

**URPA 3301: The Metroplex  
Spring 2016**

**Instructor:** Nicole Foster

**Office Number:** Architecture 103G

**Office Telephone Number:** 817.272.2801

**Email Address:** [nfoster@uta.edu](mailto:nfoster@uta.edu)

**Faculty Profile:** <https://www.uta.edu/profiles/nicole-foster>

**Office Hours:** Wednesday 2:00-3:00pm or by appointment

**Section Information:** URPA 3301 – 001

**Time and Place of Class Meetings:** Mon-Wed-Fri 3:00pm-3:50pm, Arch 401 + field sites

**Emergency Phone Numbers:** In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

**Description of Course Content:** Housing the majority of the world's population, cities are diverse and dynamic sites of cultural, social, political, economic and environmental relationships. As a result, cities are characterized by contradictions and complexity requiring a range of theoretical perspectives, analytical frameworks and creative solutions. In this course, students will be introduced to the history of urbanization as well as develop an understanding of current issues facing DFW. Using a range of methodological approaches, we will analyze Dallas in terms of its built and natural environment, demographics, industry, equity issues and urban development policies, past and present. As our everyday experiences and possibilities for the future are rooted in urban life, students will actively apply readings to their own urban experiences as well as increase their understanding of at least one aspect of urban development through an in-depth analysis of the Dallas Design District.

**Student Learning Outcomes:**

1. Demonstrate understanding of Dallas's history of urban development compared to other urban areas;
2. Demonstrate understanding of current urban development issues facing Dallas-Fort Worth;
3. Using the Dallas Design District and adjacent neighborhoods as a case study, conduct qualitative and quantitative research, develop original analyses and create recommendations for future urban development in the area.

**Required Textbooks and Other Course Materials:** Students must have regular access to Blackboard to download all required readings and submit written assignments. I use Blackboard and the university email system to communicate important information regarding the course. It is your responsibility to check Blackboard and your university email account regularly.

**Descriptions of major course requirements:**

Class attendance, online discussion board posts, discussion lead, short papers, final project

**Grading:**

Requirement	Due Date	% of Final Grade
Online discussion board	Every Thursday by 5pm	25%
Discussion lead	As scheduled	5%
Paper #1	February 19	10%
Paper #2	March 11	10%
Final Project	April 15, 22, 29 & May 6	35%
Attendance	Ongoing	15%

**Attendance:**

As the final project requires student participation and collaboration, **class attendance is required and constitutes 15% of your final grade**. You must sign in every class meeting to ensure your attendance is properly recorded.

Your attendance grade will be calculated as followed:

Absent <= 3 classes	= A
Absent 4-5 classes	= B
Absent 6-7 classes	= C
Absent 8-9 classes	= D
Absent >=10 classes	= F

**Other Requirements:** The course uses the Dallas Design District and neighboring areas as a case study. This will require several field trips. Preferably, we will meet as a class during designated class times. However, should you be unable to meet due to work, school or family obligations, please inform me at least one week in advance of our scheduled site visit to make alternative arrangements. Be smart when visiting neighborhoods. Travel with other students. Visit areas during daylight. Use common sense.

**Online Discussion Board:** As indicated in the syllabus schedule, you must post a reflection on that week's course readings and discussions (9 total posts for the semester). Posts must be submitted to Blackboard by 5pm on Thursday. To receive full credit, you must write a minimum of 250 words, discuss at least one class reading and add an original insight. In other words, you must go beyond merely summarizing the readings. For example, do you agree with the author? Why or why not? How does the reading relate to Dallas / Fort Worth? Missing any criterion reduces your grade by 20 points. Your lowest discussion board post grade will be dropped from your final grade.

Meets all three criteria = 100%

Meets two criteria = 80%

Meets one criterion = 60%

If you do not submit a post, you will receive a 0 for that week's assignment.

**Discussion Lead:** Each student will pick one class day to help lead discussion. Based on a careful reading of course materials, you will identify the author's main points and generate at least three discussion questions for class.

**Paper Project #1:** Analyze the Dallas Design District as a modern space. 3-4 pages. 12 point font, double space. 1 inch margins. Include graphics. Use Chicago style for in-text citations and bibliography.

