

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ❖ **COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD NOW OPEN.**
Can do it on line or on a SmartPhone
- Sign in with your Hunter NetID and password
- **Check your Hunter email account for notice from the College.**
- ❑ **TODAY Dec 7: Last day** to hand in **PRE-APPROVED EXTRA CREDIT** research paper or discussion paper.
Exercise 5 - My Neighborhood is due.
- ❑ **Mon., Dec 11:** Last class lecture.
- ❑ **Thurs., Dec 14 from 2-4 PM: Final Exam**
 - **Four essays** focused on the major themes of cultural geography from a choice of 7 topics, plus m/c defs.
 - **Last day** to hand in **"Geography in the News"** extra credit option (14 annotated news items for max credit; see syllabus for details).

GEOG 247 Cultural Geography

Urbanization

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Urban Studies

Changing food supplies, division of land and uses of land led to concentrations of people and different types of settlement.

Agricultural hamlet >>> market town >>> trading center >>> industrial city >>> metropolitan area >>> megalopolis.

Rural – an area of the countryside with a **dispersed** settlement pattern.

Urban – an area of **nucleated settlement** with a specific function (service) that draws people to it.


Urban Studies

- **Urban geographers** study the location of concentrations of people and their works in a non-rural setting.
- ❖ **Cultural geographers focus on people and the reasons they concentrate; also they study the cultural dynamics in and around cities.**
 - ✓ **Cultural Region:** Human creation and location of urbanized places over time and space (unique unifying characteristics)
 - ✓ **Cultural Diffusion:** Movement of people to cities and the growth of cities outward from original site (spread)
 - ✓ **Cultural Ecology:** Relationship to the urbanized area to its physical setting (coast/valley/crossroads/mountains)
 - ✓ **Cultural Interaction:** Material characteristics of an urban environment – people and their works (patterns and utilization)
 - ✓ **Cultural Landscape:** Human imprint of urbanization (visual; man-made structures)

Major Cities of the World

Developed countries tend to have a higher percentage of their population living in cities.

Areas of harsh physical conditions tend to have a higher percentage of urban dwellers, as Libya, Greenland and Finland.



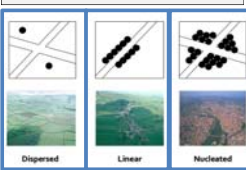
Population of Major Agglomerations:
 ● More than 10,000,000
 ● 5-10,000,000
 ● 1-5,000,000
 ● 500,000-1,000,000

2007 = c. 50% of world's people lived in urbanized areas.
 2050 = est. 70% of world's people will live in urbanized areas.

Year	World Population	Cities of fewer than 1 million	Cities of more than 1 million
1950	2.5 billion	86.4%	13%
1980	4.8 billion	71.1%	29%
2000	6.1 billion	53%	47%
2050 (est.)	9.1 billion	35.4%	63%

SETTLEMENT

- Settlements are **differentiated** on the basis of
 - **Size:** number of people present
 - **Spacing:** distance from each other
 - **Function:** reason for people grouping there.
- Settlements may be **categorized** by shape:
 - **Dispersed** = isolated or spread far apart
 - **Linear** = lined up along a road or river
 - **Nucleated** = clustered



- Base level of settlement is the **isolated dwelling.**
- Then **hamlet, village, town, city** and **metropolitan area** (2 or more cities)
- **Megalopolis:** continuous urbanized area created when 2 or more metropolitan areas merge.

Rural Isolated and Rural Dispersed Settlements

LITTLE HOUSE ON THE PRARIE
LAURA INGALLS WILDER

Rural Nucleated Settlement

Hamlet/village/town

Urban Settlement

Small city
Large city
Metropolitan area

Megalopolis: U.S. Northeast Corridor

When 2 or more metropolitan areas merge, a megalopolis is created. These areas are characterized by good interaction through transportation facilities.

Red = urban land cover

HIERARCHY of SETTLEMENT

- ❖ As the number of settlers (people) **increase**, a **hierarchy of form and function is created**.
 - The smallest settlements are greatest in number and dot the rural landscape.
 - They provide the **least amount of functionality** (service) although located relatively close to each other.
- The largest settlements (cities) are less in number and are located at greater distances from each other, yet cover huge amounts of land area.
- They **satisfy the varied needs of many people** (specialized services).

