

FACULTY OF ARTS

# Department of History



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY



## HTST 493.51: Special Topic: Cities in World History.

This course introduces students to major themes in the history of the world's cities from the ancient world to present. It charts the long demographic transformation of what was an overwhelmingly rural global population into one that now is majority urban. Students will learn about the place of cities in different historical periods and how urbanization affected different types of societies around the world.

We will pay special attention to the role of the environment in urban history and the ways that dense settled places have created and then tried to manage unique environmental problems ranging from dirty air and water to incessant noise and overcrowding.

Assigned reading includes Ian Douglas, *Cities: An Environmental History* (London: IB Tauris, 2012) and selected essays from Peter Clark, ed., *The Oxford Handbook of Cities in World History* (Toronto and London: Oxford University Press, 2012)

The course mark is based on two exams, a short paper, participation, and reading quizzes.

[hist.ucalgary.ca](http://hist.ucalgary.ca)