

Urbanisation and Transformation of the Territory

Code: 104237
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
2503710 Geography, Environmental Management and Spatial Planning	FB	1	2

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: catalan (cat)
Some groups entirely in English: No
Some groups entirely in Catalan: Yes
Some groups entirely in Spanish: No

Prerequisites

None requirements neither previous skills/knowledge required.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Main goals are referred to three main aspects defining the urbanization process and the territorial transformations that such a process has produced both historically and at the present moment:

- Description, explanation and analysis of the urbanization process considering different historical moments and also paying attention to the situation nowadays.
- General explanation of the relationships between the urbanization process and the different kind of territorial transformation. Different type of information based on economic, technological, political, social and cultural aspects are proposed.
- Introduction to the main processus of territorial change in regard with the city and the urban/metropolitan spaces at the present moment, specially considering the results and consequences of these dynamics of territorial change globally.

Competences

- Analyse and understand geographical dynamics (sociodemographics, geo-economics and environmental) on different territorial scales.
- Critically analyse the relationship between society and the region applying the conceptual and theoretical framework of geography.
- Students must be capable of collecting and interpreting relevant data (usually within their area of study) in order to make statements that reflect social, scientific or ethical relevant issues.
- Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
- Students must develop the necessary learning skills to undertake further training with a high degree of autonomy.
- Students must have and understand knowledge of an area of study built on the basis of general secondary education, and while it relies on some advanced textbooks it also includes some aspects coming from the forefront of its field of study.

- Systematically analyse and interpret environmental, demographic, urban and landscape elements.

Learning Outcomes

1. Compare and contrast major geographical information.
2. Consider problems of inequality, population distribution and urbanisation in the world, among other things.
3. Contrasting and comparing several interpretations of geographical maps.
4. Distinguish between the main causes and consequences of the urbanisation process.
5. Identifying the main ideas of a related text and drawing a diagram.
6. Presenting the specific concepts of Geography.
7. Producing an individual work that specifies the work plan and timing of activities.
8. Students must be capable of communicating information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialised and non-specialised audiences.
9. Use the main concepts related to territory and their consequences.

Content

- The transformation of territory: different spatial dynamics and the process of urbanization.
- The concept of 'Anthropocene': the consequences of territorial transformations resulting from the anthropization of the environment and the urbanization process and the globalization of society and economy.
- The process of urbanization: main definitions and historical overview in regard with the spatial change associated to the urban growth and expansion (three different historical moments).
- The mechanisms defining the process of urbanization and the transformation of territory.
- From the 'urbanization' to the 'metropolization': the regional dispersed urbanization.
- The future of urbanization: main risks and challenges of the urbanization process transforming territory.

Methodology

- Lectures.
- Presentation and discussion of audiovisual materials (documentaries and films).
- Reading books and journal academic articles.
- Discussions on basic issues in regard with the materia.
- Practical exercises and essays.

Annotation: Within the schedule set by the centre or degree programme, 15 minutes of one class will be reserved for students to evaluate their lecturers and their courses or modules through questionnaires.

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures	21	0.84	1, 4, 6, 2, 9
Presentation of audiovisual documents and materials	25	1	4, 2, 9

Type: Supervised

Preparing essays, discussions and presentations	22	0.88	5, 8, 9
Type: Autonomous			
Preparing exercises and practical essays	20	0.8	4, 7, 5, 9
Reading journals articles and books	30	1.2	1, 4, 5, 9
Study in regard with the written exam	30	1.2	1, 4, 5, 9

Assessment

Evaluation

Information about the assignments and the written exam:

Assignment 1. Handing an essay on the analysis of different territories transformed.

Assignment 2. Exercises dossier (different exercises proposed by the professor during the course will be presented configuring one single document).

Exam. Written exam in regard of the course material (basic and complementary bibliography, thematic files provided by the instructor on a weekly basis and digital resources provided during the course).

Important notes:

- Handing assignments 1 and 2 is required before the exam.
- Assistance to a minimum amount of 75% of the tuition sessions will be considered as a positive asset in regard with the final evaluation.
- The written essay (exam) has a very remarkable importance since is devoted to evaluate the performance of the student in regard with the thematic files and the digital resources provided by the instructor and it directly evaluates the knowledge effectively acquired by the student when considering the contents of the course. This is to say, a minimum qualification of '5' will be required in regard with successfully pass the materia.

