

San José State University
College of Social Sciences
ANTH 125, Urban Anthropology, Sec. 01, Spring 2015

Instructor:	Dr. Guadalupe Salazar
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Office Hours:	Monday / Wednesday 7:00 am – 8:15 am
Class Days/Time:	Monday / Wednesday 1:30 pm – 2:45 pm
Classroom:	WSQ 004
Prerequisites:	ANTH 11 or consent from the instructor

Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/guadalupe.salazar>.

Course Description

Urban anthropology is the study of human beings and their cultural institutions in cities. The focus of this 3-unit lecture course will be on urbanization and how large, dense, heterogeneous settlements shape behavior. We will look at the strategies people – both as individuals and in groups – use to cope with the demands posed by urban environments. Themes covered include fieldwork in cities, urban culture, urban structures and institutions, migration and adaptation, globalization and transnationalism. A thread running throughout this course is the concept of community and how it is manifest in urban settings. The approach will be comparative, drawing on research completed in all parts of the world.

Course Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Think critically, especially using comparative frameworks, analyze processes and identify assumptions;
2. Distinguish key characteristics of urban life and culture;
3. Identify and define major themes and key concepts;
4. Recognize and analyze the forces that foster social cohesion and fragmentation in urban environments;

5. Understand the complexities of social life both locally and globally in their communities as they reflect different points of view.

Required Texts / Readings

Textbooks

- 1) Gmelch, Kemper and Zenner (2009) Urban Life: Readings in the Anthropology of the City.
- 2) Stephens (1999) Black Corona: Race and the Politics of Place in an Urban Community. **Available as an ebook from the King Library.**
- 3) Bourgois and Schonberg (2009) Righteous Dopefiend. **Available as an ebook from the King Library.**

The books are available at Spartan Bookstore and Amazon.com. Black Corona and Righteous Dopefiend are available at the King Library in ebook format. PDFs, marked with an asterisk (*) on the syllabus, are available online on my Faculty Web page.

Classroom Protocol / Student Responsibilities

- Please do not use your cell phones or MP3 players for any purpose during class. However, if you are expecting an important call you should notify me so we can make arrangements. Please do not use your computers to take notes during in-class films.
- I have a zero-tolerance policy for cheating and plagiarism; if you cheat or plagiarize you will fail the course! Incidences of cheating or plagiarism will be turned into the academic integrity office. Students are responsible to understanding and adhering to the academic integrity policy.
- If you are absent from class, please ask your fellow students for copies of their notes. If you have further questions, please come to my office hours.

Student Responsibilities

- Download and refer to course materials (syllabus and assignment guides) for detailed guidance.
- If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend an exam, it is your responsibility to contact me immediately by either e-mailing or telephoning me, leaving a message for me in the Anthropology Department office, or by coming by during my office hours.
- **No late papers will be accepted.** Pay attention to due dates and complete your assignments in a timely manner as I will not accept papers past the due date.
- *Only* students with a documented excuse will be able to take a make-up exam or hand in a late assignment.
- Students are responsible for understanding policies about adding, dropping, and incompletes.
- Students are responsible for being aware of assignment due dates, midterm date, and the final exam schedule.

- If you have any concerns about your class performance or comprehension, see me in my office hours or schedule an appointment. I am always willing to help students and I care about whether students are grasping the material and enjoying the class.

Course Assignments and Grading

Midterm – The midterm will ask you to demonstrate your understanding of topics, concepts and arguments covered in the readings and class discussions. More details will be provided closer to the date of the midterm.

Homework Assignments – Students will complete two short homework assignments focusing on the idea of community.

Homework Assignment 1: Meaning of Community

Homework Assignment 2: Community and Identity

Each assignment has a handout with instructions specific to it. Please refer to the syllabus for due dates. *No late submissions accepted.*

Ethnography in the City: Students will work in a group - the size of the group will be determined by class enrollment – on a presentation focusing on urban phenomena. A detailed handout will be distributed in class.

Final: The final is cumulative and will ask you to demonstrate your understanding of topics, concepts and arguments covered in the readings and class discussions. More details will be provided closer to the date of the final.

Grading Distribution

Midterm	50 points	A- to A+ = 186- 200 points
Homework Assignments (2@ 25)	50 points	B- to B+ = 166-185 points
Ethnography in the City	50 points	C- to C+ = 146- 165points
Final	50 points	D- to D+ = 126-145 points
Total	200 points	F = below 125

I assign plus and minus grades at my discretion and use homework assignments and in class participation to adjust marginal grades.

Departmental Goals

Learn about the goals of the anthropology department and how it can benefit your education.

Goals <http://www.sjsu.edu/anthropology/departmentinfo/goals/index.html>

Credit Hours

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

University Policies

Here are some of the basic university policies that students must follow.

General Expectations, Rights and Responsibilities of the Student

As members of the academic community, students accept both the rights and responsibilities incumbent upon all members of the institution. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with SJSU's policies and practices pertaining to the procedures to follow if and when questions or concerns about a class arises. See [University Policy S90-5](#) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S90-5.pdf>. More detailed information on a variety of related topics is available in the [SJSU catalog](#), at <http://info.sjsu.edu/web-dbgen/narr/catalog/rec-12234.12506.html>. In general, it is recommended that students begin by seeking clarification or discussing concerns with their instructor. If such conversation is not possible, or if it does not serve to address the issue, it is recommended that the student contact the Department Chair as a next step.