**Paper Project #2:** There are two options for this paper. Compare and contrast the Dallas Design District versus the Dallas Arts District or analyze the Trinity Groves development area in terms of gentrification. 3-4 pages. 12 point font, double space. 1 inch margins. Include graphics. Use Chicago style for in-text citations and bibliography.

**Final Project:** In groups of 3-4, you will be responsible for overseeing one aspect of analyzing the Dallas Design District and creating recommendations for its future development (e.g. industry analysis, demographic analysis, history, urban design and land use, sustainability, etc). Your grade will consist of an individual grade (35%), group grade (35%), group presentation grade (15%) and peer reviews (15%). More information will be provided later in the semester. Your individual and group grade will be based on an assessment of the final project as well as success in meeting weekly deadlines to ensure you are making progress on the project.

Assignment grades are maintained regularly in Blackboard. You are expected to keep track of your performance throughout the semester and seek guidance from available sources (including me) if your performance drops below satisfactory levels; see "Student Support Services," below.

**Make-up Exams / Assignments:** Late work is not accepted unless you provide acceptable documentation in the case of a medical or family emergency.

## Course Schedule

Date	Readings Due	Assignments Due
<b><u>Week 1: What makes a city, a city?</u></b>	<b>Wed, Jan 20</b>  <b>Fri, Jan 22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “What is a city?”, Mumford (CR)</li> <li>• “Urbanism as a way of life”, Wirth (CR)</li> <li>• “Urbanism and Urbanization”, Zenner &amp; Gmelch</li> <li>• “Dallas-Fort Worth: Toward New Models Of Urbanization, Community Transformation, And Immigration”, Kemper (pdf) p. 125-141</li> </ul>	<b>Wed, Jan 20</b>  <b>Fri, Jan 22</b> Discussion board post due at 5pm Discussion Lead:
<b><u>Week 2: The Industrial City, Urban Reform &amp; City Beautiful</u></b>	<b>Mon, Jan 25</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Great Towns” Friedrich Engels (CR)</li> <li>• “How Dallas Grew and Why”, Enstam</li> </ul> <b>Wed, Jan 27</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Public Parks and the Enlargement of Towns”, Olmstead (CR)</li> <li>• “Dallas Turn of the Century Elite”, Hill p. 1-21</li> </ul> <b>Fri, Jan 29</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Managing the City”, Fairbanks p. 11-33</li> <li>• “George Kessler designed Dallas as a city of majesty, but hit roadblocks”, Dillon</li> <li>• <a href="http://cityhallblog.dallasnews.com/2012/06/making-its-online-debut-or-so-it-appears-george-kesslers-entire-1911-a-city-plan-for-dallas.html/">http://cityhallblog.dallasnews.com/2012/06/making-its-online-debut-or-so-it-appears-george-kesslers-entire-1911-a-city-plan-for-dallas.html/</a></li> </ul>	<b>Mon, Jan 25</b> None  <b>Wed, Jan 27</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Thurs, Jan 28</b> Discussion board post due at 5pm  <b>Fri, Jan 29</b> Discussion Lead:
<b><u>Week 3: The Modern City</u></b>	<b>Mon, Feb 1</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Growth of Cities”, Burgess (CR) p. 1-9</li> </ul> <b>Wed, Feb 3</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Revisioning the Past: Why Dallas is Here”, Allison</li> <li>• “Business Leadership, Planning and WWII”, Fairbanks</li> <li>• Bartholomew Plan – “Your Dallas of Tomorrow” (1943):  <a href="http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph610711/m1/10/">http://texashistory.unt.edu/ark:/67531/metaph610711/m1/10/</a></li> </ul> <b>Fri, Feb 5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Limitations to Urban Problems”, Fairbanks</li> </ul>	<b>Mon, Feb 1</b> None  <b>Wed, Feb 3</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Thurs, Feb 4</b> Discussion board post due at 5pm  <b>Fri, Feb 5</b> Discussion Lead:
<b><u>Week 4: Suburbanization and Death of Downtown</u></b>	<b>Mon, Feb 8</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Drive In Culture”, Jackson (CR)</li> <li>• “The Causes of Sprawl”, Bruegmann (CR)</li> </ul> <b>Wed, Feb 10</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The Decline of City as a Whole”, Fairbanks</li> <li>• “Little Mexico and the Barrios”, Rice p. 158-166</li> <li>• “The Use of Sidewalks: Safety”, Jacobs (CR)</li> </ul> <b>Fri, Feb 12</b> None	<b>Mon, Feb 8</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Wed, Feb 10</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Thurs, Feb 11</b> Discussion board post due at 5pm  <b>Fri, Feb 12</b> None

