

GLOBAL CITIES

Course Load: 80 hours

Course Description:

Rapid urbanization in both the developed and less developed world, combined with recent trends towards globalization and fiscal decentralization, has put enormous pressure on large cities and city-regions. As urban populations grow, large cities struggle to provide basic services (e.g. housing, water, sanitation, public safety, transit) and address the negative externalities associated with rapid growth (e.g. pollution and congestion).

In the early 21st century, despite economic development and growth around the world, urbanization is most often associated with informal occupations and precarious modes of life, due to lack of services provision, poor transportation and infrastructure, and mismanagement. Yet, urban areas are seen as vibrant, diverse and desirable places to live, work and visit and are seeing a wave of revitalization not seen in many decades.

The way of living and surviving in cities across the world can be described in different ways: through the decline of the industrial economy, the offshoring of work, the creation of network cities, and the emergence of "global cities." Public and private sector alike, such as policy makers and real estate developers, have to deal with the global issues and economic crisis at the city level, and try to devise new, smarter, and safer solutions to make life in cities better. This course will set out a basic economics and public management framework to understand the problems faced by cities and use it to evaluate the issues and challenges they endure. It also addresses some of the promises and dilemmas of creating and managing the space where we live, work and produce, through a number of best practices studies, which suggest that there is a smart and best way to impact the places we live.

Objective:

The students will be able to understand and criticize current problems in large cities. It is expected that the students will be able to evaluate urban realities in different contexts, both domestically and internationally.

The students will be able to:

- To understand the key issues about urbanization;
- To analyze different aspects of cities, large and small, and discuss the differences between megacities, global cities, and smart cities;
- To apply basic principles for analysis of large cities and metropolitan regions in countries with diverse political, institutional, and cultural contexts; and
- To evaluate the practice of urban governance.

Program Content:

1. Urbanization Overview
 - a. Concepts of Cities
 - b. Cities in a World Economy
 - c. Patterns of Urban Growth
 - d. Rankings and Classifications
2. The economics approach to Cities
 - a. Urban Public Economy
 - b. Local Government Expenditures
3. Governing Global, Mega, Worldly, and Smart Cities
 - a. Global Cities

- b. Large Metropolitan Areas
- c. Competitive Cities

- 4. Financing Cities
 - a. Taxes
 - b. Alternative Revenues
 - c. Financing Cities, Metropolitan and Large Areas
 - d. Fiscal Federalism

- 5. The City as a Growth Machine
 - a. Recession and the future of cities
 - b. City Business
- 6. The Triumph of Cities? Sustainability and Survival

Basic Bibliography:

Books:

Glaeser, Edward. 2011. *The Triumph of the City: How Our Greatest Invention Makes Us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier* Penguin Press

Jacobs, Janet. 1969. *The Economies of Cities*.

Sassen, Saskia. 2006. *Cities in a World Economy*, Third edition, Pine Forge Press.

Ferrer, Jorge Núñez (ed.) 2013. *Financing models for smart cities*. Smart Cities Stakeholder Platform.

Complementary Bibliography

Books:

Amen, Michael M., Kevin Archer, M. Martin Bosman (ed). 2006. *Relocating Global Cities: From the Center to the Margins*. Rowan and Littlefield Publishers. New York.

AT Kearney. 2015. *Global Cities 2015. The Race Accelerates*.

Brenner, Neil, and Roger Keil (ed.) 2006. *The Global Cities Reader*. Routledge. London.

Detter, Dag and Stefan Folster. 2017. *The Public Wealth of the Cities. How to Unlock Hidden Assets to Boost Growth and prosperity*. Brookings Institution Press. Washington, D.C.

World Bank. 2013. *Planning, Connecting, and Financing Cities—Now. Priorities for City Leaders* International Bank for Reconstruction and Development / The World Bank. Washington, D.C.

Articles:

Alm, James. 2010. "Municipal Finance of Urban Infrastructure: Knowns and Unknowns." Wolfensohn Center for Development, Working Paper 19, May 2010 (http://www.brookings.edu/~media/research/files/papers/2010/5/urbanization%20finance%20alm/05_urbanization_finance_alm).

Clark, Greg 2016. *Global Cities: A Short History*. Brookings Institution Press.

OECD. 2006. *Competitive Cities in the Global Economy*, OECD Territorial Reviews. Paris: OECD. (http://www.mexicodiplomatico.org/lecturas/competitive_cities_global_economy.pdf)

United Nations. 2017. *The World's Cities in 2016*. Washington http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/population/publications/pdf/urbanization/the_worlds_cities_in_2016_data_booklet.pdf

Mumford, Lewis, 1968. *The City in History: Its Origins, Its Transformations, and Its Prospects*.

O'Sullivan, Arthur. 2012. *Urban Economics*, Eighth Edition, McGraw-Hill Irwin