GMS 200 Global Metropolitan Studies:
Introduction to theories, Histories, & Methods

Spring 2016 ◆ Wednesdays 2-5 PM ◆ 205 Wheeler Hall ◆ 3 units ◆ Intended for PhD students

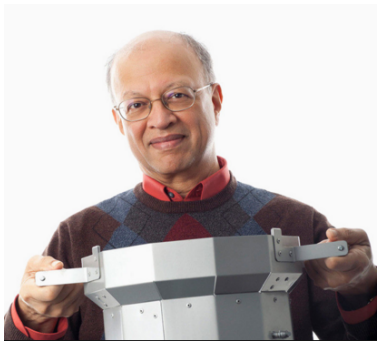
Join faculty from around campus to learn the approaches we use to address pressing issues of cities in Africa, Asia, & Latin America.

Professor Joan Walker
Civil & Environmental Engineering

Professor Charisma Acey
City & Regional Planning

Professor Dan Chatman
City & Regional Planning

Professor Jason Corburn
City & Regional Planning
Public Health



Professor Ashok Gadgil
Civil & Environmental Engineering

Professor Dan Kammen
Energy & Resources Group
Public Policy
Nuclear Engineering

Professor Alison Post
Political Science

Professor Isha Ray
Energy & Resources Group
South Asian Studies
iSchool

Professor Raja Sengupta
Civil & Environmental Engineering

GMS 200
GLOBAL METROPOLITAN STUDIES:
INTRODUCTION TO THEORIES, HISTORIES, AND METHODS

SPRING 2016
WEDNESDAYS 2:00-5:00 PM
205 WHEELER HALL

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The 21st century will be an urban century with more people around the world residing in metropolitan regions than in any other form of human settlement. This urbanization is taking place in both the global North and the global South. Its implications are widespread: from environmental challenges to entrenched patterns of segregation to new configurations of politics and social movements. The Global Metropolitan Studies Initiative at UC Berkeley is concerned with this urban condition, bringing together faculty and students across campus to foster interdisciplinary thinking and solutions to contemporary urban concerns. In this course, methodological approaches from urban theory to governance to engineering will be presented by core GMS faculty. The objectives of the course are to:

- Provide an opportunity to understand how research is undertaken in the various disciplines to contribute to our understanding of urban and metropolitan processes,
- Develop the technical breadth and communication skills essential to navigate our ever-increasing interdisciplinary world,
- Further connect and build the community on campus interested in addressing issues of global cities, and
- Advance doctoral students' research by examining objectives and research design through an interdisciplinary lens.

This is a 3 unit graduate course that is required for students in the GMS Designated Emphasis and open to other doctoral students focused on metropolitan issues either domestically or abroad.

SCHEDULE

WEEKS 1-2 INTRODUCTION

January 20 Course Introduction

January 27 Students' initial presentations of research areas/problems of interest and methodological approaches of their core disciplines.

We'll launch the term projects this week, hearing from each student about the types of research problems (and locations) that are of interest and the methodological approaches of their core disciplines (types of questions asked, key supporting literature, and approaches used to answer the questions). As the term project deliverable will be in the form of a research proposal, the readings for this week are examples of research proposals drawn from the guest lecturers in this course.

- Chatman, DG, R Cervero, A Golub, R Behrens, H Schalekamp (2013) "Integrating paratransit and BRT in the developing world: Global metropolitan case studies and user perspectives," Research proposal funded by the Volvo Educational and Research Foundations.
- Kumar, T, A Post, I Ray (2015) "Pre-analysis plan: The household welfare and political impacts of increasing service predictability: An experimental intervention in Bangalore's water sector."
- Mizes, J. C. (2014) Proposal for Social Science Research Council's Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship: "Urban development, infrastructure, and the new cartographies of risk in West Africa" (Funded)
- Mizes, J.C. (2015) Proposal for National Science Foundation's Cultural Anthropology Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant: "The changing role of municipal government in urban popular economies and regional financial markets"(under review)

WEEKS 3-5 URBAN THEORY

February 3 Urban Theory I: Critical Urban Theories

This week's readings will cover recent debates in urban studies. They focus in particular around three different approaches to understandings cities: (1) critical urban theory, a political economy approach drawing primarily on Marxist thought; (2) Assemblage urbanism, an Actor-network theory approach that draws on the work of Bruno Latour and Gilles Deleuze; (3) postcolonial urbanism, an approach informed by postcolonial thought and cities of the global south. These readings are representative of the recent debates among these approaches, and many are direct responses to or extensions of other readings on the syllabus. They are primarily concerned with staking out the methodological and topical commitments of critical urban theory and urban studies more generally. This invites us to explore two more general questions: What is critique? And why is urban studies so animated by it?

