
- Module 3: Demographic Change & Urbanization
- Module 4: Public Service in Cities & Quality of Life
- Module 5: Public Policy and Planning for Urban Growth

At the end of each module, there is a discussion activity. For discussion activities, students are supposed to provide critiques and/or evaluate the given situation to enrich and expand discussion with classmates using online discussion postings via UNLV WebCampus system. Justifiable evidences from various open sources should support discussion postings.

Discussion activities (25%)

- Module 1: Watch a series of short video clips & post your opinion on issues of urbanization
  - [https://youtu.be/BrTSHrj0zz4](https://youtu.be/BrTSHrj0zz4)
  - [https://youtu.be/fKnAJCSGSDK](https://youtu.be/fKnAJCSGSDK)
  - [https://youtu.be/M4-d3h4lfM](https://youtu.be/M4-d3h4lfM)
  - [https://youtu.be/aQsPzaF0_k](https://youtu.be/aQsPzaF0_k)
- Module 2: Share your idea on
  - If migration increases happiness of movers?
  - If a region can benefit from migration of population?
- Module 3: Share your opinion on
  - If people follow jobs or jobs follow people?
- Module 4: Share your opinion on the urban amenity issues in Las Vegas Metro
  - What does Las Vegas lack?
  - In what Las Vegas have better amenities?
- Module 5: Share your opinion on the role of public policy and planning practice for
  - Sustainable growth in US cities
  - Change human behavior in urban spaces
Quiz for 10 Topics (20%)

There are 10 topics that are parts of five learning modules. At the end of each topic, students are supposed to take an online quiz. This is an open book quiz. Quizzes are designed to help students understand concepts from lectures and reading assignments and synthesize various applications in real world examples. After the last lecture for each topic, students will be given 5 days to complete a quiz. Use a reliable Internet access so that you are not disconnected in the middle of a quiz. You will have two chances in total for taking one quiz.

Writing Assignment

Two writing assignments will be assigned throughout the semester. Late submission will be penalized 5% per day. Assignment submitted more than a week late will not be accepted.

- Assignment (I): Essay on the History of Urban Growth in the US Cities (10%)  
  (due: Midnight of Nov 10th, submit the essay on WebCampus)

Write a short (4~5 pages long) essay on how the urbanization in the US has evolved over time since WWII. Provide answers for the following questions:
(1) In which part of the country urbanization mainly happened during which period?
(2) What would be some possible causes, such as regional economic growth, population growth, concentration of population and etc.?
(3) What would be some possible impact on the regions experiencing urbanization process, mainly focusing on demographic composition and/or regional economic structure?

- Assignment (II): Analysis on the Urbanization Process in a US City (10%)  
  (due: Midnight of Dec 10th, submit the essay on WebCampus)

Choose a city (or alternatively metropolitan area) in the US that experienced urbanization process since WWII and perform the descriptive analysis on the following issues:
(1) How the concentration of population in the city changed over time?
(2) How can we detect the increases in local demand for the public services?
(3) Is the city still growing? Growth has been stabilized, or losing its share?
(4) Do you see any pattern of urban sprawl, suburbanization or exurbanization?
(5) How public agency leads or reacts to such phenomena?
EXAMS

There will be two written exams throughout the semester. Exams are designed to help students assemble the various topics discussed in lectures and from reading materials. Also, exams will provide chances for students to critique various real world issues associated with urbanization process and demographic shifts.

- **Exam (I): Covers learning modules 1 through 3 (15%)**
  *(Nov 8th, from 11:30am to 12:45pm in classrooms)*

- **Exam (II): Covers all learning modules 1 through 5 (20%)**
  *(Dec 13th, from 10:10am to 12:10pm in classrooms)*

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- In order to avoid distractions to fellow students, no side conversations during lectures or class discussions are permitted.
- Individual grades or exam scores will not be discussed in the classroom to protect the privacy of students. If you have any questions about your grade please make an appointment to see the instructor.
- Homework assignments are turned in at the beginning of class.
- **NO MOBILE DEVICES and/or COMPUTERS ALLOWED** during lectures.
- You may bring a visiting or prospective student to class as long as he or she is not disruptive to the class lecture and discussion.
- Baseball hats, sunglasses and anything else that may block the instructor's view of students' eyes are not to be worn during exams.
- ID required for exams

SUCCESS TIPS

To enhance your chances of success in this course, you need to:

