

# UEP 0252-01: Cities in Space, Place, and Time

*Instructor: Barbara Parmenter*  
*Mon/Wed 4:30-5:45, Barnum 104*

For the full schedule, readings, and assignments see the course web site:  
<https://wikis.uit.tufts.edu/confluence/x/vIk-Ag>

## Course Description

This course will introduce students to the history of US cities and metropolitan regions focusing specifically on the actions of planners and policy-makers and how these actions physically shaped communities and influenced the way we live and work. The focus will be on the US, but students are encouraged to bring in any experience they have with cities in other regions of the world. Because race, ethnicity, class, and immigration/migration issues have been so central to the evolution of our cities and towns, we will pay particular attention to these.

## Course Objectives

This course has both knowledge and skills components. These knowledge and skills are important for professional practice in which planners and policy makers are frequently asked to document the historical context for proposed plans and decisions, and to quickly come up to speed on community issues, concerns, and past activities. In addition, to be a conscientious and visionary practitioner, professionals should strive to have a deep and comprehensive historical understanding of communities and issues within their complex spatial, cultural, demographic, environmental, and socio-economic contexts.

## Knowledge objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students will be able to knowledgeably discuss and document:

- Major trends, events, plans, and policies that have led to changes in US urban and metropolitan growth and decline over the last 120 years and how these have impacted and been influenced by the different communities within these urban regions

- The dynamic nature of increasingly global economic and technological changes that have shaped cities and metropolitan regions over the last two centuries
- The massive movements of people in response to these changes and how these migrations have in turn shaped communities
- The factors that have led to changes in metropolitan population numbers, spatial distribution, and socio-economic composition (race, ethnicity, income, and occupation) within a given metropolitan region
- The struggle for control of political and economic resources between competing groups and centers of power at the local and metropolitan levels
- How this struggle to control resources, particularly land, housing, and jobs, shaped the development of cities and their metropolitan regions
- The nature of class, racial and ethnic conflicts underlying community competition over resources and how these shaped and were shaped by planning/policy responses
- The evolution of planning as a profession in the US and the major influences/turning points of this evolution
- The influence of past policy debates and practices on the contemporary metropolitan landscape and on current policy debates and methods

### **Skills objectives**

Upon conclusion of this course students will be able to:

- Locate, assemble, and chart US historical census data
- Locate and use historical maps and/or aerial photography to compare with current city/metropolitan development
- Use geospatial digital tools to present maps and other information in spatial-historical context (e.g., with Google Earth)
- Access past government planning and policy documents in the student's field of interest, to be able to analyze these within their historical context

UEP Competencies - click [here](#) to see which UEP competencies the course meets.

**Course Grade** The course grade will be based on the following:

- Analyzing an early plan\policy document (25 points)
- Historical mapping assignment (10 points)
- Book review project (25 points)
- Final Project (20 points)

- Online journal discussion of readings (20 points)

Grading will be based on a 100 point scale as follows:

99-100 - A+  
93-98 - A  
90-92 - A-  
88-89 - B+  
83-87 - B  
80-82 - B-  
78-79 - C+  
73-77 - C  
70-72 - C-  
etc.

### Required Text

Jon C. Teaford. 2006. *The Metropolitan Revolution: The Rise of Post-Urban America*. Columbia University Press

The Teaford book can be found at the Tufts Bookstore and is also on 8-hour/overnight reserve at Tisch Library.

Policy on Academic Integrity for Graduate Students Read [the Tufts University's policy on academic integrity for graduate and undergraduate students](#). **Please read this carefully!** You should pay particular attention to how to cite, quote, and paraphrase information, and understand copyright and fair use (Part One, Chapters 1 and 4, and Part Two, Chapter 1). **If you have any questions, please come talk with the instructor or e-mail your questions to her. You will be held to the policies and standards set out in this document!**

Style Guidelines All written work must be produced consistent with the style guidelines of one of the two major style guides used at UEP, *The Chicago Manual of Style* or the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA)*. Both provide clear guidance for citing and referencing other works. Such a skill is essential to avoid unintentional plagiarism. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase their own copy of either manual (the most recent editions are best, but not essential). Note, the instructor recommends the APA style and will be happy to her opinion with you!

**[\\*Course calendar - click here\\*](#)**