- Brenner, N (2010) "What is critical urban theory?"

- Farríías, I (2011) "The politics of urban assemblages."
- Roy, A (2015) "What is urban about critical urban theory?"
- Rademacher, A. (2014) "Urban Political Ecology"

February 10 Urban Theory II: Johannesburg & Chicago

This week begins a series of case studies that address the questions central to the preceding theoretical debate: Where is urban theory? How is it made? Urban theory has been defined in relation to specific cities, beginning with early understandings of the Ghetto in Chicago to contemporary understandings of gentrification in New York. In these two weeks, we examine a set of cities that have framed the theoretical debates in urban studies. Here, we begin with Chicago in the 1990s, a prominent re-articulation of the Chicago School of sociology's understanding of the urban ghetto. We then move on to consider the debates on Johannesburg, which are early articulations of how to understand African cities as places that defy many of the convenient categories of urban thought.

- Drake, SC, HR Clayton (1945) *Black metropolis: A study of Negro life in a northern city*.
- Waquant, L (2008) *Three pernicious premises in the study of the American Ghetto.*
- Mbembe, A, S Nuttall (2004) *Writing the world from an African metropolis*.
- Watts, M (2005) *Baudelaire over Berea, Simmel over Sandton?*

February 17 Urban Theory III: Los Angeles/New York & Delhi/Mumbai

In this week, we move on to consider the LA school of urban theory as it emerged in the early 1990s and the related understandings of 'postmodern geographies'. This opens a conversation to compare the Chicago School to that of the LA School. We then consider how New York has shaped urban studies through the now famous concept of gentrification, and how the urban experience in India realizes or re-configures our understanding of this seemingly archetypal urban process. This invites a further discussion on the effects of grounding urban thought in a school or model based on a single city.

- Soja, E (1989) "Chapter 8, It all comes together in Los Angeles," In *Postmodern geographies: The reassertion of space in critical social theory*.
- Dear, M (2003) "The Los Angeles School of Urbanism: An intellectual history."
- Smith, N (2002) "New globalism, new urbanism: Gentrification as a global urban strategy."
- Ghertner, A (2014) "India's urban revolution: Geographies of displacement beyond gentrification."

WEEKS 6-13: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO GMS

Each week a different Professor from Berkeley's campus will provide a set of readings and attend class for the discussion. Each faculty member has been asked to select a few readings from their field that highlight the methodological approach they employ in researching global urban issues. The intention of the readings and discussion is to achieve a depth of understanding of the various methodologies presented.

February 24 Professor Isha Ray on
Water, Sanitation and Development
(Research sites from readings TBD)

Isha Ray's research interests are water, sanitation and development; water and gender; technology and development; and common property resources. Her research projects focus on access to water and sanitation for the rural and urban poor, and on the role of technology in improving livelihoods. She has extensive past and ongoing experience in the non-profit sector on sustainable development, water, and gender equality. Her campus affiliations are with the Energy & Resources Group (ERG), Institute for South Asian Studies, and the iSchool. Her PhD is in Applied Economics.

- Readings TBD

March 2 Professor Daniel Kammen on
Sustainable Urban Energy
(US; Global)

Dan Kammen's research interests are in: systems science of energy innovation, deployment, and impacts; low-carbon energy service delivery at household to village to national and regional scales; energy policy; energy innovation and the process research and development; and energy services and under-served communities. His campus affiliations are with the Energy and Resources Group (ERG), the Goldman School of Public Policy, and Nuclear Engineering. His PhD is in Physics.

- Kammen, DM, DA Sunter (2016) "Sustainable urban energy," *Science*, forthcoming.
- Jones, CM, DM Kammen (2014) "Spatial distribution of U.S. carbon footprints reveals suburbanization offsets benefits of population density," *Environmental Science and Technology* 48(2): 895–902.

