

Exercise 5

MY Neighborhood
(cultural region)

Select a neighborhood with which you are familiar. **Describe it in terms of a cultural region.** What makes it a unique area? Provide maps and visual documentation.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

17 = A

2 = B

0 = C

0 = D with option to rewrite

0 = F with option to rewrite

3 = Not submitted

DATES TO REMEMBER

- ❖ **COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD OPEN to Dec. 20.** Sign in with your Hunter NetID and password
 - Check your Hunter email account for notice from the Dean of Students.
- ❑ **TODAY, Mon., Dec 12:** Last class lecture. Exercise 5 - *My Neighborhood* is due.
- Missing exercises are scored a zero so let me know if you plan to submit missing exercises and I will enter an INC for your grade.
- ❑ **Thurs., Dec 15 from 2-4 PM: Final Exam**
 - **Four essays** focused on the major themes of cultural geography from a choice of 8 topics, plus definitions.
 - **Last day** to hand in "Geography in the News" extra credit option (see syllabus).

GEOG 247 Cultural Geography

Urbanization

Inside the City

2

Prof. Anthony Grande
Hunter College-CUNY

©AFG 2017

Lecture design, content and presentation ©AFG 1217. Individual images and illustrations may be subject to prior copyright.

Origin of the City

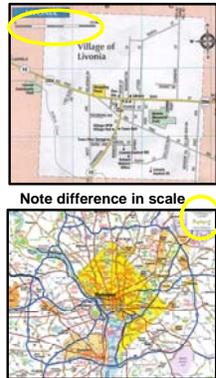
- ❖ **Key elements in the rise of the first cities:**
 - ✓ Agricultural surplus (1st Urban Revolution)
 - ✓ Focus of political and religious power
 - ✓ Function with regard to site and situation
 - ✓ Stratified social-economic system from division of labor.
 - ✓ The first urbanized areas were powerful political units: City-States.
- ❖ **Overtime, cities evolved in form and function.**
 - **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 network.
- ❖ **In all cases, cities remained a source (focus) of economic and political power.**

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 High Density



- **High density produces social consequences for urban residents.**
 - Each person in an urban settlement plays a special role or performs a specific task to allow the complex urban system to function smoothly.
- **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.



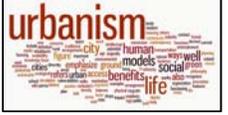

Social Heterogeneity

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.



urbanism



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

Urban Evolutions

Rural-to-urban migration:
Cities were always a draw to people from the countryside.

- ❖ **Cities lured people from rural areas, developing a unique culture and as attitudes changed, eventually becoming incubators of social and political change.**

9

Urban Migration Pull-Push Factors

Pull factors: opportunities in cities

- high urban wages paid by corporations
- access to governmental services
- access to health care facilities
- availability of consumer goods

Push factors: poor conditions in the rural areas

- health issues (medical care, water supply, sanitation)
- fragmentation of farm land
- limited job, educational, and economic opportunities
- in some areas, personal safety

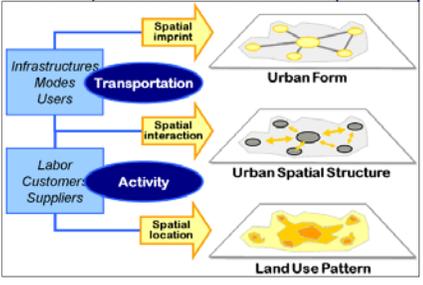
10

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).

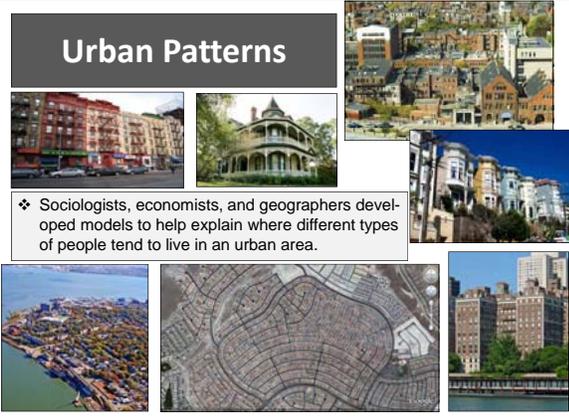
PATTERNS within a CITY

A city takes its interior form from the works of people: infrastructure, interaction and land use (human imprint).