- Use web campus calendar and come to class prepared to participate in class activities;
- Attend and listen to all classroom lectures;
- Participate in classroom discussions actively;
- Follow directions and complete all reading, homework assignments, and exams on time;
- Students are responsible to take exams on the scheduled day;
- If a student can't take an exam as scheduled, he or she must inform the instructor prior to the exam;
- Typically, office hours are intended to provide additional assistance understanding material covered in class, an assignment or career advice;
- Office hours are not a substitute for class participation;
• To make the most of an office visit, recommend preparing a list of questions in advance;
• If you are unable to come to my office, I recommend sending an email with a list of questions or calling me by phone during the week. I try to respond to all phone calls and e-mails during the workweek within 24-48 hours;
• If you call during my scheduled office hours and you receive my voice mail, please leave a message with contact information (either phone or e-mail address) and I will return messages as soon as possible.
Academic Misconduct
Academic integrity is a legitimate concern for every member of the Campus community; we all share in upholding the fundamental values of honesty, trust, respect, fairness, responsibility, and professionalism. By choosing to join the UNLV community, students accept the expectations of the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, and are encouraged to always take the ethical path whenever faced with choices. Students enrolling at UNLV assume the obligation to conduct themselves in a manner compatible with UNLV’s educational mission. An example of academic misconduct is plagiarism. Plagiarism is using the words or ideas of another person, from the Internet or any other source without proper citation of the sources. See the Student Conduct Code, https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/student-conduct.

Auditing Classes
Auditing a course allows a student to continue attending the lectures and/or laboratories and discussion sessions associated with the course, but the student will not earn a grade for any component of the course. Students who audit a course receive the same educational experience as students taking the course for a grade, but will be excused from exams, assessments, and other evaluative measures that serve the primary purpose of assigning a grade.

Classroom Conduct
Students have a responsibility to conduct themselves in class and in the libraries in ways that do not interfere with the rights of other students to learn or of instructors to teach. Use of electronic devices such as pagers, cellular phones, or recording devices, or potentially disruptive devices or activities, are only permitted with the prior explicit consent of the instructor. The instructor may rescind permission at any time during the class. If a student does not comply with established requirements or obstructs the functioning of the class, the instructor may initiate an administrative drop of the student from the course.

Copyright
The University requires all members of the University Community to familiarize themselves with, and to follow copyright and fair use requirements. You are individually and solely responsible for violations of copyright and fair use laws. The University will neither protect nor defend you, nor assume any responsibility for employee or student violations of fair use laws. Violations of copyright laws could subject you to federal and state civil penalties and criminal liability, as well as disciplinary action under University policies. Additional copyright policy information is available at http://www.unlv.edu/provost/copyright.

Disability Resource Center (DRC)
The UNLV Disability Resource Center (SSC-A, Room 143, https://www.unlv.edu/drc, 702-895-0866) provides resources for students with disabilities. Students who believe that they may need academic accommodations due to injury, disability, or due to pregnancy should contact the DRC as early as possible in the academic term. A Disabilities Specialist will discuss what options may be available to you. If you are registered with the UNLV Disability Resource Center, bring your Academic Accommodation Plan from the DRC to the instructor during office hours, so that you may work together to develop strategies for implementing the accommodations to meet both your needs and the requirements of the course. Any information you provide is private and will be treated as such. To maintain the confidentiality of your request, please do not approach the instructor in front of others to discuss your accommodation needs.
Final Examinations
The University requires that final exams given at the end of a course occur on the date and at the time specified in the Final Exam schedule. The general schedule is typically available at the start of the semester, and the classroom locations are available approximately one month before the end of the semester. See the Final Exam Schedule, https://www.unlv.edu/registrar/calendars.

Identity Verification in Online Courses
All UNLV students must use their Campus-issued ACE ID and password to log in to WebCampus.

UNLV students enrolled in online or hybrid courses are expected to read and adhere to the Student Academic Misconduct Policy, https://www.unlv.edu/studentconduct/misconduct/policy, which defines, “acting or attempting to act as a substitute for another, or using or attempting to use a substitute, in any academic evaluation or assignment” as a form of academic misconduct. Intentionally sharing ACE login credentials with another person may be considered an attempt to use a substitute and could result in investigation and sanctions, as outlined in the Student Academic Misconduct Policy.

UNLV students enrolled in online courses are also expected to read and adhere to the Acceptable Use of Computing and Information Technology Resources Policy, https://www.it.unlv.edu/policies/acceptable-use-computing-and-information-technology-resources-policy, which prohibits sharing university accounts with other persons without authorization.

To the greatest extent possible, all graded assignments and assessments in UNLV online courses should be hosted in WebCampus or another UNLV-managed platform that requires ACE login credentials for access.

