

(GPP 827) Urbanization: Issues and Challenges

Pre-requisites: None

Learning objectives

The world is urbanizing at an ever-faster rate, and much of the change is concentrated in cities of the global south where migration and accelerated flows of global capital are transforming cities into sprawling metropolises extending beyond their formal political boundaries. The course examines the causes and effects of rapid urbanization in developing countries. It also examines both local and transnational forces that drive contemporary urbanization, the course focuses on key issues that emerge in rapidly growing cities of the developing world, ranging from growing income inequality and socio-economic exclusion, environmental challenges and rising violence to fragmented yet sprawling and underserved landscapes that often lack effective institutions for sustainable metropolitan management.

Learning outcomes:

After completing the course, students should be able to:

- Critically analyze urbanization processes and their contribution to economic growth and human wellbeing
- Articulate a wider understanding of cities and the role of urban processes in shaping society.
- Be able to demonstrate how and why different forms of urbanization have emerged, and their implications for society the economy and environment.
- Critically analyze the relationship between planning, property development and urban growth
- Access major sources of information on urbanization.
- Identify the key challenges to urbanization in developing and developed countries.

Course Contents

Understanding urbanization and development in past and present, Regional perspectives on urbanization and development, Urbanization and development: selected policy challenges, Critical analyses of urbanization and development, Major Urbanization challenges and solutions,

Text books

1. Gugler, Josef. "Introduction." In *World Cities beyond the West: Globalization, Development, and Inequality*. New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 2004
2. Hall, P. 1969 *Urban and Regional Planning*, Penguin, Harmondsworth.
3. Storper, M. 2012 *Keys to the City*, Princeton University Press, Princeton.