



COURSE DATA

Data Subject	
Code	33791
Name	Urban Spaces
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. Period year
1318 - Degree in Geography and the Environment	Faculty of Geography and History	2 Second term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1318 - Degree in Geography and the Environment	601 - Urban spaces	Obligatory

Coordination

Name	Department
BOIRA MAIQUES, JOSEP VICENT	195 - Geography
PEÑARRUBIA ZARAGOZA, MARIA PILAR	195 - Geography

SUMMARY

The urbanization in all its forms is becoming one of the most remarkable processes of the century. For the first time in history, there are more people living in urban areas than in rural. At the time, the city appears as an economic engine of the countries and regions and melting pot of social movements, reformers and revolutionaries of all kinds. In this course the fundamental definitions of contemporary urban spaces are reviewed, analyzing the origin of the city in history, the relationship between different cities to happen systems and urban form. Also studied the different ways in which urban spaces are presented to the world, with focus on three themes: the emergence of new urban forms (megacities, city-regions), unfair cities based on skin color, gender or the origin and the social movements that have the urban space as a fundamental means of action.



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

No prerequisites

OUTCOMES

1318 - Degree in Geography and the Environment

- Skills in analysis and synthesis.
- Comunicación oral y escrita en la lengua propia y conocimiento de una lengua extranjera.
- Capacidad de trabajo individual.
- Capacidad de trabajo en equipos de carácter interdisciplinar.
- Compromiso con valores de igualdad de género, interculturalidad, igualdad de oportunidades y accesibilidad universal de las personas con discapacidad, cultura de la paz y valores democráticos, y solidaridad.
- Aprendizaje autónomo, creatividad, capacidad de iniciativa y espíritu emprendedor. Capacidad de resolver situaciones imprevistas.
- Historia y pensamiento de la disciplina geográfica.
- Geografía humana, económica y social.
- Métodos de información geográfica.
- Metodología y trabajo de campo.
- Dimensiones temporal y espacial en la explicación de los procesos sociales y territoriales y medioambientales.
- Relación y síntesis información territorial transversal.
- Relación del medio natural con la esfera social y humana.
- Diversidad de lugares, regiones y localizaciones y sus relaciones.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

It is expected that the student is able to interpret urban processes and problems of economic and social area at different scales and to have an effective search, selection and processing of information about the significance of the urban phenomenon in the history and recent processes in urban space. Economic, social and environmental causes and consequences of the diffusion processes of urban and metropolitan fact. Industrialization and urbanization: large stages. Economic and social change: the sprawling city. Urban governance: the limits of the present city. The city as a global actor. Urbanization and urban poverty as a geopolitical challenge.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. The urbanization and the study of urban geography

The complexity of the urban phenomenon and the definitions of the city. The city as an object of multidisciplinary study. Evolution of the study of urban geography.

2. The origins and the development of the city in history

Analysis of the different theories about the beginning of the city in the world. The historical role of the city as a motor of economic, social and cultural changes.

3. The spatial construction of the city: urbanism

The location of the city. The composition of the morphology of the city. The forms of urban growth: between tradition and utopia. The social actors that build the city.

4. The systemic dimension of cities

The city and its area of influence. The functional areas. The role of medium-sized cities as articulators of the territory. The urban network, hierarchy of cities and global system of cities. The expansion of urban space and territorial effects.

5. New urban challenges: from the Modern City to the megacity and the global city.

Urban growth and development. The Modern City: Le Corbusier. Telecommunications and transport as articulators of the city and the system of cities. From the megacity to the global city.

6. The global challenge: The sustainability of cities

The quality of life in cities. SDG 11 and environmental problems. New Urban Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP): mobility and the city. Tourism and transformations of urban space.

7. The social dimension: from the right to the city to the gender perspective

Revolutionary theories on the role of the city and urban social movements. Social, ethnic or gender division in the city: the concept of spatial injustice and gentrification. Governance and citizen participation. Urbanism with a gender perspective. The urban landscape: built city, lived city and perceived city. Work in neighborhoods: the new regeneration.



8. Sources, databases and indicators for the knowledge and diagnosis of cities

The complexity of the sources of information. Traditional sources of information: from historical archives to technological data sources of geographic information and Big Data. The democratization of urban data: Open data.

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theory classes	30,00	100
Other activities	15,00	100
Classroom practices	15,00	100
Development of individual work	10,00	0
Study and independent work	20,00	0
Readings supplementary material	20,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	10,00	0
Preparing lectures	30,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The development of the course is divided into two working sessions a week. Some of the issues discussed in theoretical sessions are complemented by documentaries or conferences about related processes and issues . The student will follow complementary activities, both inside and outside the classroom, while they develop the contents of the programm. There will be also have weekly hours for tutoring.

EVALUATION

An evaluation system that combines ongoing effort during the course and a final written test is proposed. During the development of the course the student will practice three types of activities: reading and classroom discussion of material, group tutoring and workshops (up to 4 points). It also will be a final written test consisting of the development of specific aspects of the programm. The final written test may involve up to five points on the overall rating. For both ratings can be weighted, the student must obtain at least four points in the final written test. A point will come from complementary activities or readings.

REFERENCES



Basic

- Capel, H. (2002) La morfología de las ciudades, I. Sociedad y paisaje urbano. Serbal. <http://www.ub.edu/geocrit/LibrosElec/Capel-Capitalismo.htm>
- Capel, H. (2004). La morfología de las ciudades, II. Aedes facere: técnica, cultura y clase social en la construcción de edificios. Ediciones del Serbal.
- Capel, H. (2014). La morfología de las ciudades, III. Agentes urbanos y mercado inmobiliario. Ediciones del Serbal.
- Kaplan, D et al. (2004) *Urban Geography*, Wiley.
- Lefebvre, H. (2017). *El derecho a la ciudad*. Capitán Swing.
- Nel.lo, O. (2001) *Ciutat de Ciutats*. Empúries.
- Rio, J.A. et al. (2022). *El mundo visto de las ciudades*. Tirant Humanidades
- Zoido F., De la Vega, S., Piñeiro, A., Morales, G.; Mas R., Lois, R. y González, J.M. (2013). *Diccionario de urbanismo: Geografía urbana y ordenación del territorio*. Cátedra.

Additional

- Burgel, G. (2012). Historia de la Europa Urbana, VI. La ciudad contemporánea. Desde la Segunda Guerra Mundial hasta nuestros días. Universitat de València.
- González, J.M. y Piñeira, M.J. (2022). Los recientes estudios de geografía urbana en España: tres décadas interpretando la ciudad y los procesos de urbanización (1992-2022). En *La geografía española actual. Estado de la cuestión: aportación española al congreso de la UGI*. París 2022. El tiempo de los geógrafos. Madrid: Comité Español de la Unión Geográfica Internacional, pp. 229-249.
- Harvey, D. (2013). *Ciudades rebeldes*. Akal.
- Soja, E. (2010). *Buscando la justicia espacial*. Tirant lo Blanch Ediciones.