<b><u>Week 5: Case Study Introduction</u></b>	<b>Mon, Feb 15</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Readings TBD</li> </ul> <b>Wed, Feb 17</b> None; Design District field trip <b>Fri, Feb 19</b> None; no class meeting	<b>Mon, Feb 15</b> Paper #1 Assigned <b>Wed, Feb 17</b> Design District field trip <b>Fri, Feb 19</b> Paper #1 Due by midnight
<b><u>Week 6: End of Modern Cities?</u></b>	<b>Mon, Feb 22</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"From managerialism to entrepreneurialism", Harvey</li> <li>"Beyond Suburbia: The Rise of the Technoburb", Fishman (CR)</li> </ul> <b>Wed, Feb 24</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Tales of Two Cities", Graff p. 161-193</li> <li>Dallas case study from <u>Stuck in Place</u>, Sharkey, p. 55-58</li> </ul> <b>Fri, Feb 26</b> None	<b>Mon, Feb 22</b> Discussion Lead: <b>Wed, Feb 24</b> Discussion Lead: <b>Thurs, Feb 25</b> Discussion board post due by 5pm <b>Fri, Feb 26</b> None
<b><u>Week 7: Downtown "Renaissance" &amp; Gentrification</u></b>	<b>Mon, Feb 29</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Mimetic and Monumental Development", Graff</li> <li>"Fortress LA", Davis (CR)</li> </ul> <b>Wed, March 2</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Consuming Authenticity", Zukin p. 724-745</li> <li>"The Ups and Downs of Gentrification in Dallas"</li> <li>"Oak Cliff Becomes Cool"</li> </ul> <b>Fri, March 4</b> None	<b>Mon, Feb 29</b> Discussion Lead: <b>Wed, March 2</b> Discussion Lead: <b>Thurs, March 3</b> Discussion board post due by 5pm <b>Fri, March 4</b> Paper #2 assigned
<b><u>Week 8: Case Study</u></b>	<b>Mon, March 7</b> Suggested Readings TBD <b>Wed, March 9</b> None; field trip <b>Fri, March 11</b> None; no class meeting	<b>Mon, March 7</b> Field Trip <b>Wed, March 9</b> Trinity Groves Trip <b>Fri, March 11</b> Paper #2 due by midnight
<b><u>Week 9:</u></b>	<b><u>Spring Break</u></b>	<b><u>Spring Break</u></b>
<b><u>Week 10: Community &amp; Economic Development</u></b>	<b>Mon, March 21</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"The Competitive Advantage of the Inner City", Porter (CR)</li> <li>"Innovation Districts", Brookings Institute</li> </ul> <b>Wed, March 23</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"What is Asset Based Community Development?"</li> <li>"Natural Cultural Clusters", Stern &amp; Seifert</li> </ul> <b>Fri, March 25</b> None	<b>Mon, March 21</b> Discussion Lead: <b>Wed, March 23</b> Discussion Lead: <b>Thurs, March 24</b> Discussion board post due by 5pm <b>Fri, March 25</b> None

