

## -New Urban Studies Course-



### **Urban Studies 450 – Urban Growth and Development: *A Global View***

**Fall 2017 - 3 Credits, (fulfills 3 credits of International Course Requirement)**

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**Thursdays 4:30-7:10**

The 21<sup>st</sup> century has been called the ***URBAN CENTURY***. Global urbanization is advancing at an unprecedented rate, with most of the growth occurring in the developing world, often in informal settlements. More than 1 billion people reside in ***urban slums***, and many ***megacities*** are approaching populations of 30 million. Rapid urbanization and ***Shadow Cities*** pose significant challenges for urban dwellers as well as governmental agencies and NGOs. In 2015, the UN adopted the first ***SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL*** that focuses exclusively on cities with the goal of making human settlements inclusive, safe, and sustainable by 2030. Cities offer numerous opportunities and advantages to rural settlement in terms of employment, education, and health, but also with respect to environmental policies and sustainable development initiatives. In a ***carbon-restricted future***, cities, and the density they afford, allow for critical energy efficiencies and green urbanist policies are being developed in a number of cities. By focusing on several ***case studies*** drawn from readings (both scholarly and journalistic) and recent ***documentaries***, this course will examine both ***global urban trends***: the ever increasing urbanization across the ***Global South*** and those initiatives to address poverty and inequality in cities; and the growth and development of ***GREEN URBANISM*** in European, North American, and Asian cities.