

**History 3541 / Urban Studies 3541:
History of Urban America, Spring 2017**

MWF 10:10 to 11:00, Laurel Hall # 106

Instructor: Prof. Peter C. Baldwin (pbaldwin@uconn.edu)
Office Hours (235 Wood Hall): Wednesdays, 3:30 to 4:30 and by appointment
TA: Britney Murphy (britney.murphy@uconn.edu)

Course Objectives

To study the social, cultural, economic, and spatial changes that American cities underwent in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The course is also intended to help students improve their skills in reading historical sources and writing essays.

Assignments and Course Grades

There will be three essays (4 pages each), two midterm exams, a semi-cumulative final exam, and eleven homework assignments. Grades will be calculated to reflect each student's best achievements, as follows:

Best essay	25%
Second best essay	15%
Best midterm	15%
Second best midterm or third paper*	10%
Best eight short assignments	20%
Final exam	15%
*whichever grade is highest	TOTAL: 100%

Format of Tests

The **two midterm examinations** may include any or all of the following types of short questions: multiple choice, matching, true/false, and "long identification." Long identification questions will ask you to identify a term and discuss its significance in American urban history. The **final examination** will include a **cumulative essay** and the same sorts of short questions.

Ground Rules

- Please turn off all electronic devices during class. Class time is not to be used for talking on the phone, texting, playing games, listening to music, or using your computer in any way. Laptops have proven to be distractions in the classroom. If you feel that unusual circumstances require you to use your computer to take notes, please discuss the matter with me in advance; I would like to see supporting documentation from the Center for Students with Disabilities stating that you are incapable of taking notes by hand. If I have to remind you of this expectation, you can be confident that your grade is dropping; if you persist, you will be asked to leave.
- All students are required to submit their written work on time. Students who encounter an emergency that prevents them from submitting an assignment on time are required to discuss the matter with Prof. Baldwin in advance, if at all possible, or to notify me by voice mail (486-3854). Students who submit late work without advance permission will be penalized. For each weekday that an assignment is late, the grade will be reduced by a third of a grade (for instance from an A- to a B+).
- Homeworks are due at class time and will not be accepted late without special arrangement. No papers will be accepted more than a week late without prior arrangement. All assignments must be submitted to me in person (not by e-mail or in my mailbox), except by special arrangement.
- Daily attendance is strongly encouraged but not required. Students are expected to keep up with the material presented in class regardless of whether they miss a day. If you know that you will be absent, try to arrange with someone else to take notes.
- Students are expected to participate regularly, actively, and constructively in class discussions. Students will receive extra credit for participation only if they express informed judgments and engage with ideas raised by other class members.
- Students will be graded on the best eight of their eleven homeworks. They will be graded for "full credit" (2 points), or "half credit" (1 point). Grades will be as follows (16 points=A; 15=A-; 14=B+; 13= B; 12= B-;11=C; 10=D).
- Punctuality is important and expected. By arriving late, you cause a distraction for everybody. Please do not enter the room if you are more than a couple minutes late. If I have to remind you of this rule, your grade is probably dropping.
- Please don't wander out for a "break" during class. It's distracting. If you have to leave the room, please take all your belongings with you and do not return. If I have to remind you of this rule, you can be confident that your course grade is dropping.
- Drinks and small snacks are OK, but please don't eat meals in class.
- Students are expected to treat everyone in the room with courtesy. They are expected to be attentive and respectful. Language or behavior that demeans or harasses other students will not be tolerated.
- Plagiarism and cheating will not be tolerated. Plagiarism is the use of the ideas, organization, or words of another writer without giving proper credit. Students must produce their own, original work for this course. **Any student found to have committed a serious act of plagiarism or cheating will fail the course.** I take this requirement very seriously and I actively hunt for plagiarism. If I catch you, I will not care about any excuses. Don't plagiarize! It's not worth the risk.

Class Schedule

Students should read each assignment before the scheduled date, so that we may discuss it in class. A system of abbreviation is used to indicate readings from the textbooks: "MP Essay 2.1" means *Major Problems in American Urban and Suburban History*, Chapter 2, Essay 1 (the essay by Nash); "EAUS 1" means *Evolution of American Urban Society*, chapter 1. EAUS readings are recommended but not required; they are useful if you have missed a class, and particularly helpful in preparing for tests.