Incomplete Grades
The grade of “I” (Incomplete) may be granted when a student has satisfactorily completed three-fourths of course work for that semester/session, but cannot complete the last part of the course for reason(s) beyond the student’s control and acceptable to the instructor, and the instructor believes that the student can finish the course without repeating it. For undergraduate courses, the incomplete work must be made up before the end of the following regular semester. Graduate students receiving “I” grades in 500-, 600-, or 700-level courses have up to one calendar year to complete the work, at the discretion of the instructor. If course requirements are not completed within the period indicated, a grade of “F” will be recorded, and the student’s GPA will be adjusted accordingly. Students who are fulfilling an Incomplete grade do not register for the course, but make individual arrangements with the instructor who assigned the “I” grade.

Library Resources
Librarians are available to consult with students on research needs, including developing research topics, finding information, and evaluating sources. To make an appointment with a subject expert for this class, please visit the Libraries’ Research Consultation website: http://guides.library.unlv.edu/appointments/librarian. You can also ask the library staff questions via chat and text message at: http://ask.library.unlv.edu/.

Missed Classwork
Any student missing class, quizzes, examinations, or any other class or laboratory work because of observance of religious holidays will be given an opportunity during that semester to make up the missed work. The make-up opportunity will apply to the religious holiday absence only. It is
the responsibility of the student to notify the instructor within the first 14 calendar days of the course for Fall and Spring courses (except for modular courses), or within the first 7 calendar days of the course for Summer and modular courses, of their intention to participate in religious holidays which do not fall on state holidays or periods of class recess. For additional information, please visit the Policy for Missed Work, under Registration Policies, on the Academic Policies webpage, https://catalog.unlv.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=531.

In accordance with the policy approved by the Faculty Senate regarding missed class time and assignments, students who represent UNLV in any official extracurricular activity will also have the opportunity to make up assignments, provided that the student provides official written notification to the instructor no less than one week prior to the missed class(es).

The spirit and intent of the policy for missed classwork is to offer fair and equitable assessment opportunities to all students, including those representing the University in extracurricular activities. Instructors should consider, for example, that in courses which offer a “Drop one” option for the lowest assignment, quiz, or exam, assigning the student a grade of zero for an excused absence for extracurricular activity is both contrary to the intent of the Faculty Senate’s policy, and an infringement on the student’s right to complete all work for the course.

This policy will not apply in the event that completing the assignment or administering the examination at an alternate time would impose an undue hardship on the instructor or the University that could reasonably have been avoided. There should be a good faith effort by both the instructor and the student to agree to a reasonable resolution. When disagreements regarding this policy arise, decisions can be appealed to the Department Chair/Unit Director, College/School Dean, and/or the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee.

For purposes of definition, extracurricular activities may include, but are not limited to: fine arts activities, competitive intercollegiate athletics, science and engineering competitions, liberal arts competitions, academic recruitment activities, and any other event or activity sanctioned by a College/School Dean, and/or by the Executive Vice President and Provost.

Rebelmail
Rebelmail is UNLV’s official email system for students, and by University policy, instructors and staff should only send emails to students’ Rebelmail accounts. Rebelmail is one of the primary ways students receive official University communications, information about deadlines, major Campus events, and announcements. All UNLV students receive a Rebelmail account after they have been admitted to the University. Emailing within WebCampus is also acceptable.

Tutoring and Coaching
The Academic Success Center (ASC) provides tutoring, academic success coaching, and other academic assistance for all UNLV undergraduate students. For information regarding tutoring subjects, tutoring times, and other ASC programs and services, please visit the ASC website, https://www.unlv.edu/asc, or call 702-895-3177. The ASC building is located across from the Student Services Complex (SSC). Academic success coaching is located on the second floor of SSC A, Room 254. Drop-in tutoring is located on the second floor of the Lied Library, and on the second floor of the College of Engineering building (TBE A 207).

