

History of the American City in the Twentieth Century
HIUS 148/USP 103
Mon & Wed. 11am-1:50pm

Prof. Nancy H. Kwak nhkwak@ucsd.edu Office hours: after lectures, by appt. HSS 6086A	Teaching Assistant Mychal Odom modom@ucsd.edu Office hours & location: TBA
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This course focuses on the phenomenon of modern American urbanization. Case studies of individual cities will help illustrate the social, political, and environmental consequences of rapid urban expansion, as well as the ways in which urban problems have been dealt with historically.

GRADING:

Essay 1: 20% (2 points of this go to the first paragraph assignment.)

Essay 2: 30% (2 points of this go to the first paragraph assignment.)

Participation & attendance: 20%

Final exam: 30%

Essay 1:

What are the benefits of metropolitan growth, and who reaps them? What are the costs of metropolitan growth, and who pays them?

Essay 2.

What are the most important turning points in the evolution of cities in the twentieth century? Explain your choices.

The basics about essays:

Each essay should be approximately 4-5 single-sided pages in length, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced. If you go over by a page or so, that is ok – but do not go under this page requirement. The second essay is worth more than the first essay because I hope you will develop stronger writing skills from the first assignment to the second.

Some advice:

For each essay, you should craft a simple, strong argument that answers the question. Be meticulous about proving your argument in clear, logical steps, referring to your course readings as you make your point. You must include at least 2 readings from class in each essay. Show you understand the readings in your essay; don't simply include a random quote from the text and consider this requirement met. You are discouraged from doing outside research, as the essays are really designed to see if you digested the readings in full. You must turn in your essay to turnitin.com through the link on triton.edu.

Participation & attendance:

Participation & attendance will be computed based on physical attendance (10 pts) plus active participation (10 pts). All students are given 1 freebie for attendance; if you miss one class, you will not lose any points. Please save that one freebie for emergencies; you will not get more than the one unless you have a documented emergency.

Final Exam:

The final exam will cover all the material for the course including course readings. More info TBA.

Academic honesty:

Academic honesty is expected at all times. Any instance of plagiarism will be dealt with according to University policy.

Policy on lecture notes:

I do not share lecture notes. If you need to catch up, you may want to ask a friend in class.

If you have ANY questions...

Please feel free to visit during office hours if you have any questions or just want to introduce yourself.

Course Schedule

Please read the assigned readings before the date they are listed under.

WEEK 1.

July 3 Why urban history matters & the limits of urban history | urban frontier, Chicago School, city planning

July 5 Creating real estate and investment in the 1920s, 30s | land titling, housing as investment, policing

Readings should be completed by class on July 5th:

1. Khalil Gibran Muhammad, *The Condemnation of Blackness: Race, Crime, and the Making of Modern Urban America* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 2011) chs. 5-6. Digital version available through ebrary.
2. Nathan Connolly, *A World More Concrete* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1994) introduction. Digital version available through ebrary.
3. Please spend some time becoming acquainted with <https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/>.

WEEK 2.

July 10 Suburbs

Readings should be completed by class on July 10th:

Please bring three copies of your first paragraph to class on July 10.

4. Becky Nicolaides and James Zarsadiaz, "Design Assimilation in Suburbia: Asian Americans, Built Landscapes, and Suburban Advantage in Los Angeles's San Gabriel Valley since 1970," *Journal of Urban History* Vol. 43(2): 2017, 332–371.
5. Please start reading *LAtitudes*.

July 12 9:30am-3:30pm. Travel to San Ysidro.

6. Fonna Forman and Teddy Cruz, "Changing Practice: Engaging Informal Public Demands" in *Other Markets: A Reader*, eds. Helge Mooshammer, Peter Mörtenböck (Rotterdam: nai010 Publishers, 2015).

WEEK 3.

July 17 Urban blight, urban renewal

Readings:

7. Finish Patricia Wakida and Luis Alfaro, eds., *LAtitudes* (Heyday, 2015).

PAPER 1 DUE on JULY 17 at 11:59pm on turnitin.

July 19 Gentrification | Second half of class will be a guest speaker: Prof. Molina

Readings:

8. Andrew Sandoval-Strausz, "Latino Landscapes" (tritoned)
9. Natalia Molina, "The importance of place and place-makers in the life of a Los Angeles community: What gentrification erases from Echo Park" *Southern California Quarterly*, Vol. 97(1): 2015, 69-111.

WEEK 4.

July 24 Remaking public space | **Walking tour of downtown SD**

Reading:

10. Watch film, "The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces". On media reserves.

July 26 Connecting US urbanism with built form in the Global South

Please bring three copies of your first paragraph to class on July 26.

Reading:

11. Sarah Lopez, *Remittance Landscape: Spaces of Migration in Rural Mexico and Urban USA* (U Chicago Press, 2015).

WEEK 5.

July 31 Visit Studio Exhibition

PAPER 2 DUE on JULY 31 at 11:59pm on turnitin.

Aug 2 Sustainability and green cities

No readings this week.

FINAL EXAM – more information TBA