SOC 3707 - Urban Sociology

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 43999,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Norman Rose

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Dr. Norman Rose
Instructor Professional Qualifications: Ph.D.
Instructor Office Location: virtual or by appointment
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Course Description

3707. Urban Sociology. A comparative study of cities of pre-industrial and industrial societies, historical and contemporary. The process of urbanization and changing urban structure and functions. Prereq.: C or better in either SOC 1500 or GEOG 2640. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	The New Urban Sociology, Mark Gottdiener, Randolph Hohle, Colby King. Routledge, 2019	Mark Gottdiener, Randolph Hohle, Colby King.	
Required	Legacy Cities: Continuity and Change Amid Decline and Revival	J. Rosie Tighe and Stephanie Ryberg-Webster, Eds.	
Required	Additional Postings to Blackboard		

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 1 Tighe, et al Chapter 2	Concepts of urban sociology, What is a legacy city?	Review the syllabus, email questions to the instructor Additional Reading: Excerpt from Louis Mumford, The City in History
8/31	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 2	The evolution of urban society	Additional Reading: The Absence of Towns in 17th Century Virginia Ungraded Discussion: Introduce yourself to the class, identify your paper or PowerPoint topic
9/7	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 2	Youngstown's Case Study	First Graded Discussion
9/14	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 9 Tighe, et al Chapter 4 Youngstown NCR	Neighborhood conditions and preservation	Additional Reading: The Model Cities Program
9/21	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 10 Tighe, et al Chapters 5 and 10	Housing	Additional Reading: The Revitalization of Harrison West
9/28	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 8 Tighe, et al Chapter 7	Social problems of the urban environment	Second Graded Discussion

10/5	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 3 Tighe, et al Chapter 1	Contemporary urban sociology	Midterm Exam
10/12	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 5 Tighe, et al Chapter 14	Impacts of suburban sprawl and regional perspectives	Additional Reading Assignment: Urban Appalachians
10/19	Gottdiener, et al Chapters 6 and 7	Urbanization in the developed and developing world	Additional Reading Assignment: At Day's Close
10/26	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 11	Metro planning and transit-oriented development	Additional Reading Assignment: The Color of Law
11/2	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 12	Urban social policy in the United States	Third Graded Discussion
11/9	Tighe, et al Chapter 9	Vacancy and Abandonment in a Legacy City	Additional Reading Assignment: Excerpt from The Jungle
11/16	Tighe, et al Chapters 8 and 11	The human toll: intersections of race, ethnicity, and class in legacy cities	Additional Reading Assignment: Hillbillies and the color line in Detroit Paper or PowerPoint due- Comment on at least two (Comments are ungraded)
11/23	Tighe, et al Chapters 6 and 12	Thanksgiving week; university closed	Enjoy the Holiday!
11/30	Gottdiener, et al Chapter 13	Reimagining our urban footprint and a sustainable future	Fourth Graded Discussion
12/7	Tighe Conclusion	Land banking: the new front in the battle against blight and abandonment	Final Exam Due 11:59 pm Dec. 12 Please fill out the Coure Evaluation Thanks for taking my UrbanSociologty Class

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.