12

Urban Patterns



❖ Sociologists, economists, and geographers developed models to help explain where different types of people tend to live in an urban area.

PATTERNS within a CITY

There are two types of spatial patterns found within a city:

1. Physical patterns
2. Social patterns

14

PATTERNS within a CITY

Physical Patterns:

- a. Site and situation**
 - original site factors now modified by time and use
- b. Microclimate development**
 - concrete and asphalt (warmer temperatures)
 - tall buildings (more wind)
 - paved-over surfaces (less humidity)
- c. Altered hydrology from landscaping**
 - surface streams and lakes changed
 - groundwater removal
 - reduced recharge zones

15

PATTERNS within a CITY

❖ There are six social patterns identified within a city:

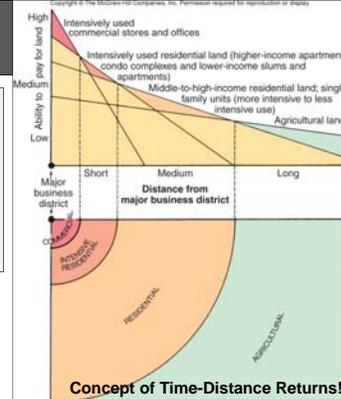
1. Functional interior land use
2. Population density
3. Social geographies
4. Urban land use models
5. Neighborhoods
6. Gentrification

16

PATTERNS within a CITY

Social Patterns 1:
Functional interior land use.

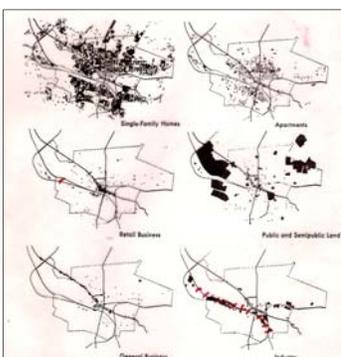
The parts of an urban area can be mapped individually.



Copyright © The McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc. Permission required for reproduction or display.

PATTERNS within a CITY

The component parts of functional interior land use - **social, retail and industrial** - can be identified, located and mapped individually.



18

PATTERNS within a CITY

Social Patterns 2: Population density

Density **decreases** with distance from city center. Influenced by the transportation infrastructure.

PATTERNS within a CITY

Social Patterns 3: Social geographies.

The many different social geographies can be mapped. Together they provide a view of a city's neighborhoods especially when there is overlap. Here is where a GIS mapping system comes in handy by layering data.

PATTERNS within a CITY

Social Patterns 4: Urban land use models

Geographic Applications of the Models

❖ **Urban models help us understand where people with different social characteristics tend to live within an urbanized area.**

- Effective use of the models depends on the **availability of data** at the scale of individual neighborhoods.

Social Area Analysis: Indianapolis

Distribution of renters in illustrates the concentric zone model.

The distribution of high income households is an example of a sector model.

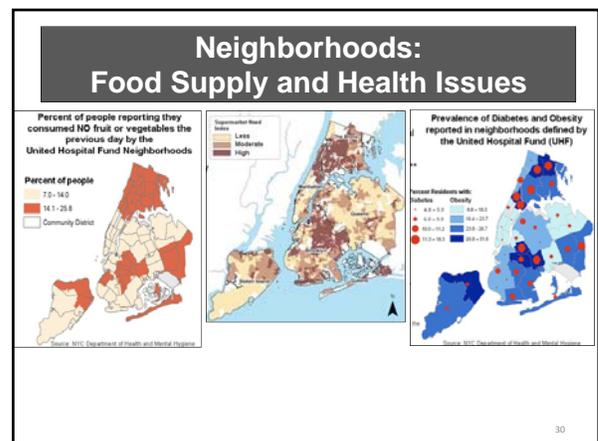
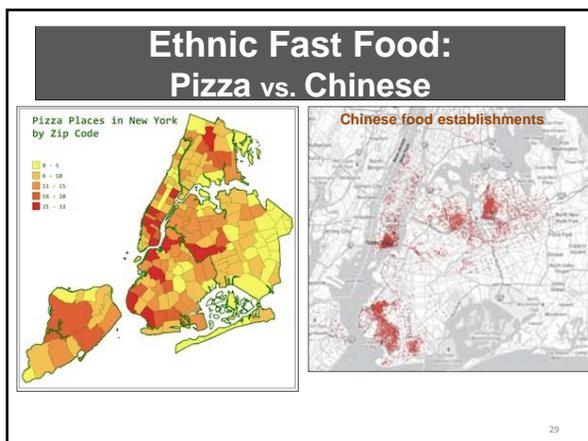
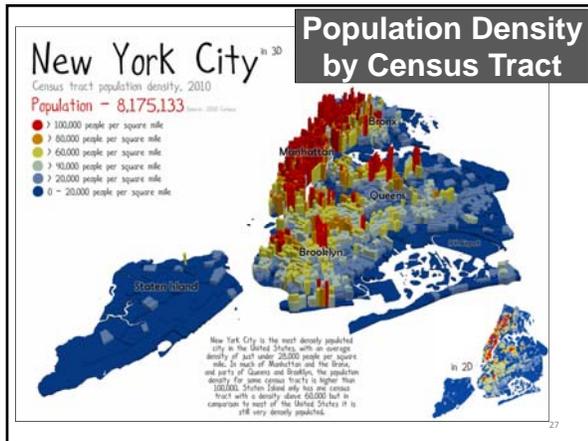
The distribution of ethnic groups is an example of a multiple nuclei model.

