

ASCL1.01: Urban Asia
Fall 2020

Dist. SOC and INT; WCult: NW

There are no prerequisites for this course

Class time: K

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Office hours: Zoom meetings by appointment

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Office hours: Zoom meetings by appointment

Course Description

Asian cities, once considered to be recipients or followers of urban models imposed by Western cities, have become new models of urbanism themselves, thereby serving as the heart of the growing body of scholarship which focuses on such dynamic urban processes reshaping cities across the globe. For instance, over the last few decades, Singapore, Shanghai, and Seoul have distinguished themselves as points of reference for other aspiring cities in and beyond Asia. How have Asian cities transformed in an interconnected global economy? How does an interdisciplinary reading of Asian cities provide ways to think anew about Asia today?

With Asia at the center of our urban inquiries, this course proposes to read Asian cities from historical and comparative perspectives. The primary purpose of this course is to introduce students to multiple disciplinary approaches to Asia's urban environments and their dynamic relationships to other parts of the world. The course features instructors from several Dartmouth departments and programs presenting a diversity of theoretical perspectives and empirical studies drawn from cities across East, South, and Southeast Asia.

The course is an introduction to a wide-ranging analysis of Asian cities through the lens of art, architecture, literature, film, technology, geography, gender, and class. There are no prerequisites for this course. The course is open to any students interested in history, art history, anthropology, architecture, geography, literature, and urbanism. Students from all departments and at all levels are encouraged to take the course.

Learning Outcomes

- Students will be introduced to Asia's urban environments from historical and comparative perspectives
- Through a wide range of guest lectures by Dartmouth faculty, students will acquire a sense of how different academic disciplines engage with a range of issues related to Asian cities
- Thinking about, with, and from Asian cities, students will be able to critically assess a wide array of broader global issues, such as colonialism, race, migration, and social inequality

- With a diverse set of assignments, students will develop skills to understand Asian cities in an innovative way and conduct their own research on Asia

Resources

Readings: All required readings will be provided as downloadable pdf documents in the “files” section of Canvas.

Visual Resources: for review purposes, pdfs of PowerPoint presentations will be posted on Canvas. Films will also be streamed via Canvas.

Course Requirements and Evaluations

1. Responses to assigned readings (15%): All course readings for each lecture will be posted to Canvas. You must respond to the prompts provided by the instructors and post your response to the Assignments page on Canvas prior to 3:00 pm EST every Tuesday and Thursday. There will be 15 reading responses. Responses must be a minimum of 500 words.

2. Contributions to on-line discussions (30%): Lectures will be posted to Canvas at 3:00 pm EST every Tuesday and Thursday. You will have 24 hours to participate in the on-line discussion forum. Contributions to the discussion should address material presented in the lecture. You may integrate material from the readings in your discussion points. Participation requires **three** contributions to the discussion; at least one of these must respond to contributions posted by your fellow students.

3. Take-home midterm exam (25%; Due Sunday, October 18, 11:59 pm EST): You will write responses open-ended questions that will require you to synthesize material presented in assigned readings and lectures prior to the midterm. The question will be posted on Thursday, October 15, 3:00 pm EST. This is an open-book exam, you may use course readings and lectures when responding to the exam prompts. The midterm exam will cover class materials up to the exam date, October 15.

4. Final project (30%; Due Friday, December 4, 11:59 pm EST):

1) Research Project Proposal (3 to 4 pages) (5%): When submitting a proposal, be sure to include a short summary of your topic and an annotated bibliography. The topic must be discussed with the instructors beforehand. Proposals are due at the end of Week 7, Friday October 30, 11:59 pm EST.

2) Research Project Essay (8-12 pages) (25%): TBD

100–96 % = A	95.9–90 % = A-	89.9–86 % = B+
85.9–83 % = B	82.9–80 % = B-	79.9–77 % = C+
76.9–75 % = C	74.9–70 % = C-	69.9–65 % = D

Schedule of Lectures and Readings

Note: additional readings may be assigned for some topics

Week 1. Introduction

Sep. 15 (T) Introduction to and Overview of the Course

Sep. 17 (Th) Virtual/Social Meeting

Week 2. East Asian Cities in History

Sep. 22 (T) “Historic Capitals of China” by Allen Hockley

Readings

- Steinhardt N. Shatzman, *Chinese Imperial City Planning* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 1990): 1-28.

