

WWS 540 / SOC 575
URBANIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT
Thursday, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Spring 2005

Instructor: A. Portes

This seminar examines the origins, types, and characteristics of cities in less developed countries and the ways in which patterns of urbanization interact with policies to promote economic growth and social equity.

Readings and class discussions are divided in three parts: A) A history of urbanization and its relationship with capitalist development; B) An analysis of contemporary urban systems in the Third World, demographic patterns, and the social structure of large cities; C) A review of the literature on the informal economy and the situation and outlooks of the urban poor.

Special topics to be examined include the origins and types of shantytowns, the composition and behavior of urban elites, and the relationship of the informal sector to neoliberal adjustment policies.

Final grades will be determined as follows:

1/3 In-class examination

1/3 Class presentation, report, and participation

1/3 Take-home final examination (including city essay)

Office Hours: By appointment.

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Bibliography

Giovanni Arrighi, *The Long Twentieth Century*, 1994

John Cross, *Informal Politics: Street Vendors and the State in Mexico City*, 1998

Susan Eckstein and Timothy Wickham-Crowley, *Struggles for Social Rights in Latin America*, 2003

Peter Evans, *Embedded Autonomy: States and Social Transformation*, 1995

Gary Gereffi and Miguel Korzeniewicz, *Commodity Chains and Global Capitalism*, 1994

Jose Itzigsohn, *Developing Poverty*, 2000

Henri Pirenne, *Medieval Cities*, 1970

Alejandro Portes, Manuel Castells, and Lauren Benton, *The Informal Economy: Studies in Advanced and Less Developed Countries*, 1989

Alejandro Portes, Carlos Dore, and Patricia Landolt, *The Urban Caribbean: Transition to the New Global Economy*, 1997

Alejandro Portes and Kelly Hoffman, "Latin American Class Structures: Their Composition and Change during the Neoliberal Era", *Latin American Research Review*, 2003

Saskia Sassen, *The Global City*, 2001

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<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
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Unit I: Urbanization and Capitalist Development in Historical Perspective

1 st : January 31 – February 6	The Rise of Cities	Pirenne, book
2 nd : February 7 – 13	The Transition from Feudalism to Capitalism	Arrighi, Chapters 1-2; Gereffi and Korzeniewicz, Chapter 2.
3 rd : February 14 – 20	Capitalism and Urbanization in the Nineteenth Century	Arrighi, Chapters 3-4

Unit II: Urbanization in Modern Advanced Capitalism
CLASS SEMINAR DISCUSSIONS BEGIN

4 th : February 21 – 27	The American Century: Post-Industrial Capitalism and the City	Sassen, Part One; Gereffi and Korzeniewicz, Chapters. 5, 6, 11.
5 th : February 28 – March 6	The Global City	Sassen, Chapters 5-7, 9; Gereffi and Korzeniewicz, Chapters 12, 14, 15.

6th: March 7 – 13 **MID-TERM EXAMINATION**

March 14 – 20 **SPRING RECESS**

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<u>Week</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Readings</u>
<i>Unit III: Development and Labor Markets in the Third World</i>		
7 th : March 21 – 27	National Development in the Contemporary World	Evans, Chapters 1-5, 8, 10
8 th : March 28 – April 3	The Informal Sector	Portes, Castells, and Benton, Chapters 1, 7, 9, 10, 11, Conclusion.
9 th : April 4 – 10	The Politics of Urban Poverty	Cross, Chapters 1-3, 5, 8

Unit IV: Urbanization and Neoliberalism in Latin America

10 th : April 11 – 17	The Caribbean under Structural Adjustment	Portes, Dore-Cabral, and Landolt, Chapters 2, 4, 6-8
11 th : April 18 – 24	Models of Development, Labor Markets, and the Class Structure	Portes and Hoffman, article; Itzigsohn, Chapters 1-3, 5-6.
12 th : April 25 – May 1	Urban Struggles under Neoliberal Adjustment	Eckstein and Wickham-Crowley, Chapters 1, 5-7.

**FINAL EXAMINATION
DISTRIBUTED**

REPORTS DUE