❖ All settlements tend to grow toward each other: a result of interaction along lines of communication, a cultural trait.

Three Urban Revolutions

- ❖ Each "revolution" altered the concentration of people and their relationship to the land.

- 1st Urban Revolution: Agricultural Surplus.**
Ample food freed people from working the land and allowed for specialized activities as well as the concentration of governing power.
- 2nd Urban Revolution: Industrialization.**
Mass production of goods required laborers. Laborers lived near the factory and needed services.
- 3rd Urban Revolution: Globalization.**
Economic dominance requires the concentration of financial services and excellent communication.

Cities lured people from the countryside developing a unique culture and as attitudes changed, eventually becoming incubators of social and political change.

Origin of the City

- ❖ **Key elements in the rise of the first cities:**
 - ✓ Agricultural surplus (1st Urban Revolution)
 - ✓ Focus of political and religious power
 - ✓ Function with regard to site and situation
 - ✓ Stratified social-economic system
- **The first urbanized areas were powerful political units: CITY-STATES**

Six Urban Hearths

Earliest identified sites of transition from agricultural village to city:

- Mesopotamia: Tigris/Euphrates valleys (Iraq)
- Nile river valley (Egypt)
- Indus river valley (Pakistan)
- Huang Ho – North China Plain (China)
- Mesoamerica: Aztec and Maya (Mexico and Central America)
- Andean Highlands (Peru)

Models for the Rise of Cities

❖ **Technical** (Hydraulic Civilization)

Large-scale irrigation systems that were developed/maintained by specialists and controlled by a central power were the prime movers underlying urbanization (food surplus).

❖ **Religion** (Religious Focus)

Early cities were “religious spaces” with special sites for spirituality. Physical aspects of the environment (earth/sky) were part of belief systems, which included planting and harvesting.

❖ **Political** (Centralized Order)

“Kingship” focused aspects of civilization (religious, social, economic) around a powerful person who provided leadership/organization in the complex society that became a city-state.

❖ **Multiple Factors**

In reality, a complex of interlinked forces grew and changed in relation to each other to create “functions” which in turn, drew people to a central location.

City-States

Earliest city-states date to 3500 BC.

- Each city was like a small independent country.
- Each had its own ruler.
- Each had its own farmlands.
- Each had a central protected area.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Uj1oLwHkEg>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OLgID5fMhR0>

City-States

Aztec City of Tenochtitlan


Now the site of Mexico City

Layout of Early Cities


❖ Cosmological city: A city laid out in accordance with religious principles.

❖ Axis mundi: The symbolic center of cosmological cities, usually the site of a major structure (and center of power) as the:


- Tower or ziggurat (Mesopotamia)
- Temple (China)
- Pyramid (Mesoamerica)
- Walled (enclosed special) area



Ziggurat of Ur in Iraq (diagrammatic)



The Ziggurat of Uruk in Mesopotamia



The Forbidden City in Beijing

Mayan Temple at Chichén Itzá




Monumental nature of the central city reinforced the power of the ruling class.

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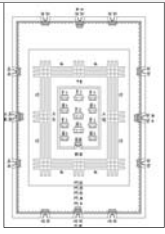
City Plans

Plan of the city of Babylon, Iraq.
A functional use of space.



Cosmological plan of the city of Wang-Ch'eng, China.

- a. Four walls align to compass directions.
- b. Central inner city has ceremonial buildings walled off from rest.
- c. Physical space replicates the known universe.



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Industrialization: The 2nd Urban Revolution

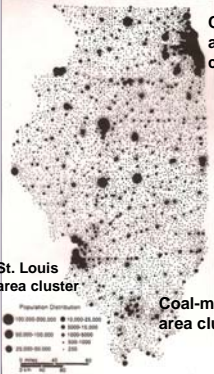
❖ Industrialization in the 1800s spurred the 2nd urban revolution.

- Led to the creation of **industrial cities**.
- These areas grew rapidly because:
 - Industry needs laborers.
 - Laborers need support services.
 - Support service providers need support services
 - Improvements in moving raw materials and finished products.
 - Improvements in sanitation and medical knowledge.