	Date	Reading	Assessment	Lecture/Discussion
(before 1783)	Wed., 1/18			Introduction
	Fri., 1/20	[EAUS 1]		Spanish & French
	Mon., 1/23	Lynch on HuskyCT	Map Project	English & Dutch
	Wed., 1/25	MP, Doc. 2.4 and 3.1, Essays 2.1 & 3.1 (Nash & Thompson).		Life in Colonial Seaports
	Fri., 1/27	MP, Doc. 3.2 (Quincy)		Revolution
(1783-1825)	Mon., 1/30	MP, Docs. 3.3 & 3.4, and Essay 3.2 (Verter).	Homework 2	Problems of Social Order
	Wed., 2/1	MP, Doc. 3.5 (Evans). [EAUS 2].		River Cities of the West
	Fri., 2/3	MP, Doc. 4.1, Essay 4.2 (Hirsch). [EAUS 3]		Early Industrialization
	Mon. 2/6	MP, Docs. 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, and Essay 4.1 (Cronon); additional items on HuskyCT	Homework 3	Canals and Railroads
(1825-1875)	Wed., 2/8	McNeur, <i>Taming Manhattan</i> , intro., chaps. 1 & 3.		Irish immigrants
	Fri., 2/10	Readings on HuskyCT; MP Essay 5.1 (Kelman).	Homework 4	Filth and Disease
	Mon., 2/13		PAPER #1	Slavery in Southern cities
	Wed., 2/15	MP, Docs. 6.1 & 6.2; essays 6.1 & 6.2 (Stansell & Jackson)		Geography of Class
	Fri., 2/17	McNeur, <i>Taming Manhattan</i> , chap. 5; readings on Husky CT	Homework 5	Parks
	Mon., 2/20		MIDTERM #1	
	Wed, 2/22	[EAUS 4]		The Streetcar City
(1875-1925)	Fri., 2/24			Class Conflict
	Mon., 2/27	MP, Doc. 6.4; Pullman readings on HuskyCT	Homework 6	Pullman
	Wed, 3/1	MP, Docs. 7.1 – 7.3, Essays 10.1 & 10.2 (Bigott & Barrett). [EAUS 5]		European Immigration
	Fri., 3/3	[EAUS 6]		Boss Politics
	Mon., 3/6	MP Docs. 6.6 (Riis) and 6.7 (Addams)		Progressive Reform
	Wed., 3/8			Building the Modern City
	Fri., 3/10	Zelizer essay and other auto readings on HuskyCT. [EAUS 7]	Homework 7	Automobiles
		SPRING BREAK; Start reading Boyle, <i>Arc of Justice</i>		SPRING BREAK
	Mon. 3/20	Read Boyle this week		Suburban Independence
	Wed., 3/22	Continue Boyle		The Great Migration
(1925-1975)	Fri., 3/24	Continue Boyle ; MP, Docs. 7.4 - 7.6.	Homework 8	Rising living standards
	Mon., 3/27	Cohen chapter via HuskyCT	PAPER # 2	The Great Depression
	Wed., 3/29		MIDTERM # 2	
	Fri., 3/31	MP, Doc. 10.7; Ehrenhalt via HuskyCT. [EAUS 8]		The Postwar Metropolis
	Mon., 4/3	MP, Docs. 13.1 & 13.2; suburban readings on HuskyCT	Homework 9	Postwar Suburbia
	Wed., 4/5	MP, Doc. 12.3, Essay 12.2 (O'Connor); start Flint, <i>Wrestling with Moses</i>		Urban renewal
	Fri., 4/7	MP, Essay 12.1 (Hirsch)		The "Projects"
(1975-present)	Mon., 4/10	Finish Flint, <i>Wrestling with Moses</i>	Homework 10	Citizen Resistance
	Wed., 4/12	[EAUS 9]	PAPER # 3	Sunbelt Cities
	Fri., 4/14	MP, Docs. 14.1-14.4, Essay 14.1 (Sugrue)		Deindustrialization
	Mon., 4/17	MP, Docs. 12.4 & 15.1, Essay 15.1 (Podhoretz)		"Law and Order"
	Wed., 4/19			New Immigrants
	Fri., 4/21	MP, Doc. 15.4 (Duany); Gentrification readings on Husky CT	Homework 11	Gentrification
	Mon. 4/24	MP, Docs. 13.3, 13.4, 13.5. [EAUS 10]		Postsuburban Landscape
	Wed., 4/26	Readings TBA		New Urbanism
Fri., 4/28	Readings TBA		Shrinking the Footprint	