

Course Outline for: GEOG 1170 Cities**A. Course Description:**

1. Number of credits: 3
2. Lecture hours per week: 3
3. Prerequisites: None
4. Corequisites: None
5. MnTC Goals: Goal #7A – Human Diversity, Race, Power, and Justice in the United States
Goal #9 – Ethical and Civic Responsibility

Urbanization, humanity's most significant transformation since the Agricultural Revolution, has rapidly reshaped the world, with cities now central to global life. Cities, still relatively novel, hold unprecedented promise but also present new challenges. Students examine these complexities through the lens of race, gender, class, and ethnicity in urban US communities, exploring topics like migration, transportation, segregation and the cultural landscape. Students engage critically with the urban environment in which they live, work, and play.

B. Date last revised: April 2025**C. Outline of Major Content Areas:**

1. Urban Environment
2. North American Cities
3. Twin Cities Metropolitan Area
4. Urban Landscapes
5. Geographical Diversity/Disparity

D. Course Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of the course, the student will be able to:

1. Relate the changing roles of the range of urban social groups in U.S. cities to the evolution of American society, over time. (Goal **2c**, 2d, 7Aa)
2. Relate the role of unequal power relationships among the various groups that comprise American urban society to the built environment. (Goal **2c**, **2d**, 7Ab, 9b)
3. Analyze the public use of arguments (e.g., ethical, legal, socioeconomic, technical) in relation to the interests of their proponents regarding urban environments. (Goal **2c**, **2d**, 9c, 9d)
4. Critically explain how their views of residents of culturally diverse metropolitan areas affect their understanding of observed social, political, and/or economic disparities. (Goal **2b**, **2d**, 7Ac, 9a)
5. Identify personally appropriate methods to contribute to the health of the city from different perspectives (e.g., social, political, and economic). (Goal 9e)
6. Apply the concepts of civic virtue (e.g., citizenship, liberty, justice, and civic obligation) to urban problems. (Goal **2a**, **2b**, 9b)

7. Communicate spatial concerns of diverse segments of an urban population. (Goal **2c**, 7Ae)

E. Methods for Assessing Student Learning:

Methods for assessment may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. exams
2. written paper and/or oral presentation
3. quizzes
4. assignments

F. Special Information:

None