

Urban Anthropology & Social Justice
Anthropology 4760
Fall 2020

Time: Tuesday/Thursday 2-3:20

Place: Remote

Instructor: Dr. Andrew Nelson

Office: 110C GAB

Office Hours: Fridays 12-2, or by appointment; virtually by Zoom

E-Mail: andrew.nelson@unt.edu

Instructor Communication: Students can expect to hear back from the instructor within 24 hours of the initial email (48 hours on the weekend).

Course Description:

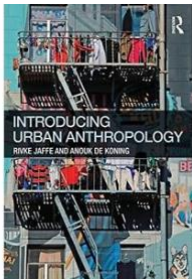
With the goal of asking how we might make fairer cities, this class seeks to understand historically and ethnographically how political, social, and economic structures have shaped urban society and how people-centered movements might regain “rights to the city”. We will focus on local examples of urban social justice causes in Denton and Dallas.

Course Objectives:

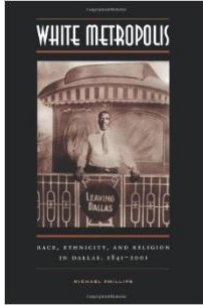
1. Students will apply urban concepts to their everyday life through journal writing.
2. Students will analyze structures of inequality throughout the history of cities by engaging in debates, planning exercises, role-plays, and media applications.
3. Students will identify urban theories in contemporary examples.
4. Students will draw from local examples to see and experience processes of urban change.
5. Students will make an action plan to combat one area of urban inequality.

Required Texts:

1. *Introducing Urban Anthropology*. By Rivke Jaffe and Anouk de Koning. 2016. Routledge.
Noted as IUA in course calendar.



2. *White Metropolis: Race, Ethnicity and Religion in Dallas, 1841-2001*. By Michael Phillips. 2006. Austin: University of Texas Press. **Noted as WM in calendar.**



3. All other materials can be found on Canvas under Readings. Articles will be identified by the author's name and year of publication.

Undergraduate Course Requirements:

I. Discussion Participation

Each Tuesday, from 2-3ish, you will be expected to participate in a group discussion board via Canvas. In order to earn full 3 points per discussion, you must contribute at least three “meaty” posts.

II. Zoom Call Participation

Each Thursday, either from 2-2:40 or 2:40-3:20 (twice it will be 2-3 with guest speakers), you will be expected to join a Zoom call with Prof. Nelson in which you relate the course material to your local example (based on journals).

III. Journals

Almost every Thursday, before 2pm, students will be expected to submit journal entries based on their observations between their “city” and the course material.

IV. Quizzes

There will be two quizzes: one on the history of Dallas (and book *White Metropolis*), and the second on course concepts. They will be administered online via Canvas; you will have 48 hours (Saturday-Sunday) to complete the tests.

V. Paper

Building on the journal entries, students will write and submit a 2000-word paper due November 24th.

VI. Final Project

Students will create a “call to action” final project in which they apply the course lessons to one specific area of urban injustice.

Grade Makeup

Type of Work	Percentage of Final Grade
Participation in 14 Discussions	15%
Participation in 13 Zoom calls	15%
11 Journals	20%
Concept quiz	15%
Dallas quiz	5%
Paper	20%
Final Project	10%

All grades will be assigned based on the following grading scale:

90-100%	A
80-89%	B
70-79%	C
60-69%	D
59-under	F

Course and University Policies

Technology Requirements

Please familiarize yourself with the technology requirements to complete this online course:

- [Hardware and Software Requirements for Canvas \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Canvas Browser Check \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Technology Skills

Minimum technology skills for successful completion of this course include:

- Sending and receiving email
- Creating, sending, and receiving Microsoft Word documents
- Posting to discussion boards
- Printing Word documents OR opening and printing pdf files, using free [Adobe Acrobat Reader \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Navigating Canvas \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Online Rules of Engagement

[Online Rules of Engagement \(Links to an external site.\)](#) refers to the way students are expected to interact with each other and with their instructors online.

Technology Support

Part of working in the online environment involves dealing with the inconveniences and frustration that can arise when technology breaks down or does not perform as expected. Here at UNT we have a [Student Help Desk \(Links to an external site.\)](#) that you can contact for help with Canvas or other technology issues:

Phone: 940-565-2324

Email: helpdesk@unt.edu

Current list of [Student Help Desk hours \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

For additional support, visit this [Canvas Technical Help \(Links to an external site.\)](#) web page.

