

COURSE DETAIL

TOPICS IN EUROPEAN URBAN HISTORY

Country

Netherlands

Host Institution

Maastricht University - University College Maastricht

Program(s)

University College Maastricht

UCEAP Course Level

Upper Division

UCEAP Subject Area(s)

Urban Studies History

UCEAP Course Number

110

UCEAP Course Suffix**UCEAP Official Title**

TOPICS IN EUROPEAN URBAN HISTORY

UCEAP Transcript Title

EUR URBAN HIST

UCEAP Quarter Units

6.00

UCEAP Semester Units

4.00

Course Description

Today, more than half of the world population lives in what is commonly described as cities and towns – concepts which are often vaguely defined. From the first settlements in Mesopotamia onwards, the rise of urban communities has had a great impact upon human life. Consequently, the urban experience draws, and will continue to draw, attention amongst policy makers, scientists from a wide array of disciplines, artists, etc. Urban history is a field of study that aims to answer some basic questions about the nature of urbanized societies. This particular “branch” of History often tends to be multidisciplinary. At least four major approaches exist: a focus on the urbanization process, urban biography (the history of a particular place), a third approach that deals with numerous themes in the context of cities, and, finally, a more constructivist study of cities which suggests that urban centers have been, and continue to be, shaped by notions of how society at large should be organized. In the latter instance, the argument is made that urban planning, for example, has been (and is) informed by social, political, and cultural beliefs and preferences. In subsequent assignments, each of these approaches is highlighted in the context of a discussion of key issues of European urban history. Students also examine concrete examples of how the urban past of Europe was given shape from the High Middle Ages onwards. In the last assignments, the course turns to the discussion of more contemporary problems of urban centers.

Language(s) of Instruction

English

Host Institution Course Number

HUM 2050

Host Institution Course Title

TOPICS IN EUROPEAN URBAN HISTORY

Host Institution Course Details

Host Institution Campus

University College Maastricht

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
Humanities

Course Last Reviewed

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