Sep. 24 (Th) “Historic Capitals of Japan” by Allen Hockley

Readings

- Stavros, Matthew, “Heian-kyō: The Ideal” *Kyoto: An Urban History of Japan’s Premodern Capital* (Honolulu: University of Hawai’i Press: 2014): 1-27.
- Nishi Kazuo and Hoizumi Kazuo, “selections on Castles and Castle towns” in *What Is Japanese Architecture?* (Tokyo, New York and London: Kodansha International, 1985), 94-104.
- Harold Bolitho, “The Edo Period 1603-1868,” *The Hotei Encyclopedia of Japanese Woodblock Prints*, Amsterdam: Hotei Publishing, 2005: 17-35.

Week 3. Urban India in History

Sep. 29 (T) “Colonialism and Indian Cities” by Doug Haynes

Readings

- Lewandowski, “Changing Form and Function in the Ceremonial and the Colonial Port City,” *Modern Asian Studies*, vol 11, no. 2 (1977), 183-212
- Spodek, "City Planning in India under British Rule" *Economic and Political Weekly*, vol XLVIII, no. 4 (Jan. 26, 2013), 53-61.
- Haynes and Rao, “Beyond the Colonial City: Reevaluating the Urban History of India, 1920-1970”, *South Asia*, vol. 36, no. 3, pp. 317-335.

Oct. 1 (Th) “Advertising and the Urban Middle Class in Western India 1920-1945” by Doug Haynes

Readings

- Douglas E. Haynes, “Brand-name Capitalism and Professional Advertising in India” chapter 1 in *Brand-name Capitalism, Advertising and the Making of Modern Conjuality in Western India (1918-45)* (book manuscript in progress)
- Douglas E. Haynes, “Creating the Consumer? Advertising, Capitalism and the Middle Classes in Urban Western India, 1914-1940,” in *Toward a History of Consumption in South Asia* (London, Oxford University Press, 2010), 185-223.
- Haynes and Kidambi, “The Middle Class and Consumption Practices in South Asia 1850-2010,” draft of a chapter for *The Cambridge History of India*.

Week 4. Port Cities at the Crossroads

Oct. 6 (T) “Colonial and Treaty Ports in Asia” by Sujin Eom

Readings

- Hein, Carola. 2011. “Port Cityscapes: A Networked Analysis of the Built Environment.” In *Port Cities: Dynamic Landscapes and Global Networks*, edited by Carola Hein, 1-23. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.
- Farris, Jonathan. 2011. “Treaty Ports of China: Dynamics of Global and Local in the West's Architectural Presence.” In *Port Cities: Dynamic Landscapes and Global Networks*, edited by Carola Hein, 116-138. Abingdon, Oxon: Routledge.
- Beasley, William G. 1987. “The Treaty Port System and Japan.” In *Japanese Imperialism 1894-1945*, 14-26.

Oct. 8 (Th) “Korean Ports in the Age of Empires” by Sujin Eom

Readings

- Larsen, Kirk. “Trade, Dependency, and Colonialism: Foreign Trade and Korea’s Regional Integration, 1876-1910.”
- Bird, Isabella L. 1898. “First Impressions of Korea”; “First Impressions of the Capital,” in *Korea and Her Neighbours: A Narrative of Travel, With an Account of the Vicissitudes and Position of the Country*. London: John Murray, 23-48.

Week 5. Modern Tokyo / Midterm Exam

Oct.13 (T) “Tokyo Modernizes” by Allen Hockley

Readings

- Sorensen, Andre. “The legacy of the Tokugawa Period,” in *The Making of Urban Japan: Cities and planning from Edo to the twenty-first century* (London and New York: Routledge, 2002), 11-44.
- Sorensen, Andre. “The Meiji period,” in *The Making of Urban Japan: Cities and planning from Edo to the twenty-first century*, (London and New York: Routledge, 2002), 45-84.

