OBJECTIVES:
This course provides students with an overview and fundamental understanding of how spatial differentiations and processes in the city shape, and are shaped by, social relations, communities, cultural identities, political activism, economic regulation, and state governance.

COURSE SYNOPSIS:
The city is not only the spatial concentration of productive activities and built environments, but also a crucible of political economy, social relations, cultural lives and grassroots political activism. Over a period of more than a century, urban scholars have developed a vast variety of concepts and approaches to understand the social organizations, power dynamics, cultural identities and lifestyles in the city. This body of knowledge combines geographical, sociological, anthropological, political economic, cultural studies and urban planning perspectives, and is central to the next generation of urbanists hoping to understand, analyze, manage and plan our cities. Students are expected to appreciate the idea that the urban does not simply provide a spatial container or context, but is a constitutive element of social, economic political and cultural lives and experiences. Topics in this course will include: modernity and the city; Chicago School of modern urbanism; Marxist political economic approaches; Los Angeles School and post-modern urbanism; globalization and transnational urbanism; neoliberal urbanism and urban governance; gentrification and urban regeneration; informal and grassroots urbanism; race, gender and sexuality in the city.

LECTURE TOPICS:
• Modernity and urban life
• Chicago School of modern urbanism
• Marxist political economic approaches
• Los Angeles School and post-modern urbanism
• Globalization and transnational urbanism
• Race, gender and sexuality in the city
• Neoliberalism, urban governance and state spaces

RECOMMENDED READING LIST:
• Tonkiss, F. 2006. Space, the City and Social Theory: Social relations and urban forms. London: Polity.
Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)
After completing this course, students would be able to:

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<tr>
<th>Course Assessment Methods</th>
<th>Alignment with Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)*</th>
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*Geography Major Programme Learning Outcomes (PLOs)
In order to meet the demands and challenges in this dynamic and ever-changing world, the Department has designed a series of well-structured and contemporary courses to cater to the different interests of students. Its courses are designed to align with the University’s educational aims which hope to nurture future generations not only with a critical and intellectual mindset, but also with a passion to contribute to society in general.

After completing the programme, Geography Major students should be able to:

PLO1 critically analyse the geographical aspects of the relationship between people and the natural environment;

PLO2 demonstrate and develop an understanding of how these relationships have changed with space and over time;

PLO3 identify, collect and utilize primary and secondary data to investigate and analyse the issues and problems facing people, places and society;

PLO4 integrate, evaluate and communicate information from a variety of geographical and other sources;

PLO5 participate in promoting social, economic and environmental sustainability at the local, regional and global scales; and

PLO6 effectively apply a range of transferable skills in academic, professional and social settings.

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