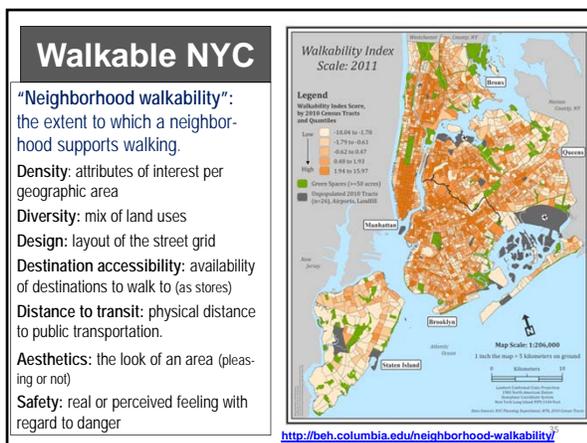
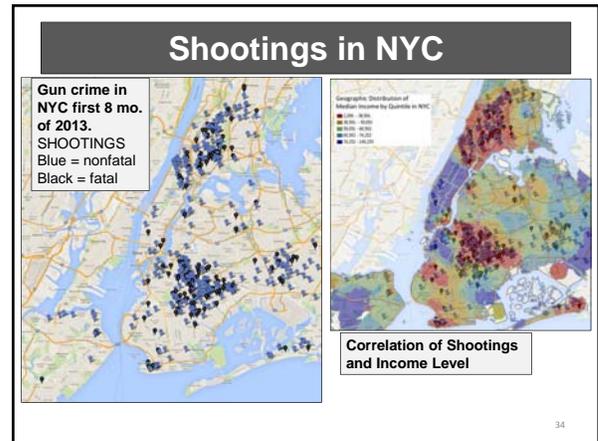
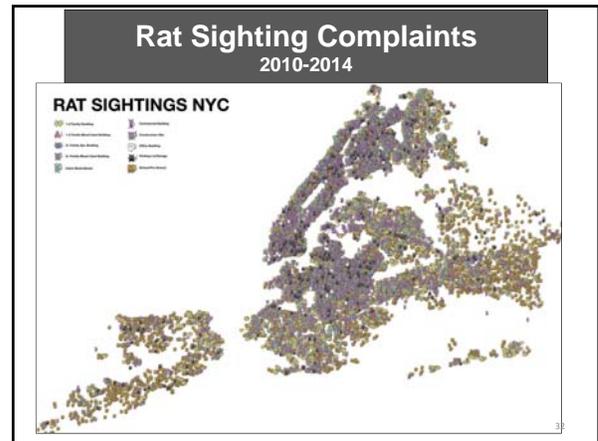
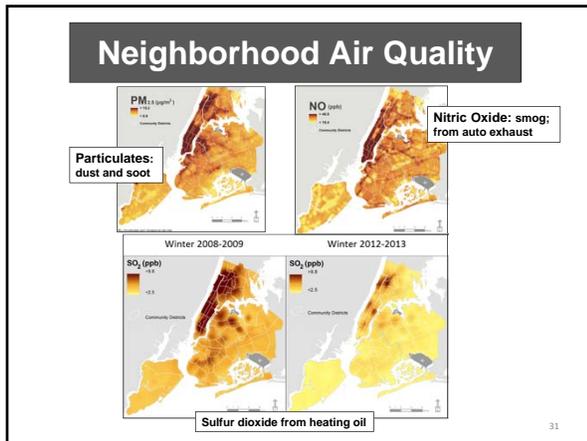
PATTERNS within a CITY

