Course Code / Title: HS4033 Urban Sojourns: The City as Laboratory

Pre-requisites:
- HS1001 Person and Society
- HS2001 Classical Social Theory
- HS2002 Doing Social Research
- HS3001 Contemporary Social Theory
- HS3002 Understanding Social Statistics

No. of AUs: 4 AUs

Contact Hours: 52

Course Aims

Using the city-state, Singapore, as both an example and a living laboratory, this course provides a grounded introduction to the discipline of urban geography. Singapore is a tremendous place to consider the problems and possibilities presented by urban life. Yet, Singapore also continues to evolve in a world of cities. This course goes beyond addressing the fundamentals of Urban Geography through investigating Singapore's unique particularities, such as its global connections and its economic, social, cultural and political dynamics. You will have opportunity to interrogate a range of continuities and changes, paradoxes, problems and potentials across cities' dense and intense urban fabric.

Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO)

By the end of this course, you (as a student) would be able to:

1. Outline major theoretical perspectives in Urban Geography.
2. Discuss critically the promises and problems of the city and urban life.
3. Identify key facets of economic, social, infrastructural and institutional dynamics within urban spaces.
4. Critically analyse the intricate networks and connections embedded within and across urban spaces.
5. Draw on the course themes to critically explore the specific context of our own urban environments.

Course Content

Week 1: Introducing Urban Geographies-The Urbanizing World
Week 2: How Urban Geographers Study Urban Change
Week 3: Geographical explorations of the city
Week 4: Gentrifying the city
Week 5: The everyday urban
Week 6: Arrivals and departures
Week 7: Sheltering the city- urban living
Week 8: Necro and narco geographies of city spaces
Week 9: Coexisting in urban public spaces
Week 10: Extending the metropolis - special economic zones
Week 11: What is beyond the city?
Week 12: Student presentations
Week 13: Feedback and summary

Course Assessment

CA1  Literature review : 25%
CA2  Film review : 25%
CA3  Final group project : 40%
CA4  Class participation : 10%

Total  -------

100%