Dropping and Adding

Find the procedures and deadlines for adding and dropping classes.

Catalog Policies <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>.

Add/drop deadlines http://www.sjsu.edu/provost/services/academic_calendars/

Late Drop Policy <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>

Consent for Recording of Class and Public Sharing of Instructor Material

All students must obtain the instructor's permission if they wish to record lectures or distribute materials from the class.

University Policy S12-7 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S12-7.pdf>

Academic integrity

Learn about the importance of academic honesty and the consequences if it is violated.

University Academic Integrity Policy S07-2 <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/docs/S07-2.pdf>

Student Conduct and Ethical Development website <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>

Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act

Here are guidelines to request any course adaptations or accommodations you might need.

Presidential Directive 97-03 http://www.sjsu.edu/president/docs/directives/PD_1997-03.pdf

Resources

The university provides resources that can help you succeed academically. Just look here.

[Academic Success Center](http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/) <http://www.sjsu.edu/at/asc/>

[Peer Connections website](http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu) <http://peerconnections.sjsu.edu>

[Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter) <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter>

[Counseling Services website](http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling) <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling>

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Course Schedule

Students will be informed about changes to the schedule ahead of time. Students are responsible for noting those changes.

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
2	Jan. 26	Course Introduction
	Jan. 28	Urban Fieldwork Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 1, Anthropological Fieldwork in Cities Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 2, Networks, Neighborhoods and Markets: Fieldwork in Tokyo
3	Feb. 2	Anthropologists in Cities Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 3, Nomads in the City: Studying Irish Travellers Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 4, Moscow Encounters: Ethnography in a Global Urban Village
	Feb. 4	Classroom Activity: Anthropology in the city
4	Feb. 9	Urban Culture Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 7, Urbanism as a Way of Life Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 8, Urban Danger: Life in a Neighborhood of Strangers Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 9, The Edge and the Center: Gated Communities and the Discourse of Urban Fear
	Feb. 11	Video: Silent Witness: The Kitty Genovese Murder (XD1086; 43 min) Homework Assignment 1: Meaning of Community
5	Feb. 16	Urban Communities Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 10, Rethinking Camps: Palestinian Refugees in Damascus Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 11, In Motion: Transportation and Knowledge in São Paulo Video: <i>Bus 174</i>
	Feb. 18	Read: Fortified Enclaves: The New Urban Segregation* Video: <i>Bus 174 (cont'd)</i>
6	Feb. 23	Myths about the Urban Poor Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 12, The Culture of Poverty Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 13, How Urban Ethnography Counters Myths about

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Feb. 25	the Poor Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 14, Office Work and the Crack Alternative Among Puerto Rican Drug Dealers in East Harlem
7	Mar. 2 Mar. 4	Urban Structures and Institutions Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 15, The View from the Desk: Addressing Homelessness and the Homeless in Dallas Read: G, K, & Z, Ch.16, Gangs, Poverty and the Future Read: Fortress L.A.*
8	Mar. 9 Mar. 11	Urban Structures and Institutions Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 17, Civic Ecology, Urban Elders, and New York City's Community Garden Movement Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 18, Neighbors and Kin in Chinese Cities Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 19, Caste, Politics, and Criminality in Urban India Homework Assignment 2: Community and Identity
9	Mar. 16 Mar. 18	MIDTERM TBA
10	Mar. 23 & Mar. 27	SPRING BREAK
11	Mar. 30 Apr. 1	Migration and Adaptation Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 20, The Extended Community: Migration and Transformation in Tzintzuntzan, Mexico Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 21, A West Indian Life in Britain Read: Bourgois and Schonberg, Introduction & Ch. 1
12	Apr. 6 Apr. 8	Migration and Adaptation Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 22, First Nations Migration: The Case of Western Canada Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 23, Japanese Brazilian Ethnic Return Migration Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 24, Cityward Migration in Comparative Perspective Read: Holmes, An Ethnographic Study of the Social Context of Migrant Health in the United States Read: Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 2 & 3
13	Apr. 13 Apr. 15	Globalization and Transnationalism Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 25, Transnationalism, Old and New: New York Immigrants Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 26, From Cuenca, Ecuador to New York, USA: Families and Transnational Lives Read: Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 4 & 5
14	Apr. 20	Globalization and Transnationalism Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 27, Global Transactions: Sudanese Refugees Sending Money Home Read: G, K, & Z, Ch. 28, Hyderabad: Continuities and Transformations Read: Read: G, K, & Z, Ch 29, Beyond Urban and Rural Communities in the 21 st Century

Week	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines
	Apr. 22	Read: Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 6 & 7
15	Apr. 27	Urban Politics, Governance and Economics Read: Place and Production in the Global Economy Read: Cities and Uneven Economic Development Video: <i>Dark Days</i>
	Apr. 29	Video: <i>Dark Days</i> (cont'd)
16	May 4	The Future of the City Read: Technopoles: Mines and Foundries of the Informational Economy* Read: The Reconstruction of Social Meaning in the Space of Flows
	May 6	Read: Bourgois and Schonberg, Ch. 8, 9, Conclusion
17	May 11	Presentations
	May 13	Presentations
Final Exam	Weds. May 20	12:15 pm – 2:30 pm WSQ 004