Oct. 15 (Th) Take Home Midterm Exam Due: 11:59 pm EST

Week 6. Postwar Modernization

Oct. 20 (T) “Socialist Monuments” by Sunglim Kim

Readings

- Ahn, Chang-mo. “Korean Architecture: Urban and Architectural History in Pyongyang,” in *Architectural and Cultural Guide: Pyongyang*, edited by Philipp Meuser (DOM Publishers), 84-137.

Oct. 22 (Th) “Contemporary Beijing and Tokyo” by Allen Hockley

Readings

- Yu, Shuishan. 2012. “selection readings” in *Chang’an Avenue and the Modernization of Chinese Architecture* (Seattle and London: University of Washington Press), 13-54, 241-276.

- Sorensen, Andre. “Japanese Urbanization and Planning” in *The Making of Urban Japan: Cities and planning from Edo to the twenty-first century*, (London and New York: Routledge, 2002), 333-357.

Week 7. Infrastructure and Affect

Oct. 27 (T) “Elevated Highways and the Materiality of Statecraft” by Sujin Eom

Readings

- Larkin, Brian. 2013. “The Politics and Poetics of Infrastructure.” *Annual Review of Anthropology* 4: 327-43.
- Hasegawa, Junichi. 2015. “Tokyo’s Elevated Expressway in the 1950s: Protests and Politics.” *Journal of Transport History* 36 (2): 228-247.
- Connolly, Creighton. 2019. “Worlding Cities through Transportation Infrastructure.” *Environment and Planning A: Economy and Space* 51 (3): 617-35.

Oct. 29 (Th) “Water, Politics and Infrastructure in Urban Southeast Asia” by Christopher Sneddon

Readings

- Marks, Danny. 2015. “The Urban Political Ecology of the 2011 Floods in Bangkok: The Creation of Uneven Vulnerabilities.” *Pacific Affairs* 88 (3): 623-651.
- Baird, Ian G., and Noah Quastel. 2015. “Rescaling and Reordering Nature–Society Relations: The Nam Theun 2 Hydropower Dam and Laos–Thailand Electricity Networks.” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 105(6): 1221-1239.

Oct. 30 (F) Final research project proposal due: 11:59 pm EST

Week 8. Race, Migration, and Diaspora

Nov. 3 (T) “The Idea of Chinatown” by Sujin Eom

Readings

- Anderson, Kay. 1987. “The Idea of Chinatown: The Power of Place and Institutional Practice in the Making of a Racial Category.” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 77 (4): 580-598.
- Eom, Sujin. 2017. “Traveling Chinatowns: Mobility of Urban Forms and Asia in Circulation.” *positions: asia critique* 25 (4): 693-716.
- Eom, Sujin. 2019. “The Idea of Chinatown: Rethinking Cities from the Periphery,” *On the Margins of Urban South Korea: Core Location as Method* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press), 21-42.

November 5 (Th) “Chinese Spaces, African Cities” by Mingwei Huang

Readings

- Harrison, Phillip, Khangelani Moyo, Yan Yang. 2012. “Strategy and Tactics: Chinese Immigrants and Diasporic Spaces in Johannesburg, South Africa.” *Journal of Southern African Studies* 38(4): 899-925.

- Huang, Mingwei. Forthcoming. “The Chinatown Back Room: The Afterlife of Apartheid Architectures.” In *Anxious Joburg: The Inner Lives of a Global South City*.

Week 9. Contact Zones

Nov. 10 (T) “Shanghai/Tokyo” by Dennis Washburn

Readings

- TBD

Nov. 12 (Th) “Manchuria: Cities in a Colonial Borderland” by Miya Xie

Readings

- Emer O’Dwyer. *Significant Soil: Settler Colonialism and Japan’s Urban Empire in Manchuria* (Cambridge MA: Harvard Asia Center: 2015), 23-65.
- Abe Kōbō, “Seventeen Years in Shen Yang” (excerpt; translated by instructor).

Week 10. Art and Urban Asia

Nov. 17 (T) “Contemporary Artists Respond to Urban Asia” by Allen Hockley

Readings

- Melissa Chiu and Benjamin Genocchio, “Urban Nature” *Asian Art Now*, Singapore: Monacelli Press, 2010: 162-203

December 4 (F) Final research project due: 11:59 pm EST