<b><u>Week 11: Sustainability</u></b>	<b>Mon, March 28</b> “Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities?”, Campbell (CR) “Towards Sustainable Development”, World Commission on Environment & Development (CR) “Charter of New Urbanism”, Duany & Plater-Zyberk (CR)  <b>March 30</b> Video: “Living with the Trinity”  <b>April 1</b> None	<b>Mon, March 28</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Wed, March 30</b>  <b>Thurs, March 31</b> Discussion board post due by 5pm  <b>Fri, April 1</b> None
<b><u>Week 12: Urban Design and Placemaking</u></b>	<b>Mon, April 4</b> “What is Placemaking?”, PPS (CR) “The Design of Spaces”, Whyte (CR) “Toward an Urban Design Manifesto”, Jacobs & Appleyard (CR)  <b>Wed, April 6</b> “What Makes Dallas a Different City”, Greene “Placemaking and the Future of Cities”, PPS (CR) DIY Urbanism – Dallas’ Better Block  <b>Fri, April 8</b> None	<b>Mon, April 4</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Wed, April 6</b> Discussion Lead:  <b>Thurs, April 7</b> Discussion board post due by 5pm  <b>Fri, April 8</b> Sign up for project group
<b><u>Weeks 13-15: Design District Final Project</u></b>	<b>April 11, April 13, April 15</b> (Class attendance required) Readings TBD  <b>April 18, April 20, April 22</b> (Class attendance required) Readings TBD  <b>April 25, April 27, April 29</b> (Class attendance required) Readings TBD	<b>April 15</b> Progress Report Due  <b>April 22</b> Progress Report Due  <b>April 29</b> Progress Report due
<b><u>Week 16: Finalize Report Contributions</u></b>	<b>May 2, May 4, May 6</b> (Class attendance required)	<b>May 6</b> Final Report Due
<b><u>Final Presentation</u></b>	<b>Wed, May 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00-4:30pm</b>	<b>Wed, May 11<sup>th</sup> 2:00-4:30pm</b> Presentation

*As the instructor for this course, I reserve the right to adjust this schedule in any way that serves the educational needs of the students enrolled in this course. –Nicole Foster*

**Expectations for Out-of-Class Study:** Beyond the time required to attend each class meeting, students enrolled in this course should expect to spend at least an additional 9 hours per week of their own time in course-related activities, including reading required materials, completing assignments, preparing for papers, field site visits, etc.

**Grade Grievances:** In attempting to resolve any student grievances regarding grades, it is the student's obligation first to make a serious effort to resolve the matter with the individual with whom the grievance originated. Individual course instructors retain primary responsibility for assigning grades. The instructor's judgment is final unless compelling evidence shows preferential treatment or procedural irregularities. If students wish to appeal, their request must be submitted in writing—on an appeal form available in departmental or program offices—to the department chair or program director. The student has one calendar year from the date the grade is assigned to initiate the grievance. The normal academic channels are department chair or program director and then academic dean. However, before considering a grievance, the department chair or program director will refer the issue to a departmental or program committee of faculty. If the student does not find the committee's decision acceptable, the student may appeal to the academic dean. The decision of the dean is final. Information specific to the procedures to be followed in each academic unit is available in the office of the academic dean. For undergraduate courses, see <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#undergraduatetext>; for graduate courses, see <http://catalog.uta.edu/academicregulations/grades/#graduatetext>.

**Drop Policy:** Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance.** Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (<http://www.uta.edu/aao/fao/>).

**Disability Accommodations:** UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)*, *The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA)*, and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act*. All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of a letter certified by the **Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)**. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:

**The Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD)** [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or calling 817-272-3364.  
**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)** [www.uta.edu/caps/](http://www.uta.edu/caps/) or calling 817-272-3671.

Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at [www.uta.edu/disability](http://www.uta.edu/disability) or by calling the Office for Students with Disabilities at (817) 272-3364.

**Title IX:** *The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit [uta.edu/eos](http://uta.edu/eos). For information regarding Title IX, visit [www.uta.edu/titleIX](http://www.uta.edu/titleIX).*

**Academic Integrity:** Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

*I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*

*I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University.

**Electronic Communication:** UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at <http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php>.

**Student Feedback Survey:** At the end of each term, students enrolled in classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" shall be directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback enters the SFS database anonymously and is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law; students are strongly urged to participate. For more information, visit <http://www.uta.edu/sfs>.

**Final Review Week:** A period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

**Emergency Exit Procedures:** Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit – the central staircase or the east stairwell in the Architecture building. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.

**Student Support Services:** UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to [resources@uta.edu](mailto:resources@uta.edu), or view the information at <http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php>

**The English Writing Center (411LIBR):** Hours are 9 am to 8 pm Mondays-Thursdays, 9 am to 3 pm Fridays and Noon to 5 pm Saturdays and Sundays. Walk In **Quick Hits** sessions during all open hours Mon-Thurs. Register and make appointments online at <http://uta.mywconline.com>. Classroom Visits, Workshops, and advanced services for graduate students and faculty are also available. Please see [www.uta.edu/owl](http://www.uta.edu/owl) for detailed information.

**Subject Librarian to Contact:** Mitch Stepanovich, [stepanovich@uta.edu](mailto:stepanovich@uta.edu), 817-272-2945