

Geography 480/580

Geography of European Cities

Spring Semester 2007, 3 hrs
Thursday, 4:00-6:20, 235 Harris Hall

Dr. Joshua Hagen
Harris Hall 207

Office Hours: M 9:00-9:50, 11:00-11:50, 1:00-3:50; WF 9:00-9:50, 11:00-11:50; Th 3:00-3:50;
and by appointment

Email: Please use the Mail Tool in the Vista course website (or hagenj@marshall.edu)

Phone: 696-2505

Objectives: Students will learn the basic patterns, features, and characteristics of European cities and how these differ from region to region and country to country across the continent. Students will learn to examine architecture and urban design as expression of aesthetic preferences, technological achievements, and cultural/political priorities. Students will learn how past planning decisions continue to influence the contemporary economic, social, and cultural functioning of four major European cities.

University Mission Statement: Approved by MU Board of Governors on May 12, 2004:
“Marshall University will educate a citizenry capable of living and working effectively in a global environment.”

This Course meets General Education Core Outcome 6: International Studies.

Students will learn to:

1. Describe, explain, and analyze diplomatic, political, social, economic, and technological interaction among nations, peoples, cultures: including (but not limited to) ethnic tensions, multinational corporations, international structures and liberation movements of the 20th and 21st centuries.
2. Utilize historical, political, geographical, sociological and anthropological concepts
3. Describe, explain and analyze the cultural, economic geographical, political, religious, and social dimensions of major world religions and /or nations of global significance in the 20th and 21st century
4. Describe, explain, and analyze the major issues, concerns and problems of a global scope (e.g., environmental degradations, maintenance of peace and underdevelopment, population growth, human rights, etc).

Text: Leland Roth. (2007) *Understanding Architecture: Its Elements, History, and Meaning*, 2nd ed.

Computer Requirements: Students will need to be able to log on to the Marshall University campus computer system and WebCT Vista at vista.marshall.edu. The course syllabus, some assigned readings, tests, test scores, and email are all available in WebCT.

Evaluation: Final course grades will be based on a total of 200 points:

Test 1: 50 points

Test 2: 50 points

Test 3: 50 points

Class Attendance: 25 points

Class Participation: 25 points

The three tests will be essay exams on the material covered during the preceding weeks.

Class Attendance will be taken every week. Student will lose 10 points for every absence lacking a university-approved excuse.

Class Participation will be based on participation in classroom discussions, most of which will use the assigned readings as a starting point. Students are expected to participate every week. Those who do not will receive fewer points for class participation.

There will be no extra credit assignments.

Final grades are determined by the following point scale:

A=200-180; B=179-160; C=159-140; D=139-120; F=119 or less.

Graduate students please see me about additional course requirements.

Late Policy and Attendance: The grade on all late assignments will be automatically reduced by 10% per day late. If unavoidable circumstances arise such as illness or family emergency, you are expected to contact me as soon as possible, preferably before an assignment is due. You are also expected to attend class and participate actively. This accounts for ¼ of your final grade. If you have to miss a class, you are still responsible for the material covered during your absence. Make-up exams will only be granted if the student presents a university-approved excuse. For inclement weather, see the MU policies in *Undergraduate Catalog*.

Academic Honesty: All exams are to be completed individually, without assistance for any other person whether they are enrolled in the course or not. Plagiarism, whether one sentence or the entire exam, is unacceptable. At Marshall, plagiarism is defined as “submitting as one’s own work or creation any material or an idea wholly or in part created by another” (see the MU *Undergraduate Catalog*). If you have questions whether you may be plagiarizing something or how to correctly cite a source, you can contact me before you turn in the assignment without penalty. Any student violating these policies will receive a zero for that exam and will be reported to Academic Affairs.

Students with disabilities should contact me within the first two weeks of class.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1 – Introduction: Understanding Architecture

Readings: skim Roth 2, 3, 4, 6.

Part I: The Pre-Modern European City

Week 2 – The Middle Eastern Heritage and the Greek Polis

Readings: Roth 9, 10, 11

Week 3 – Roman Cities as the Building Blocks of Empire and The Dark Ages

Readings: Roth 12

Week 4 – The Rise of the Medieval City

Readings: Roth 13, 14

Week 5 – The Ideals of the Renaissance and the Grand Manner of the Baroque

Readings: Roth 15, 16, 17

Week 6 – Test 1

Part II: The Modern European City

Week 7 – The Industrial Revolution and the City Unbound

Readings: Roth 18

Week 8 – Mussolini, Hitler, and Europe Between the Wars

Readings: Joshua Hagen and Robert Ostergren, “Spectacle, architecture and place at the Nuremberg Party Rallies: projecting a Nazi vision of past, present and future,” *Cultural Geographies* (2006) 13:1, 157-181.

Week 9 – Communism, Capitalism, and the Climax of Modernity

Readings: Roth 19; Maria de Betânia Uchôa Cavalcanti, “Urban reconstruction and autocratic regimes: Ceausescu’s Bucharest in its historical context,” *Planning Perspectives* (1997) 12, 71-109.

Week 10 – Postmodernism and European Cities in Global Context

Readings: Roth 20

Week 11 – Test 2

Part III: A Tale of Four Cities

Week 12 – Rome: The Imperial, Papal, and Fascist City

Readings: D. Atkinson and D. Cosgrove, “Urban rhetoric and embodied identities: city, nation and empire at the Vittorio Emanuele II Monument in Rome, 1870-1945,” *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* (1998) 88:1, 28-49.

Week 13 – Paris: Monarchical, National, and Cultural Capital

Readings: David Jordan, “Haussmann and Haussmannisation: The legacy for Paris,” *French Historical Studies* (2004) 27:1, 87-113.

Week 14 – Berlin: Industrial Metropolis, Modernist Crucible, Cosmopolitan Crossroads

Readings: P. Stangl, “Restoring Berlin's Unter den Linden: ideology, world view, place and space” *Journal of Historical Geography*, (2006) 32:2, 352-376.

Week 15 – Brussels, Munich, Nuremberg, Prague, or Vienna

(During week 12, students will select one of the above cities to be the week 15 topic. City with the most votes wins. Depending on which city wins, it is possible the second place city will also be covered. A relevant reading will also be assigned)

Week 16 – Test 3