

## CULTURE AND THE CITY

Anthropology 3500

Fall 2018

### Research Paper Guidelines

A research paper is required of all graduate students and is optional for undergraduates in lieu of a final take-home essay. The paper may deal with any topic that's related to the overarching themes of the course. For example, you may:

- Choose a specific city anywhere in the world (can include your hometown!) and research the history and current character of its urban form in light of course concepts and themes. To what extent is the city typical of urban patterns observed elsewhere? To what extent is it unique? What are its contemporary issues?
- Critique the work of a specific theorist of the city (either well-known or more obscure) with an eye on both “live” and “dead” ideas, and their overall vision for the “good” city.
- Look at a particular culture's (social or ethnic group) urban “script”; i.e., how it interacts with existing urban form in order to assert its presence and identity. In other words, examine a particular culture as it exists in the city.
- Examine, in detail, one specific planning initiative (around neighborhood regeneration, retrofitting, infill of a blighted area, housing, public architecture, parks, streets, monuments, etc.) in a particular city with a focus on its intended and unintended consequences.
- Examine how museums and/or other institutions of cultural production have played a role in urban renewal: through time, in a particular city, or as a point of comparison between cities.
- Examine how the city is represented in popular culture; for example, as an “actor” in a particular film or novel. New York (*Manhattan*) and Los Angeles (*Blade Runner*) have long been popular backdrops, along with London (*Match Point*). A popular recent entry is Mumbai (*Slumdog Millionaire*).
- Conduct original research on a particular aspect of Denver's current or proposed urban form using concepts and models discussed in our reading. To what extent does Denver exemplify the Fortress City? The Branded City? The Sustainable City? The Smart City?

Other topics are imaginable, and should be discussed and cleared with me. Whatever the topic, **the paper should have a clear, original focus and be compellingly argued!**

**Paper length:** 12-15 pages for Graduate students; 10-12 pages for Undergraduates.

**Format:** Typed, double-spaced, 1 inch margins, 12 point font, with pages numbered.

**DUE DATE: Monday, November 19, by 4:00 pm. Use the following bibliographic format:**

#### Other guidelines:

- All citations should be in-text; e.g., (Kostof 1991).
- If you have a particular passage within a referenced text to cite in the body of your paper, the page number on which the passage is found should follow the year of publication (e.g., Kostof 1991: 185).
- Indent and single space any long quotations taken from sources.
- No footnotes or endnotes.
- Bibliographic style can be whatever you are accustomed to using. Author entries should always be *alphabetized!* Titles of books and journals should be *italicized*.