



GEOP2070

Urban Dynamics: Population, Housing and Regeneration

Session 2, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2026

School of Communication, Society and Culture

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Kristian Ruming

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

40cp at 1000 level or above

Corequisites

Co-badged status

GEOP6070

Unit description

This unit explores some of the key drivers of urbanisation across Australia and the globe. The focus here is threefold. First, population dynamics are examined. The unit explores the role of population change (fertility, mortality, migration and ageing) in influencing the growth and structure of our cities. Second, the role of housing as a central element of urban change and urban planning policy is explored. Students will examine issues of housing affordability, social and community housing options, and the role of home ownership and private rental in Australian cities. The unit analyses new forms of housing delivery, such as urban renewal and regeneration, which provide opportunities to address the housing crisis facing many of our cities. Finally, the unit investigates processes of urban regeneration across Australian cities. The unit explores the drivers behind large regeneration projects, as well as the policies and development processes which deliver them on the ground. Central to the unit is the exploration of possible policy responses (including urban planning and broader social and economic policy) for addressing many of the challenges facing our cities.

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 an understanding of the concepts, definitions and measures underpinning processes of urban change.

ULO2: Identify the demographic, housing and urban regeneration processes driving urban change in Australia and internationally.

ULO3: Critically evaluate the role of urban planning in addressing contemporary urban problems.

ULO4: Analyse population and housing data at the urban scale.

General Assessment Information

Assignment requirements and submission

Detailed requirements and marking rubrics for each assessment are available on the iLearn site. All written assignments should be submitted [online to Turnitin](#) via the relevant links provided in iLearn.

You are **not** required to submit a hardcopy of any assignments or include a cover sheet.

Assessment extensions and late penalties

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. Circumstances that affect your ability to complete assignments by the deadline must be discussed with the Unit Convenor prior to the due date. Extensions will be granted only in unforeseen or exceptional circumstances according to the University [Special Consideration policy](#). Students must apply online via [AskMQ](#) and provide appropriate supporting documentation (e.g. medical certificate).

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. 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 feedback

All feedback for assignments will be made available online

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Tutorial paper	20%	No	12/08/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Class quiz	30%	No	Quiz 1: 30/8/2026 / Quiz 2: 18/10/2026 / Quiz 3: 8/11/2026	Individual	No	Open

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due	Groupwork/Individual	Short Extension	AI Approach
Research report	20%	No	20/09/2026	Individual	Yes	Open
Essay	30%	No	04/11/2026	Individual	Yes	Open

Tutorial paper

Assessment Type [1](#): Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task [2](#): 20 hours

Due: **12/08/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension [3](#): Yes

AI Approach: Open

Students are required to produce a population profile of a sub-national region (1000 words). Drawing on ABS Census data, the report should explore the current demographic situation of the area as well as some of the major changes that have occurred in population over the past decade. Reports should critically evaluate the data available.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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- Identify the demographic, housing and urban regeneration processes driving urban change in Australia and internationally.
- Critically evaluate the role of urban planning in addressing contemporary urban problems.

Class quiz

Assessment Type [1](#): Problem-based task

Indicative Time on Task [2](#): 30 hours

Due: **Quiz 1: 30/8/2026 / Quiz 2: 18/10/2026 / Quiz 3: 8/11/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension [3](#): No

AI Approach: Open

Three short class quizzes will be conducted throughout the unit. Each test will focus on a specific element of the unit (Population, Housing, Regeneration).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts, definitions and measures underpinning

processes of urban change.

- Identify the demographic, housing and urban regeneration processes driving urban change in Australia and internationally.
- Critically evaluate the role of urban planning in addressing contemporary urban problems.
- Analyse population and housing data at the urban scale.

Research report

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **20/09/2026**

Weighting: **20%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

Students are required to prepare a research report (1,000 words) on the housing experiences and expectation of university students.

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Essay

Assessment Type ¹: Written Submission

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **04/11/2026**

Weighting: **30%**

Groupwork/Individual: Individual

Short extension ³: Yes

AI Approach: Open

Students are required to write an essay (2,000 words) exploring the role of urban regeneration projects in shaping Australian cities.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the concepts, definitions and measures underpinning processes of urban change.
- Identify the demographic, housing and urban regeneration processes driving urban change in Australia and internationally.
- Critically evaluate the role of urban planning in addressing contemporary urban problems.
- Analyse population and housing data at the urban scale.

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
- [Academic Success](#) 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.

³ An automatic short extension is available for some assessments. Apply through the [Service Connect Portal](#).

Delivery and Resources

Each week students are expected to:

1. **Complete** assigned preparatory readings for lecture and tutorial (available on Leganto),
2. **Attend** lectures and **participate** in tutorials to engage in discussions and activities, and build knowledge and skills towards the successful completion of assessment tasks, and
3. **Engage** with associated supplementary online material and activities for the week following classes (details available on iLearn).

Students are required to complete all assessment tasks, and all components of assessment tasks, throughout the session.

The Unit Urban Dynamics, Housing and Regeneration (GEOP2070 / GEOP6070) uses a variety of resources for learning and teaching, including: the Unit iLearn page where slides and audio from lectures will be posted and discussion forums will be used, the Macquarie University Library for access to academic materials (peer reviewed publications, via Leganto), and the internet in general to access news and grey (policy) literature about, and discussions of, housing, population, and urban regeneration.

Students will be required to have access to digital technology and access to iLearn to complete and submit assessments. The Unit will assist you in building skills for assessments.

Unit Schedule

	Week	Topic		Tutorial	Assessment	Due Date
Module 1: Population						
27-Jul	1	The Population System	28-Jul	No tutorial - Watch recorded lecture on Population Data (on Echo360)		
3-Aug	2	Fertility	4-Aug	Population Data and Profiles		
10-Aug	3	Mortality	11-Aug	Is Sydney Overpopulated?	Tutorial Paper	Wednesday 12 August 11:55pm
17-Aug	4	Ageing	18-Aug	Planning for Population Growth		
24-Aug	5	Migration	25-Aug	Module 1 - Consolidating	Quiz 1	Sunday 30 August 11:55pm
Module 2: Housing						
31-Aug	6	Housing and Home Ownership	1-Sep	Research Report: Data Collection		
7-Sep	7	Government Support and Private Rental	8-Sep	Ownership: use value vs. investment value		
14-Sep	8	Social and Affordable Housing	15-Sep	Social Housing vs Private Rental	Research Report	Sunday 20 September 11:55pm
Mid-semester break						
5-Oct	9	Public Holiday - No Class	6-Oct	Module 2 - Consolidation		
12-Oct	10	Planning for Housing: Density	13-Oct	Density in Australian Cities	Quiz 2	Sunday 18 October 11:55pm
Module 3: Urban regeneration						
19-Oct	11	Inner-City Regeneration	20-Oct	Brownfield regeneration		
26-Oct	12	Regenerating Social Housing Estates	27-Oct	Estate Renewal		
2-Nov	13	Middle-Ring & Suburban Regeneration	3-Nov	Module 3 and Essay - Consolidation	Quiz 3	Wednesday 4 November 11:55pm
					Essay	Sunday 8 November 11:55pm

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.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 \(https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/policies\)](https://students.mq.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 \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.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/>

Academic Success

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

- [Ask a Study Coach](#)
- [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 <https://students.mq.edu.au/support/technology/service-desk>.

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 2026.02 of the [Handbook](#)