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Location of Illinois Cities

What accounts for this pattern?



Chicago area cluster

St. Louis area cluster

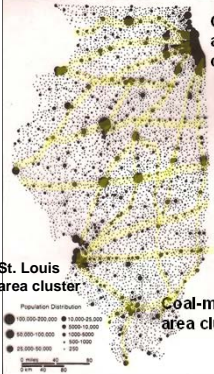
Coal-mining area cluster

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Location along Lines of Transportation

Illinois towns were spaced according to the location of freight depots (5-6 miles apart) built by the railroads to collect and distribute products across the area.

Railroad workers and people engaged in related activities lived near the depots.



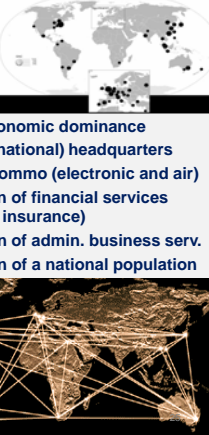
Chicago area cluster

St. Louis area cluster

Coal-mining area cluster

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Globalization of Cities: The 3rd Urban Revolution



- ❖ **Global city:** control center of the global economy (New York and London are alpha cities).
- ❖ **Globalizing city:** one being shaped by the new global economy and culture (Tokyo, Sao Paulo, Sydney, Singapore, Shanghai)
- ❖ **Major world city:** regionally important with ties to the global urban network (Seoul, Zurich, Johannesburg, New Delhi, Jakarta)

- ✓ Culture of economic dominance
- ✓ Global (multinational) headquarters
- ✓ High speed commo (electronic and air)
- ✓ Concentration of financial services (banking and insurance)
- ✓ Concentration of admin. business serv.
- ✓ Concentration of a national population

What is a **Geographic City**?

If the “legal city” is the area enclosed by a political boundary (incorporated) where certain rules and regulations apply, what is the “geographic city”?

❖ “Geographic city” is a cultural area with four distinguishing characteristics:

1. **Unique function** (reason for being)
2. **Site and situation** (related to function) that attracts people
3. **Economic base** (income earner) to support people
4. **Shape** (encloses the functional area) that may not be the same as the legal limits.

Geographic City: 1. Unique Function

❖ **Urban function:** something that draws people together (a purpose created by people, therefore it is cultural). It differentiates a densely populated rural area from an urban area. Examples?

- ✓ Defense (fort)
- ✓ Government (administration; seat of power)
- ✓ Transportation conveniences (ford, crossroads, fork)
- ✓ Commerce and trade (market)
- ✓ Specialty economic activity (mining/forestry/fishing)
- ✓ Manufacturing (raw materials to finished product)
- ✓ Specialty cultural activity (education/religion/the arts)
- ✓ Recreation (resorts)

Geographic City: 2. Site & Situation

Location aspects (site and situation) are related to both **function** (reason for being; why there?) and **growth pattern**.

Original siting influences may include:

- Fertile areas (food source)
- Waterways (rivers and harbors)
- Islands
- Mineral deposits
- Terrain (as hilltops for defense)
- Relationship to other areas

HOWEVER

****The quality of location changes with time.****

The rise and fall of urban units can be documented by the **changing quality of their location**.

The quality is related to people’s use and perception of an area – “a cultural thing.”



Geographic City: 3. Economic Base

Economic base of a city is a mix of manufacturing and service activities to satisfy both the **needs** of the city and to **earn income** for the city.

It consists of:

- Basic sector:** **earns money** from outside the city by selling products.
- Non-basic sector:** **services the needs of the residents** with grocery stores, retail shops, repair shops, schools, local transit, health care, etc.

❖ **Multiplier Effect:** On average, **2 non-basic workers** are needed for **every 1 basic worker**. Non-basic workers are needed to support other non-basic workers. (But the reverse happens, too.)

Geographic City: 4. Shape

The shape of a city will be influenced by such factors as:

- **its physical location** (terrain and relief)
- **land use pattern established by people** (political, cultural, zoning)
- **orientation to other areas** (cities grow toward each other or toward physical features)
- **transportation pattern** (cities grow along lines of transportation: road, river, rail).

➤ Previous slides showed examples of shape.

