

THE ANCIENT CITY
Anthropology 3510
Fall 2019

Week 2 Readings: Some Discussion Questions

Smith:

1. What are some cultural and/or intellectual biases that have affected the investigation of ancient cities?
2. What's distinctive about ancient urbanism in Cambodia?
3. What's the debate about cities in ancient Egypt?
4. What characterizes the "basic pattern of urban planning" that's found in most Mesoamerican cities?
5. What general lessons has Mike Smith drawn from his brief survey of ancient cities?

Fishman:

6. What's a "paradigm? What's the difference between "Open" and "Enclosed" paradigms for developing an urban plan?
7. Who are the following major thinkers in urban studies and what are their claims to fame: Haussmann, Olmsted, Le Corbusier, Jacobs, Howard?
8. What's the "New Urbanism? What are its urban planning values?
9. What are some concepts or terms from Fishman's article that need greater clarification or discussion?

Sennett:

10. What is the difference between a "Brittle City" and an "Open City?"
11. What physical forms characterize, and can be used to create, an Open City? Can you think of others that might be useful?