Evaluation criteria

- Rigor and clarity in regard with the exposition of statements in regard with the concepts and materials considered for the evaluation of the materia.
- Capability for proposing examples directly related with the bibliography of the course and other additional materials proposed by the professor.
- Initiative in regard with completing the materials provided by the professor taking advantage of the own individual research.

Recuperation

- The recuperation of the materia considers the improvement of the evaluation test also based on the use of the bibliography of the course and the rest of compulsory materials provided by the professor.
- Having presented the assignments 1 and 2 is required for recuperation.

- The qualification 'No avaluable' is only possible in the case of not having presented any assignment or the exam. In the case of presenting some of the assignments or the exam represents not having the right to apply for the 'No avaluable' qualification. Només es podrà tenir una qualificació de "no avaluable".

La copia o plagi de material, tant en el cas de treballs com en el cas dels exàmens, constitueixen un delicte que serà sancionat amb un zero a l'activitat. En cas de reincidència es suspendrà tota l'assignatura. Recordem que es considera "còpia" un treball que reproduceix tot o gran part del treball d'un/a altre/a company/a. "Plagi" és el fet de presentar tot o part d'un text d'un autor com a propi, sense citar les fonts, siguin en paper o en format digital. Vegeu documentació de la UAB sobre "plagi" a: http://wuster.uab.es/web_argumenta_obert/unit_20/sot_2_01.html

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Books bibliographical review or alternative research work	30%	0	0	1, 5, 9
Course exercises rapport	35%	0	0	1, 3, 4, 7, 6, 5, 8, 9
Written exam	35%	2	0.08	1, 4, 5, 2, 9

Bibliography

The 'anthropization' global process: key issues for a better understanding of the territorial transformations today

George, Rose (2014) *90% de todo. La industria invisible que te viste, te llena el depósito de gasolina y pone comida en tu plato*. Capitan Swing Ed.

Nel-lo, Oriol; Mele, Renata (eds. 2016) *Cities in the 21st Century*. Routledge: London.

Turiel, Antonio (2020) *Petrocalipsis. Crisis energética global y cómo (no) la vamos a solucionar*. Ed. Alfabeto.

The process of urbanization and the urban transformation

Dupuy, Gabriel (1998) *El urbanismo de las redes*. Oikos-Tau.

Hall, Peter (2002) *Ciudades del mañana. Historia del urbanismo en el siglo XX*. La Estrella Polar.

Muñoz, Francesc (2010)) "La densidad urbana: de la ciudad de concentración al campo urbanizado". A Fuster Sobrepere, Joan (ed.) *La agenda Cerdà. Construyendo la Barcelona metropolitana* (75-114). Barcelona: Ajuntament de Barcelona/Lunwerg.

Nel-lo, Oriol; Muñoz, Francesc (2004). "El proceso de urbanización". A Romero, Joan (coord.) *Geografía Humana. Procesos, riesgos e incertidumbres en un mundo globalizado* (255-332). Barcelona: Ariel.

Urbanization and the on-going urban-territorial transformations at the present moment

Graham, Stephen (2003) *The Cybercities Reader*. Routledge.

Guifreu, Judit; Manu Fernández (dir. 2016) *La utilització temporal dels buits urbans*. Col·lecció 'Estudis'. Sèrie Urbanisme i Habitatge. Diputació de Barcelona.

Ivancic, Aleksandar (2010) *Energyscapes*. Gustau Gili: Barcelona.

Muñoz, Francesc (2008) *Urbanización: paisajes comunes, lugares globales*. Gustau Gili, Barcelona.

Muñoz, Francesc (coord. 2011) *Estratègies vers la ciutat de baixa densitat. De la contenció a la gestió*. Col·lecció 'Estudis', 9. Diputació de Barcelona.

World Cities Report (2016). *Urbanization and Development. Emerging Futures*. UNHABITAT.

World Cities Report (2020). *The Value of Sustainable Urbanization*. UNHABITAT.

Software

Only basic software knowledge is required (word; excel; ppt files or similar).