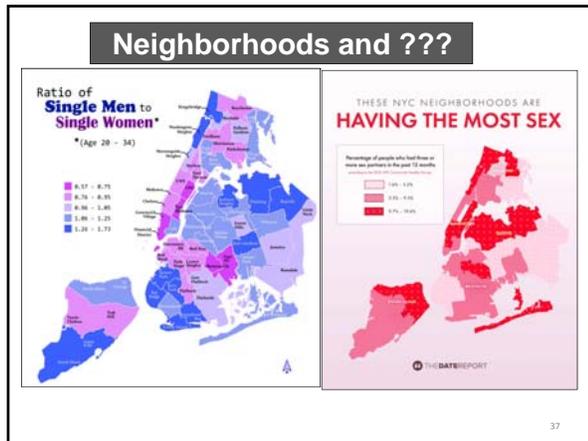
Social Patterns 5: The Neighborhood.

A small area of a city where people share values and concerns and interact with each other.

- Social culture region** – an area where many of the residents share social traits as education, income and family structure
- Ethnic culture region** – an area occupied by people of similar ethnic backgrounds sharing traits of language, religion and motherland.
- Business district** – area of concentrated commercial services and tertiary activities
- Industrial area** – area of concentrated manufacturing activities and services (secondary sector).







Changing Concentration of Hipsters

BUSINESS INSIDER SAYS: In the past few years, hipsters have become so ubiquitous in areas of NYC that they've come to define certain neighborhoods: places like Williamsburg, Bushwick, and Greenpoint are completely associated with hipsters.

As rents rise and areas change, hipsters tend to move to new areas.

HIPSTERS: pretentious, overly trendy members of a subculture: fashion, shopping, diet, cuisine, lingo, social attitude, etc..

PATTERNS within a CITY

Social Patterns 6: Gentrification – The displacement of lower-income residents by higher-income residents as buildings in deteriorated areas of the city are restored.

POSITIVE SIDE	NEGATIVE SIDE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revitalization of run-down areas (visual and economic) • Area in use 24/7 • Demographics change (new groups and younger people) • Tax revenue increases • Crime decreases 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displacement of lower-income people (rent/cost of items) • Ethnic/racial tensions (between remaining residents and newcomers) • Visible reminders of inequitable distribution of wealth (condos, upscale stores) • "Homogenization" – neighborhoods begin to look alike

39

Urban-Environmental Problems

❖ **Infrastructure, interaction and land use (urban culture) can lead to environmental problems that are both physical and social.**

- **The way people deal with them is cultural** (perception, technological ability and financial)

➤ **What are some urban-environmental problems?**

40

Urban-Environmental Problems

Congestion: large numbers of people, not enough space, accessibility, local transportation, housing, food supply, overwhelmed social services

Health Issues: food, water supply, waste management, controlling disease, dealing with dead people

Quality of Life Issues: crowding, crime, poverty, health care, pollution, aging infrastructure

Pollution: air, water, land and noise

Hazards: natural and man-made hazards as storms, earthquakes, air quality, aging infrastructure, fire, urban flooding, terrorism

41

DATES TO REMEMBER

❖ **COURSE EVALUATION PERIOD OPEN to Dec. 20.** Sign in with your Hunter NetID and password

- **Check your Hunter email account for notice from the Dean of Students.**

❑ **TODAY, Mon., Dec 11:** Last class lecture. *Missing exercises are scored a zero so let me know if you plan to submit missing exercises and I will enter an INC for your grade.*

❑ **Thurs., Dec 14 from 2-4 PM: Final Exam**

- **Four essays** focused on the major themes of cultural geography from a choice of 8 topics, plus definitions.
- **Last day** to hand in "Geography in the News" extra credit option (see syllabus).