

Geography 506

Historical Geography of European Urbanization

Syllabus, Spring 2007

Professor Robert Ostergren
Office: 444 Science Hall; 262-2138
Hours: MW 3:45-4:30, or by appt.

PART I. THE MAKING OF URBAN EUROPE

1. *The Classical City: Greek and Roman Foundations (800 BC – 400 AD)*

Read: **Sennett, R.** (1994). The obsessive image: place and time in Hadrian's Rome. Chapter 3 in *Flesh and Stone: the Body and the City in Western Civilization*, pp. 87-123.

2. *The City Reborn: Medieval Towns and Cities (900-1500)*

Read: **Medieval cities "rank and population" table**, available at Learn@UW.
Girouard, M. (1985). "The Texture of Life," Chapter 4 in *Cities and People*, pp. 67-84.
Terlouw, K. (1996). A general perspective on the regional development of Europe from 1300 to 1850. *Journal of Historical Geography* 22(2), pp. 129-146.

3. *The Early Modern City: Renaissance and Baroque Refinements (1500-1800)*

Read: **Renaissance/Baroque "rank and population" table**, available at Learn@UW.
Garrioch, D. (2003). Sounds of the city: the soundscape of early modern European towns. *Urban History*, 30(3), pp. 5-25.
Mumford, L. (1961). Court, Parade and Capital. Chapter 13 in *The City in History*, pp. 375-409.

4. *Modernity and Empire: The Industrial or Victorian City (1800-1914)*

Read: **Industrial era cities “rank and population” table**, available at Learn@UW.
Hohenberg, P.M. & Lees, L.H. (1995), The evolution and control of urban space, Chapter 9 in *The Making of Urban Europe, 1000-1994*, pp. 290-330.
Wagenaar, M. (2000). Townscapes of Power. *GeoJournal* 51, pp. 3-13.

5. Metropolis: Interwar urbanization (1919-1939)

Read: **Interwar cities “rank and population” table**, available at Learn@UW.
Harris, R. (1992). Brief excerpt from the novel *Fatherland*, pp. 24-30, available from Learn@UW.

Hagen, J., & Ostergren, R. (2006). Spectacle, architecture and place at the Nuremberg Party Rallies: projecting a Nazi vision of past, present and future. *Cultural Geographies* 13, pp. 157-181.

Whitehand, J.W.R., & Carr, C.M.H. (1999). England’s interwar suburban landscapes: myth and reality. *Journal of Historical Geography* 25(4), pp. 483-501.

6. Post-war urbanization: Western and Socialist Reconstruction and Development (1945-1990)

Read: **Post-WWII cities “rank and population” table**, available at Learn@UW.

Grava, S. (1993). The urban heritage of the Soviet Regime: The case of Riga, Latvia. *Journal of the American Planning Association* 59:1, pp. 9-30.

Laborde, P. (1994). The spatial evolution of West European Cities, 1950-1990. Chapter 2 in M. Balcksell and A.M. Williams (eds.), *The European Challenge: Geography and Development in the European Community*, pp. 109-125.

FIRST EXAM (March 13)

PART II. A TALE OF SIX CITIES

1. The Three Romes – Classical City, Ecclesiastical City, National Capital

Read: **Rome “map” and “background notes”**, available at Learn@UW.

Agnew, J. (1995). The Eternal City. Chapter 2 in *Rome*, pp. 25-41.

Atkinson, D., & Cosgrove, D. (1998). Urban rhetoric and embodied identities: city, nation and empire at the Vittorio Emanuele II Monument in Rome, 1870-1945. *Annals of the AAG*, 88:1, 28-49.

2. London: Commercial City, Imperial Capital, Green Metropolis

Read: **London “map” and “background notes”**, available at Learn@UW.

Keene, D. (2001). Issues of water in medieval London to c. 1300. *Urban History* 28(2), pp. 161-179.

Smith, T. (1999). “A grand work of noble conception: the Victoria Memorial and imperial London”, in F. Driver and D. Gilbert (eds.), *Imperial Cities: Landscape, Display and Identity*, pp. 21-39.

3. Paris: Medieval Warren to City of Light

Read: **Paris “map” and “background notes”**, available at Learn@UW.

Gallois, L. (1923). The Origin and Growth of Paris. *Geographical Review*, 13, 345-367.

Hall, P. (1998). The city of perpetual works. Chapter 24 in *Cities in Civilization*, pp. 706-745.

4. Berlin: “Ghosts of the Past” – Sandpit of the Holy Roman Empire, Imperial Capital, Decadent Metropolis, Capital of the Third Reich, Divided City

Read: **Berlin “map” and “background notes”**, available at Learn@UW.

Stangl, P. (2006). Restoring Berlin’s Unter den Linden: ideology, world view, place and space. *Journal of Historical Geography* 32, pp. 352-376.

Schlör, J. (2006). ‘It has to go away, but at the same time it has to be kept’: the Berlin Wall and the making of an urban icon. *Urban History* 33(1), pp. 85-105.

5. Moscow: Third Rome, Imperial Capital, Socialist Metropolis

Read: **Moscow “map” and “background notes”**, available at Learn@UW.

Gritsai, O., & van der Wusten, H. (2000). Moscow and St. Petersburg, a sequence of capitals, a tale of two cities. *GeoJournal* 51, 33-45.

Sidarov, D. (2000). National monumentalization and the politics of scale: The resurrections of the Cathedral of Christ the Saviour. *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 90:3, pp 548-572.

6. Istanbul (not Constantinople)

Read: **Istanbul “map” and “background notes”**, available at Learn@UW.

Girouard, M. (1985). “The Revival of the West,” Chapter 1 in *Cities and People*, pp. 3-14.

Mills, A. (2005). Reading narratives of city landscapes: nationalism, minority history, and cultural identity in Istanbul. *Geographical Review* 95(3), pp. 441-461.

SECOND EXAM (May 8)

Course Requirements

- Readings:**
- 1) Selected articles and book chapters available on-line. The readings are of different types. Some are purely to provide background information. Others are discussion pieces, and will be used as such in class. All of the readings should receive comment in your journals (see evaluation #2 below). As we go along, I will alert you as to how we will use each of the readings in class, and by when you should have them read.
 - 2) Downloadable city “rank and population” tables for the first half of the course; and city “maps” and “background notes” for the second half of the course. Available at Learn@UW. Please bring copies to class on designated days.

- Evaluation:**
- 1) Two exams, one at midterm (Mar. 13) and the other on the last day of class (May 8). The exams are non-cumulative, open notes and book, and each worth one-third of your grade. They will require you to write essays, and possibly respond to short answer questions. Some indication of potential essay questions, if not the actual questions, will be made available in advance of the exam date.
 - 2) You must complete a journal recording your thoughts about and reactions to weekly classroom lectures and discussions, as well as assigned readings. Be sure to include the readings!!! Be as analytical as possible. Pose questions, make comparisons and observations, and draw conclusions. I have some good examples of journals written for previous offerings of the course should you care to see some. Your journal should be submitted to me for feedback after 5 weeks of class (Feb. 27); the final submission of your journal (worth one-third of your grade) is due at the end of the 15th week of classes (May 8).

PowerPoint Slides: Slides shown in class will be made available in .pdf format as a study aid during the week following each class session. The slides may be accessed through Learn@UW.

Grads and Honors Students: Please see me about additional requirements.