March 9 Professor Charisma Acey on
Urban Water Infrastructure: Gender, Community, and Welfare
(Morocco, Nigeria)

Charisma Acey's work examines local and regional environmental sustainability, with a focus on poverty reduction, urban governance and access to basic services. Her work relies on both quantitative and participatory, qualitative research approaches to understanding individual and household demand for improved infrastructure and environmental amenities. She addresses barriers to sustainable development such as human-environment interactions at multiple scales in urban areas around the world, poverty and participatory

approaches to governance and development, the financing and sustainability of publicly provided services and utilities, local and regional food systems, environmental justice, and urbanization domestically and globally. She is in the Department of City and Regional Planning, and her PhD is in Urban Planning.

- Devoto, F, E Duflo, P Dupas, W Pariente, V Pons (2011) "Happiness on tap: Piped water adoption in urban Morocco," No. w16933, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- Acey, C (2010) "Gender and community mobilisation for urban water infrastructure investment in southern Nigeria," *Gender & Development* 18(1): 11-26.

March 16 Professor Ashok Gadgil on Fuel-efficient Stoves (Darfur)

Ashok Gadgil has substantial experience in technical, economic, and policy research on energy efficiency and its implementation — particularly in developing countries. For example, the utility-sponsored compact fluorescent lamp leasing programs that he pioneered are being successfully implemented by utilities in several east-European and developing countries. He has several patents and inventions to his credit, among them the "UV Waterworks," a technology to inexpensively disinfect drinking water in the developing countries. In recent years, he has worked on ways to inexpensively remove arsenic from Bangladesh drinking water, and on fuel-efficient stoves for Darfur. He is in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and his PhD is in Physics.

- Gadgil, A, A Sosler, D Stein (2013) "Stove solutions: Improving health, safety, and the environment in Darfur with fuel-efficient cookstoves," *Solutions For a Sustainable and Desirable Future* 4(1).
- Preble, CV, OL Hadley, AJ Gadgil, TW Kirchstetter (2014) "Emissions and climate-relevant optical properties of pollutants emitted from a three-stone fire and the Berkeley-Darfur stove tested under laboratory conditions," *Environmental Science and Technology* 48: 6484−6491.

~March 30 Professor Raja Sengupta on Developing iPhone Apps for Smart Global Cities (Global, Bangalore, Nairobi)

Raja Sengupta comes from Electrical Engineering and his research focuses broadly on Information Technology for Large-Scale Systems. His current research interests include mobile computing, cloud computing, human behavior change technology, behavioral economics, transportation demand, robotics, drones, and control theory. He is in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and his PhD is in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. In this session, you'll gain hands on experience developing an iPhone App… no prior programming experience required! The readings provide examples of Apps developed to address urban global issues.

- Stowers, C (2015) "Developing world gets city smart," SciDev.Net.

- Kahn JG, JS Yang, JS Kahn (2010) "Mobile health needs and opportunities in developing countries," *Health Affairs* 29(2): 252-258.
- Williams, S, J Klopp, D Orwa, P Waiganjo, A White (2015) "Digital Matatus: Using mobile technology to visualize informality," Proceedings ACSA 103rd Annual Meeting: The Expanding Periphery and the Migrating Center.
- Kumar, Post, Ray (2015) already assigned on January 27.

April 6 **Professor Jason Corburn on Environmental Health and Social Justice (Nairobi, Kenya)**

Jason Corburn's research focuses on the links between environmental health and social justice in cities, notions of expertise in science-based policy making, and the role of local knowledge in addressing environmental and public health problems. He is working on developing a strategy for integrating health equity into all decision making in city governance. He is a practitioner and researcher focused on promoting greater health equity in cities and linking city planning and public health. His work helps build partnerships between urban residents, professional scientists and decision-makers in order to collaboratively generate policy and planning solutions that improve the qualities of cities and the well-being of residents, particularly the poor and people of color. He has appointments in both the Department of City and Regional Planning and Public Health. His PhD is in Urban Environmental Planning.

- Cummins, S, S Curtis, AV Diez-Roux, S Macintyre (2007) "Understanding and representing 'place' in health research: A relational approach," *Social Science & Medicine* 65: 1825-1838.
- Corburn, J, I. Karanja (2014) "Informal settlements and a relational view of health in Nairobi, Kenja: sanitation, gender and dignity," *Health Promotion International*.

