



SOCI3015

The Urban Century: Movement, Cities and Space

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2025

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

130cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores how sociologists understand the collective challenges of a global world. Research into global issues includes international migration, global cities, the rise of information & surveillance capitalism, global value chains and transnational financial flows, global interconnections of everyday actors and elites and the global consequences of climate change. Students explore the role of local communities and cultures in reshaping and regulating global forces and power structures underpinning globalism, nationalism and cosmopolitanism. We will examine the changing roles of civil society and local community in creating alternatives to the twin powers of states and markets, from successes and failures to future opportunities and emerging risks. By exploring the relationships between space, place and people through contemporary case studies (for example, global cities and social infrastructures, the sociology of risk and crisis, resilience and disasters; global migration, border politics and citizenship rights) students will build on and extend previous learning in theory and methods, with the option of a fieldwork project focused on a case study.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Demonstrate a theoretical and practical understanding of sociological research

into global forces, particularly affecting urban space, place and culture

ULO2: Observe and reflect upon global forces through a sociological lens

ULO3: Evaluate the impact of global forces on 21st century society and culture through a structured research project or other written work

ULO4: Critically evaluate and justify both individual and group performance through active participation and continuous learning

ULO5: Analyse, synthesise and reflect upon the quality of empirical evidence from different scholarly sources

ULO6: Reflect upon the realities of global urban living that they regularly confront, and evaluate the tools of analysis that may best enable them to critically evaluate these processes.

ULO7: Demonstrate a level of research, reflection and writing appropriate for a third-year sociology student

ULO8: Explore topics in global and urban sociology they could pursue in graduate study or research

General Assessment Information

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved, a 5% penalty (of the total possible mark) will be applied each day a written assessment is not submitted, up until the 7th day (including weekends). After the 7th day, a mark of '0' (zero) will be awarded even if the assessment is submitted. Submission time for all written assessments is set at 11.55pm. A 1-hour grace period is provided to students who experience a technical issue. This late penalty will apply to non-time sensitive assessment (incl. essays, reports, posters, portfolios, journals, recordings etc). Late submission of time sensitive tasks (such as tests/exams, performance assessments/presentations, scheduled practical assessments/labs etc) will only be addressed by the unit convenor in a Special Consideration application. Special Consideration outcome may result in a new question or topic.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Group project</u>	30%	No	Allocated week
<u>Learning reflections</u>	30%	No	01/06/2025
<u>Research essay</u>	40%	No	08/06/2025

Group project

Assessment Type ¹: Project

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Allocated week**

Weighting: **30%**

Small group visual presentation on an allocated 'real world' topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a theoretical and practical understanding of sociological research into global forces, particularly affecting urban space, place and culture
- Observe and reflect upon global forces through a sociological lens
- Evaluate the impact of global forces on 21st century society and culture through a structured research project or other written work
- Critically evaluate and justify both individual and group performance through active participation and continuous learning
- Analyse, synthesise and reflect upon the quality of empirical evidence from different scholarly sources
- Reflect upon the realities of global urban living that they regularly confront, and evaluate the tools of analysis that may best enable them to critically evaluate these processes.
- Demonstrate a level of research, reflection and writing appropriate for a third-year sociology student
- Explore topics in global and urban sociology they could pursue in graduate study or research

Learning reflections

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **01/06/2025**

Weighting: **30%**

Students keep a regular learning diary with short entries drawing connections between 'real world' examples, lectures and readings.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a theoretical and practical understanding of sociological research into global forces, particularly affecting urban space, place and culture

- Observe and reflect upon global forces through a sociological lens
- Evaluate the impact of global forces on 21st century society and culture through a structured research project or other written work
- Critically evaluate and justify both individual and group performance through active participation and continuous learning
- Analyse, synthesise and reflect upon the quality of empirical evidence from different scholarly sources
- Reflect upon the realities of global urban living that they regularly confront, and evaluate the tools of analysis that may best enable them to critically evaluate these processes.
- Demonstrate a level of research, reflection and writing appropriate for a third-year sociology student
- Explore topics in global and urban sociology they could pursue in graduate study or research

Research essay

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 40 hours

Due: **08/06/2025**

Weighting: **40%**

Research essay responding to one of six set questions or a negotiated topic relating to the unit content.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate a theoretical and practical understanding of sociological research into global forces, particularly affecting urban space, place and culture
- Observe and reflect upon global forces through a sociological lens
- Evaluate the impact of global forces on 21st century society and culture through a structured research project or other written work
- Analyse, synthesise and reflect upon the quality of empirical evidence from different scholarly sources
- Reflect upon the realities of global urban living that they regularly confront, and evaluate the tools of analysis that may best enable them to critically evaluate these processes.
- Demonstrate a level of research, reflection and writing appropriate for a third-year sociology student

- Explore topics in global and urban sociology they could pursue in graduate study or research

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

Required and additional readings

All readings are available on Leganto via the Macquarie University library webpage.

Delivery method

This unit will be delivered on-campus on Friday (lecture 9-11am & tutorial 11-12pm) and Online (zoom tutorial 12-1pm).

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://policies.smq.edu.au) (<https://policies.smq.edu.au>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit [Student Policies](https://students.smq.edu.au/support/study/policies) (<https://students.smq.edu.au/support/study/policies>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central](https://policies.smq.edu.au) (<https://policies.smq.edu.au>)

[du.au](#)) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit connect.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)

- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)
- [Student Advocacy](#) provides independent advice on MQ policies, procedures, and processes

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via the [Service Connect Portal](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Unit information based on version 2025.01R of the [Handbook](#)