UNLV Writing Center
One-on-one or small group assistance with writing is available free of charge to UNLV students at the Writing Center, https://writingcenter.unlv.edu/, located in the Central Desert Complex, Building 3, Room 301 (CDC 3–301). Walk-in consultations are sometimes available, but students
with appointments receive priority assistance. Students may make appointments in person or by calling the Center, 702-895-3908. Students are requested to bring to their appointments their Rebel ID Card, a copy of the instructions for their assignment, and two copies of any writing they have completed on their assignment.
### MODULE 1: Urban Space & Urbanization History

#### TOPIC 1: Concept & History (Week 1~2)
- **Introduction to Course**
- **Topic 1-1** Growth of Cities & Urban Spaces
- **Topic 1-2** History of American Cities
  - **Readings:** Ch. 9 (Newbold), Ch. 1 & 2 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - **Quiz #1 for Topic 1 (Due: Jan 26th)**

#### TOPIC 2: Evolution of Urban Spaces (Week 3~4)
- **Topic 2-1** Global Urban Patterns in 20th and 21st Century
- **Topic 2-2** Development of Urban System in the U.S.
  - **Readings:** Ch. 1 (Newbold), Ch. 3 & 4 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - **Quiz #2 for Topic 2 (Due: Feb 9th)**

#### Discussion Posting (1) (Due: Feb 11th)

### MODULE 2: Causes and Impacts of Urbanization

#### TOPIC 3: Causes of Urbanization (Week 5~6)
- **Topic 3-1** Population Growth & Redistribution
- **Topic 3-2** Increasing Returns to Scale, Agglomeration Economics
  - **Readings:** Ch. 3, 4 & 5 (Newbold), Ch. 5 & 6 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - **Quiz #3 for Topic 3 (Due: Feb 23rd)**

#### TOPIC 4: Impacts of Urbanization (Week 7)
- **Topic 4-1** Urban Issues & Sustainable Urban Growth
- **Topic 4-2** Economic Impact: Positive Externality and/or Negative Externality
  - **Readings:** Ch. 11 (Newbold), Ch. 7 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - **Quiz #4 for Topic 4 (Due: Mar 2nd)**

#### Discussion Posting (2) (Due: Mar 4th)

### MODULE 3: Demographic Change & Urbanization

#### TOPIC 5: Urban Development & Process of Urban Change (Week 8)
- **Topic 5-1** Life Cycle of Urban Space
- **Topic 5-2** Migration Decision
  - **Readings:** Ch. 6 (Newbold), Ch. 8 & 9 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - **Quiz #5 for Topic 5 (Due: Mar 9th)**

#### TOPIC 6: Flows of Population & Recent Trend of Migration (Week 9)
- **Topic 6-1** The Effects of Migration: Is Migration Equalizing?
- **Topic 6-2** People Follow Jobs? Or Job Follows People?
  - **Readings:** Ch. 6, 7, 8 (Newbold)
  - **Quiz #6 for Topic 6 (Due: Mar 16th)**

#### Discussion Posting (3) (Due: Mar 18th)
Midterm Evaluation in Week 10 (for Modules 1, 2, and 3)

- Paper Assignment (1) **(Due: Mar 23rd)**
- Midterm Exam for Modules 1, 2, and 3 **(Open from Mar 21st to Mar 25th)**

Week 11: Spring Break (from Mar 26th to Apr 1st)

MODULE 4: Public Service in Cities & Quality of Life

- **TOPIC 7: Problems of Urbanization (Week 12)**
  - Topic 7-1: Poverty, Crime, Homelessness
  - Topic 7-2: Infrastructure and Environmental Problems
  - Readings: Ch. 15 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - Quiz #7 for Topic 7 (Due: Apr 6th)

- **TOPIC 8: Urban Segregation, Urban Life, and Urban Spaces (Week 13)**
  - Topic 8-1: Social & Residential Segregation
  - Topic 8-2: Urban Life & Urban Spaces
  - Readings: Ch. 12 & 14 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - Quiz #8 for Topic 8 (Due: Apr 13th)

- Discussion Posting (4) **(Due: Apr 15th)**

MODULE 5: Public Policy and Planning for Urban Growth

- **TOPIC 9: Urban Policy & Planning (Week 14)**
  - Topic 9-1: History of Urban Policy
  - Topic 9-2: Urban Planning Practice in the U.S. Cities
  - Readings: Ch. 10 & 11 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - Quiz #9 for Topic 9 (Due: Apr 20th)

- **TOPIC 10: Demographic Policy & Urban Governance (Week 15)**
  - Topic 10-1: Demographic Policy
  - Topic 10-2: Urban Governance
  - Readings: Ch. 10 (Newbold), Ch. 10 (Knox & McCarthy)
  - Quiz #10 for Topic 10 (Due: Apr 27th)

- Discussion Posting (5) **(Due: Apr 29th)**

Final Evaluation in Week 16 & 17 (for all Modules)

- Paper Assignment (2) **(Due: May 6th)**
- Final Exam for all Modules **(Open from May 5th to May 11th)**

Note: The instructors reserve the right to modify the schedule during the term. All changes will be announced in Canvas.