April 13 **Professor Alison Post on Political Science Perspectives on the Delivery of Urban Services (Gujarat, India; Kampala, Uganda; Global)**

Alison Post's research lies at the intersection of comparative urban politics and comparative political economy, with regional emphases on Latin America and South Asia. It examines several related themes: the politics of regulating privatized infrastructure, the varying ability of subnational governments to provide infrastructure services effectively following the decentralization wave of the 1990s, and the politics of urban policy more broadly. Her appointment is in Political Science, and her PhD is in Government.

- Habyarimana, J, M Humphreys, D Posner, J Weinstein (2007) "Why does ethnic diversity undermine public goods provision?" *American Political Science Review* 101(4): 709-725.
- Herrera, V, AE Post (2014) "Can developing countries both decentralize and depoliticize urban water services? Evaluating the legacy of the 1990s reform wave," *World Development* 64: 621-641.

- Berenshot, W (2010) "Everyday mediation: The politics of public service delivery in Gujarat, India," *Development and Change* 41(5): 883-905.

April 20 **Professor Dan Chatman on Informal and Formal Transit in Developing Countries (Barranquilla, Colombia; Quito, Ecuador; Cape Town, South Africa)**

Dan Chatman studies travel behavior and the built environment; residential and workplace location choice; "smart growth" and municipal fiscal decision making; and the connections between public transportation, immigration and the economic growth of cities. His research relies heavily on original data collection, including surveys, focus groups and interviews. Ongoing and recently completed research projects include studies addressing which U.S. transit systems succeed and why; the implications of immigration trends for sustainable development and economic growth; the relationship of transit investments to agglomeration economies in U.S. cities; the effect of dynamic parking pricing on occupancy and use of on-street parking in San Francisco; and the relationship between residential location, commuting, and happiness. His appointment is in the Department of City and Regional Planning, and his PhD is in Urban Planning.

- Chatman, DG, R Cervero, A Golub, R Behrens, H Schalekamp (2013) "Integrating paratransit and BRT in the developing world: Global metropolitan case studies and user perspectives," Research proposal funded by the Volvo Educational and Research Foundations.
- Bell, C, A Cochran, U Hernandez, E Leshner, M Mbilo, F Morales, D Rubin, MS Palacios, K Stoy, E St-Louis, DG Chatman (2015) “Life in the city after BRT: A qualitative study of Barranquilla, Colombia,” Draft DCRP studio report.

WEEK 14 FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

April 27 **Student Presentations**

In the last week of the semester, we turn back to you (the students) to hear how your research design and thinking has evolved as a result of (or in spite of) this highly interdisciplinary interaction. Be prepared to share three clearly articulated research questions or hypotheses, and a justification for the kinds of research methods you will use to address them. This will also provide the opportunity to present research approaches/domains that you are using that were not covered in the class. These presentations may go into the reading week, if necessary.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS AND GRADING

It is expected that students attend class regularly, read carefully the readings before each class meeting, and actively participate in the class discussions of the assigned readings. (20% of final grade)

Students are expected to write a weekly commentary (not to exceed 1,000 words). Commentaries are to be submitted to the discussion section on the course website by 5 PM on Tuesdays, and you are expected to have read your classmates commentaries before each class. Commentaries are meant to be practice for developing a useful academic skill—writing a paper or book review—and will be modeled after this style of document. The **first** part of the write-up focuses on the key claims, methods, and methodologies of the weekly readings. For weeks with more than one reading, find a common thread, comparison, or argument that conceptually ties these readings together. This should not be your analysis of the readings, but a concise summary. The **second** part of the write-up focuses on your interpretation and analysis of the readings. In this section, you will evaluate the key claims of the articles in relation to the evidence they provide. Here you will both critique the work and raise questions. The **third** part of the commentaries will assess how the material discussed could inform your own research project.
(20% of final grade)

Students are expected to initiate the class discussions a few times during the semester (on TBD assigned dates). To initiate a discussion means to raise a series of questions about the week's readings to guide conversations in class. Students may choose to bring questions in writing with copies for everyone. Additionally, students may bring visual materials that complement/illustrate the cases being analyzed.
(20% of final grade)

Finally, each student will complete a term project, which will be a research proposal that is informed by the multidisciplinary knowledge gained in the class. The deliverable for the term project will be an in-class presentation (with slides) at the end of the semester.
(40% of final grade)

COURSE WEBSITE

BCourses