Modern Urbanism

❖ Urban areas have:


- **Permanency** over a large area (footprint; built up area)
- **Large concentrations of people** (headcount and density)
- **More than one "function"** (reasons for being)
- **Social heterogeneity** (variety of people: ethnicity, wealth, education, religion, politics, occupation, skill level)

➤ They are **surrounded** by:

- a **suburb** (less than urban) that is dependent on the urban area
- an **exurb** (area beyond the urban area) where residents live in a rural setting but are city-oriented.
- a **hinterland**, the area serviced by the city and which, in turn, services the city (two way street).

Social Aspects of Population Size

- If you live in a **rural settlement**, you know most of the other inhabitants and may even be related to many of them. (Everyone says hello.)
- But if you live in an **urban settlement** you can know only a small percentage of the other residents. (You don't interact with strangers.)
 - You meet most of them in specific roles or for purposes.
 - These relationships (interactions) are based on necessity or convenience.



Social Aspects of Urban High Density

- **High density produces social consequences for urban residents.**
 - Each person plays a special role or performs a specific task to allow the complex urban system to function.
- **At the same time, high density also encourages people to compete for survival in limited space.**
 - Social groups compete to occupy the same territory and the stronger group dominates.







Social Heterogeneity

Social heterogeneity is a composition from dissimilar parts and these parts are always changing.

Different individual items make up a what appears to be a homogenous mass.

- ✓ A person has **greater freedom** in an urban area than in a rural town to pursue an unusual profession, sexual orientation, or cultural interest.
- ✓ **Individuals can find people with similar interests** regardless of the values and preferences of the whole.
- Despite the freedom and independence, **people may feel lonely and isolated.** People become faces in the crowd.
- ❖ **Social stratification can develop within the heterogeneity.**

Growth of Cities

Rural-to-urban migration

- Cities were always a draw to people from the countryside.
 - They were the centers of culture, the arts and education.
 - In the 1800s the lure included jobs in "modern" industrial complexes.
- Post-WWII era (from 1950s) saw a huge influx of migrants in developed countries for jobs and modern conveniences.
- Starting in the 1980s migration to cities has become a worldwide phenomenon in both developed and developing areas.

What are the push and pull factors of urban migration?

Urban Migration Pull-Push Factors

<p>Pull factors: opportunities in cities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - high urban wages paid by corporations - access to governmental services - access to health care facilities - availability of consumer goods 	<p>Push factors: poor conditions in the rural areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - health issues (medical care, water supply, sanitation) - fragmentation of farm land - limited job, educational, and economic opportunities - in some areas, personal safety
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Demographic Characteristics of Migrants

- Rural-to-urban migration is a selective process
- People with certain characteristics are more likely to move than others
 - Age (very young and older people stay)
 - Education including foreign language ability
 - Local culture (who supports the family; female safety issues)
 - Gender (employment opportunities vary greatly by gender)
- Gender selectivity in migration distorts gender ratios in both destinations and origins.

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Growth of Cities and their Impact

- ❖ **Concentrations of people lead to social change.**
 - Factory environment/production much different from home crafts and guild industries.
 - **Industrial city environment created intense struggle between management and labor.**
 - Social issues developed especially with regard to living conditions of the working class.
 - Urban dwellers require more support and rural dwellers (urban money economy).
 - By the end of the 1800s accelerated movements to address these issues and to create change developed (social, economic, political).

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Positive Impact

- **Essential for economic development.**
- **Stimulated innovations** in science, technology, law and government.
- **Facilitated the diffusion of information.**
- **Facilitated interaction** among diverse cultures.

- Density offers **cost advantages** (economies of scale).
- Cities have also played a crucial role in **reducing birth rates** (remember the demographic transition model).

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Negative Impact

- ❖ **Uncontrolled in-migration and rapid urban growth increase urban poverty and inequality, including slum and squatter populations** (c.30-50% in developing countries) which lack the basic necessities and access to services.

- ❖ **Urban poverty degrades both physical and social environments:** crowding, pollution, poverty (low purchasing power), violence and crime, drug abuse, prostitution, and street children.
- **Poor physical environment increases morbidity and mortality rates.**
- **Poverty-burdened social environment causes social instability and the probability of unrest.**

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NEXT

Patterns Inside the City

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