



A. Y. Jackson S. S.  
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**IDC 301**  
**The Urban Environment**  
**Grade 11, Open**

**General Course Information**

Prerequisite:	Grade 9 Geography
Department:	Geography and History, Room 133, ayjhistory@gmail.com
Extra Help:	Book by appointment.
Textbook and Replacement Cost:	<i>Urban Dynamics</i> , \$90
Material Required:	Notebook, Writing Utensils, textbook, *USB

**Course Description**

This course examines the principles of urban design in cities around the world by exploring the social, political, cultural, environmental, and economic factors that shape them. Students will study urban structures and systems from both, a national and international perspective, the impact of migration on cities and the impact of cities on the global environment. Students will use geotechnologies and apply geographic concepts and inquiry methods to analyse issues and problems, with a specific emphasis on the environment and sustainable development. Students will relate these issues to urban development and formulate potential solutions.

The course is organized into 3 strands:

- Theory and Foundation, Processes and Methods of Research and Implementation, Evaluation, Impacts and Consequences.

A detailed list of the course expectations can be found at:

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/interdisciplinary1112curr.pdf>

**Assessment and Evaluation**

To promote student success, ongoing assessment and feedback will be given regularly to the students. A variety of assessment and evaluation strategies will be used in this course, including tests, essays, oral presentations, seminars and other assignments. Expectations will be evaluated based on the provincial curriculum expectations and the achievement levels outlined in the ministry document.

**Expectations are organized into four categories of knowledge and skills. The categories and their corresponding weighting is as follows:**

Knowledge and Understanding	25%
Thinking	25%
Communication	25%
Application	25%

Each student's final mark will be in the form of a percentage grade based on their achievement in the 4 categories on the achievement chart. The breakdown of the final mark is as follows:

Term Evaluation	70%
Final Evaluation	30%

The final Evaluation will be completed during the final 6 weeks of the course and may include a variety of summative activities including a test, a presentation, an essay or report. In addition to students' performance in the achievement categories, students will also be assessed on their performance in the following learning skills:

- Responsibility
- Organization
- Independent Work
- Collaboration
- Initiative
- Self-Regulation

For specific policies on assessment and evaluation, and academic honesty, please refer to *School Procedures* in the student agenda.

**Units of Study and possible Assignments:**

1. Urbanization (Timeline Assignment, begin Enviro-Journals, on-going Current Events)



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2. Urban Activities and Patterns (Squares Project)
3. Sustainable Development and Urban Life (Green Products, examing local Food)
4. Planning Challenges and the Environment
5. Culminating: Design your ideal city and Exam

**Requirement:** Being open minded to field work and enjoying the use of technology for mapping purposes is required. Also, all students must complete all course readings and develop your own method of note-taking. You control your destiny in this course. Also, please note that we will be involved in two-three field trips for the course as it is necessary to do field work in Urban Studies. Note: All opinions are encouraged on various urban issues; respect everyone's opinions on various topics

### DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

#### Late Assignments

Students must communicate with the teacher in advance if they anticipate that an assignment will be late. Different situations will require specific decisions based on professional judgment. Late assignments will not be accepted after the assignment has been taken up in class or the marked assignment has been returned.

#### Missed Evaluations

A student who misses an evaluation must submit upon return to class a parental/guardian note or a doctor's note detailing the reason for the absence. The student may have the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency of the learning expectations at a later date, at the teacher's discretion. This may or may not be in the same format as the original evaluation. The teacher will determine the time and form in which the evaluation will take place.

#### Homework Assignments

The purpose of homework assignment is to reinforce and enhance the learning that has taken place in the classroom. It provides students with opportunities for personal growth in independence, self-discipline and resourcefulness.

A student who reviews daily will be prepared for **Quizzes**, which are often spontaneous. **Tests** will be announced before they are given. Students who prepare for a test, other than the night before, will have opportunities to seek help if they encounter difficulties. **Examinations** will cover material that is presented over two to five months.

#### Essay Format and Citations

- All papers **must** include embedded citations within all written work and in proper MLA formatting. A work cited list must also be included on a separate piece of paper.
- Refer to Library Website, Citationmachine.net, the MLA Website (MLA generator), or Easybib.com.
- Essays without citations will not be accepted or given a mark accordingly – zero.
- All essays are FORMAL (no I, you, etc). All essays need to have an ARGUMENT and embedded citations.

#### Classroom Expectations

1. Respect all people and property. This includes listening to and respecting all members of the class.
2. Bring all texts and supplies (eg. textbook, paper, pens, & other items) necessary for class.
3. Complete your homework daily.
4. Come to class on time each day.
5. It is **your** responsibility to catch up on any work that you missed due to absence. This includes any missed tests. **You** should notify the history office before class and explain the reason for your absence if there is a test or an assignment due. **You** must arrange a time and place for a make-up test when you return to class.
6. All cell phones, iPods or any other electronic device should not be used in class without the teacher's permission.