

CRP 105 - ORIGINS OF URBANISM AND THE PROCESS OF URBANIZATION

Course Code:	1210105
METU Credit (Theoretical-Laboratory hours/week):	3(3-0)
ECTS Credit:	4.0
Department:	City And Regional Planning
Language of Instruction:	English
Level of Study:	Undergraduate
Course Coordinator:	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nil Uzun
Offered Semester:	Fall Semesters.

Course Objective

This must course for the first year Urban and Regional Planning students aims to explore the main dynamics that played an important role in the development of cities in the course of the history of urbanization. By focusing on the diverse economic dynamics and periods of production that lead to diverse spatial dynamics and urbanization processes, development of cities in general, and urban spatial development in particular is going to be tackled in this course. Comparative cases will be provided to display how similar and different dynamics of urbanization have been triggered by similar forces and processes throughout the history in diverse periods namely prehistory, pre-industrial era, modernity and industrial capitalism, Fordism and post-Fordist era and period of neoliberal globalization.

Course Content

The main questions this course aims to tackle are: Why are cities are established in specific locations? What are the common dynamics and processes that triggered the location and growth dynamics of cities? How and why their urban development patterns have changed in time? What are the factors that play a role in the changing processes urbanization? What are the main events in the history (economic, social, political, cultural etc) that lead to these changes? How and why their spatial growth dynamics changed in time? What are the factors that played a specific role in these changes?

Weekly Program

Week 1- Introduction and overview

Part 1: Dynamics of pre-industrial urban development

Week 2- Changing urbanization processes and spatial dynamics from hunter communities to first cities: First urban revolution

- New cultural and political dynamics and changing urbanization processes in Greek and Roman periods

Week 3- Second urban revolution: Development dynamics of the medieval city as a trade center

- Changing development dynamics of medieval city due to invasions and battles
- Colonialism and searching for new trade routes: Age of discovery and explorations and the urbanization dynamics of the new world cities

Part 2: Logic of industrial capitalism and urban change

Week 4- Third urban revolution: Fordist industrial production and changing urban dynamics

Week 5- Post-war urbanism and social structure: Socialist urbanization dynamics and changing urban form in the Central Europe

Week 6- Urban decline and spatial problems of industrial city

Part 3: Spatial dynamics of post-fordist production and new urbanism

Week 7- The crisis of Fordizm and the dimensions of a post-Fordist urban structure

Week 8- Changing locational and spatial dynamics of urban development in the post-Fordist era

Week 9- Changing urbanization dynamics of post-Socialist cities with political and economic decline

Part 4: Globalization and development dynamics of globalizing cities

Week 10- Neoliberal urbanization processes and dynamics of fragmented urban development

Week 11- Commercial property development and property-led urban development dynamics

Part 5: Urbanization in the developing world and Turkey

Week 12- Urbanization in Turkey

Week 13- Problems of urbanization in Turkey and developing countries

Week 14- Contemporary urbanization, urban transformation and socio-spatial issues

Grading

Mid-term exam 30 points

Research study 30 points

Final exam 40 points

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course students will:

- ☐ develop an understanding of the reciprocal relations between the spatial organization of urban development and locational, economic, and political dynamics and processes;
- ☐ learn the major historical antecedents of urban development and urbanization and learn the key concepts;
- ☐ develop a curiosity to establish the relationship between the current urban form and processes of urbanization that may lead to it;
- ☐ develop a curiosity to analyze urbanization issues in Turkey;
- ☐ develop skills to:
 - analyze the development and urbanization dynamics of cities;
 - collect data in relation to a given problem and search for relevant literature;
 - link the knowledge accumulated by reading the literature to the everyday experiences and observations in urban space.

Reference Material

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18. Soja, E. (2000) *Postmetropolis: Critical Studies of Cities and Regions*, Blackwell: Malden MA
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