Academic Support Services

- The [UNT Academic Resource Center \(Links to an external site.\)](#), which provides links to the bookstore, registration and advising information, tuition information, financial aid, and more.
- The [UNT Academic Success Center \(Links to an external site.\)](#), which offers academic support services and free individual tutoring.
- [UNT Writing Lab \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [UNT MathLab \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Student Services

- [Multicultural Center \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Counseling and Testing Services \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Student Affairs Care Team \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Student Health and Wellness Center \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Pride Alliance \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [Student Legal Services \(Links to an external site.\)](#)
- [UNT Food Pantry \(Links to an external site.\)](#)

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences

According to UNT Policy 06.003, [Student Academic Integrity \(Links to an external site.\)](#), academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to: cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

Acceptable Student Behavior

Student behavior that interferes with an instructor's ability to conduct a class or other students' opportunity to learn is unacceptable and disruptive and will not be tolerated in any instructional forum at UNT. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior will be directed to leave the classroom and the instructor may refer the student to the Dean of Students to consider whether the student's conduct violated the [Code of Student Conduct \(Links to an external site.\)](#). The University's expectations for student conduct apply to all instructional forums, including University and electronic classroom, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.

The [Dean of Students Office \(Links to an external site.\)](#) enforces the [Code of Student Conduct \(Links to an external site.\)](#). The Code explains what conduct is prohibited, the process the DOS uses to review reports of alleged misconduct by students, and the sanctions that can be assigned. When students may have violated the Code they meet with a representative from the Dean of Students Office to discuss the alleged misconduct in an educational process.

ADA Accommodation

UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the [ODA website \(Links to an external site.\)](#). You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323.

Sexual Assault Prevention

UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565-2648. Visit [Title IX Student Information \(Links to an external site.\)](#) for more resources.

Undocumented Students

Please see UNT'S [Resources for DACA Students \(Links to an external site.\)](#) web page for more information.

Emergency Notification & Procedures

UNT uses a system called [Eagle Alert \(Links to an external site.\)](#) to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course materials.

Withdrawal

If you are unable to complete this course you must officially withdraw by the University-designated date (for a "W" with instructor approval). Withdrawing from a course is a formal procedure that YOU must initiate. I cannot do it for you. If you simply stop attending and do not withdraw, you will receive a performance grade, usually an "F."

Late Coursework

Late coursework will not be accepted over email. If I will NOT accept work via email, so please do not send it. Late work will only be accepted for credit if accompanied by a note from a medical professional attesting to your inability to complete it. No other exceptions will be considered.

COVID-19 impact on attendance

While attendance is expected as outlined above, it is important for all of us to be mindful of the health and safety of everyone in our community, especially given concerns about COVID-19. Please contact me if you are unable to attend class because you are ill, or unable to attend class due to COVID-19 including symptoms, potential exposure, pending or positive test results, or if you have been given specific instructions to isolate or quarantine from a health care provider or a local authority. It is important that you communicate with me prior to being absent so I may make a decision about accommodating your request to be excused from class.

If you are experiencing any [symptoms of COVID-19](#) please seek medical attention from the Student Health and Wellness Center (940-565-2333 or askSHWC@unt.edu) or your health care provider PRIOR to coming to campus. UNT also requires you to contact the UNT COVID Hotline at 844-366-5892 or COVID@unt.edu for guidance on actions to take due to symptoms, pending or positive test results, or potential exposure. While attendance is an important part of succeeding in this class, your own health, and those of others in the community, is more important.

A NOTE ABOUT LEARNING DURING UNPRECEDENTED TIMES (adapted from Dr. Jason Tham)

The COVID-19 pandemic continues and so do the challenges and suffering of people in our own country and around the world. As we try to navigate, manage, and survive during these times of injustice, persecution, joblessness, homelessness, sickness and death we have the opportunity to come together in this class. We are a learning community and as part of this community our engagement as individuals who are part of this collective space should be guided by the following principles:

People are the priority.

Stay informed.

Communicate and connect.

Celebrate accomplishments.

Take time to thrive.