

**WILMINGTON UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES  
COURSE SYLLABUS**

**FACULTY MEMBER:**

**TERM:**

**COURSE TITLE:            URBAN SOCIOLOGY**

**COURSE NUMBER:        SOC 301**

**OFFICE HOURS/METHOD OF CONTACT:**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:** This course will discuss the effects of urbanization on society that have arisen as more and more of the population have moved, and continue to move, to city living. The role of cities in developing and changing society will be examined. Students will discuss the development of cities, problems of city living, and theories of urban development, as well as urban growth, and perceptions of cities as dangerous places.

**COURSE RATIONALE:** Cities are ubiquitous; we take their existence for granted. However, urban living is a relatively recent social development (given the age of our species). Yet it has had the most profound effects on humanity. Because of the impact of urbanization on the environment, social structure, politics, and human experience, exploring into the history and contemplating the future of urban environments and city living will allow students to better participate in decisions effecting their own future.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

**GOAL A:** Learn about basic terminology and concepts used in the study of urban sociology.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- A-1:** Define concepts such as society/ civilization/ city/ suburb/ rural
- A-2:** Become familiar with theoretical models of city growth
- A-3:** Understand the social and environmental pressures leading to complex urban social structures

**GOAL B:** Review the theoretical foundation of humans living in cities.

**Learning Outcomes:** The student will:

- B-1:** Be knowledgeable about the history of American and world cities
- B-2:** Examine historical and current sociological theories relating to urban sociology
- B-3:** Identify the defining features of shock cities, such as Lagos, Nigeria; Mexico City; Cleveland; and Los Angeles.
- B-5:** Identify the defining features of Model Cities
- B-6:** Discuss the failure of centrally planned totalitarian cities

**GOAL C:** Examine the social life in urban spaces and the influence of the urban environment on human behavior.

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**Learning Outcomes:** The student will: