

Course syllabus

Swedish title

Teoretiska förskjutningar inom urbana studier: nya angrepps- och tillvägagångssätt

English title

Dislocating urban studies: rethinking theory, shifting practice

Decision-making body and date of approval

The Board of Research and Doctoral Education at the Faculty of Culture and Society 16 November 2020, after preparation in the Supervisory board of the Department of Urban Studies and the Committee for Research Education of the Faculty of Culture and Society.

Period of validity

Valid from spring semester 2021

Code

KSUS014

Credits

7,5 Credits

Cycle

Third Cycle

Grading scale

Pass or fail.

Entry requirements

Students must be admitted to third cycle studies.

Intended learning outcomes

Following successful completion of the course, doctoral students shall be able to

- Show a critical understanding of the field of urban studies of, in and from the global south.
- Understand the discussions around and merits of comparative urbanism.

- Demonstrate an ability to point to underexplored questions and fields in urban studies.
- Demonstrate an ability to critically approach widely used conceptualizations in the urban studies discipline.

Aim

This course seeks to assess the current state of the field of urban studies and question the dominance of scholarship from the global north by discussing theories, methods, cases and concepts from a variety of geographies.

Content

The course is organized around four topics:

1. A Non-Occidental West: Learning from Theories Outside the Canon
2. Places “Off the Map”: Bringing to Light the Hidden Locations of Urbanisation
3. Challenging Methodologies and Methods
4. Revisiting the Concepts of Critical Urban Studies

Work formats

The course takes the form of a series of workshops that includes presentations and discussions of presentations.

Formats for assessing student performances

For a passing grade, the student must attend all workshops, present a draft-paper in one of the workshops, and submit a final paper.

Reading list and other teaching materials

Aalbers M.B (2017) The variegated financialization of housing. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 41(4): 542-554. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.12522>

Bernt M (2016) Very particular, or rather universal? Gentrification through the lenses of Ghertner and López-Morales. *City* 20(4): 637-644. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/13604813.2016.1143682>

Brenner N (2009) What is critical urban theory? *City* 13(2–3): 198–207. DOI: 10.1080/13604810902996466.

Chakrabarty D (2000) *Provincializing Europe. Postcolonial Thought and Historical Difference*. Princeton: Princeton University Press.

Chibber V (2013) *Postcolonial Theory and the Specter of Capital*. London and New York: Verso

Edensor T and Jayne M (2012) *Urban Theory Beyond the West: A World of Cities*. London: Routledge. Chapter 1.

- Escobar A (2007) Worlds and knowledges otherwise: The Latin American modernity/coloniality research program. *Cultural Studies* 21(2–3): 179–210. DOI: 10.1080/09502380601162506.
- Fisker JK, Chiappini L, Pugalis L and Bruzzese A (2019) *Enabling Urban Alternatives*. Palgrave. Chapters 1 and 13.
- Grashoff U (2020) *Comparative Approaches to Informal Housing Around the Globe*. London: UCL Press. Chapters 1 and 2.
- Grosfoguel R (2011) Decolonizing post-colonial studies and paradigms of political-economy: Transmodernity, decolonial thinking, and global coloniality. *Transmodernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World* 1(1).
- Leitner H, Peck J and Sheppard E (2020) *Urban Studies Inside/Out. Theory, Method, Practice*. London: SAGE Publications Ltd. Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 19.
- Parnell S and Pieterse E (2016) Translational Global Praxis: Rethinking Methods and Modes of African Urban Research. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 40(1): 236–246. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.
- Patel S (2014) Is there a ‘south’ perspective to urban studies? In: *The Routledge Handbook on Cities of the Global South*. Routledge, pp. 59–69.
- Peck J, and Theodore N (2007) Variegated capitalism. *Progress in human geography* 31(6): 731–772.
- Robinson J (2002) Global and World Cities: A View from off the Map. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 26(3): 531–554.
- Robinson J (2003) Postcolonialising Geography: Tactics and Pitfalls. *Singapore Journal of Tropical Geography* 24(3): 273–289.
- Robinson J and Roy A (2016) Debate on Global Urbanisms and the Nature of Urban Theory. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 40(1): 181–186. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.
- Roy A (2009) The 21st-Century Metropolis: New Geographies of Theory. *Regional Studies* 43(6): 819–830. DOI: 10.1080/00343400701809665.
- Roy A (2016) Who’s Afraid of Postcolonial Theory? *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 40(1): 200–209. DOI: 10.1111/1468-2427.
- Santos B de S (2010) A Non-Occidental West?: Learned Ignorance and Ecology of Knowledge. *Theory, Culture & Society* 26(7–8): 103–125. DOI: 10.1177/0263276409348079.
- Scott A.J and Storper M (2015). The nature of cities: The scope and limits of urban theory. *International journal urban and regional research* 39(1): 1-15.

Schwarz A and Streule M (2016) A Transposition of Territory: Decolonized Perspectives in Current Urban Research. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 40(5): 1000–1016.

Sheppard E, Leitner H and Maringanti A (2013) Provincializing Global Urbanism: A Manifesto. *Urban Geography* 34(7): 37–41. DOI: 10.1080/02723638.2013.807977.

Sparke M (2007) Everywhere but Always Somewhere: Critical Geographies of the Global South. *The Global South* 1(1): 117–126.

Maloutas T (2018) Travelling concepts and universal particularisms: A reappraisal of gentrification's global reach. *European Urban and Regional Studies* 25(3): 250-265.

Vainer C (2014) The coloniality of urban knowledge and city models. In: Parnell S and Sophie Oldfield (eds) *The Routledge Handbook on Cities of the Global South*. London and New York: Routledge, pp. 48–56.

Transitional regulations

In situations where the course is no longer offered or the course contents have been significantly changed, the doctoral candidate has the right, during a period of one year following the change, to be examined on two different occasions in accordance with the course syllabus valid at the date of registration.

Course Evaluation

The course will be completed with an individual, written course evaluation that judges whether the course objectives were fulfilled. The result from the evaluation is followed up by the Supervisory board of the Department of Urban Studies.