

Dr. J. Adler  
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Fall 2023

Zoom office hours:  
Wed. 9:30-10:30; Fri.  
11:35-12:30; and by  
appointment

## **AMH 3460: U.S. URBAN HISTORY**

### Required Texts:

Alan M. Kraut, *Silent Travelers*  
Tyler Anbinder, *Five Points*  
Jacob Riis, *How the Other Half Lives*  
Kevin Boyle, *Arc of Justice*  
Elizabeth Hinton, *America on Fire*  
David A. Ansell, *The Death Gap*

### Course Requirements:

AMH 3460, which will be taught via Zoom, will examine the growth and development of the American city. It will focus particular attention on the historical forces that contributed to the emergence of modern urban problems, such as racial, class, and ethnic divisions as well as public-health and criminal-justice disparities. A mid-semester take-home examination, a short research paper, and an end-of-semester take-home examination will be required. The mid-semester take-home examination will be distributed on October 3 (and due on October 4) and will be worth 25 percent of your grade, and the research paper, due on November 20 (at the start of class), will be four pages in length and worth 25 percent of your grade. In addition, 25 percent of your course grade will be based on attendance, which is required, class participation, and a weekly assignment, which will entail a brief essay on a topic posted on Canvas during Friday classes and due at the end of the hour, beginning on September 15. To receive credit for attendance, students must participate in the Zoom class meetings, must keep the video feed enabled during class, and must submit the weekly assignments. (If computer problems or other challenges arise or pose particular difficulties for you, please discuss the issue with me at the start of the semester.) The end-of-semester take-home examination will be distributed on December 5 (and due on December 6) and will also be worth 25 percent of your grade. This course will employ UF's grading scale (A=4.0; A-=3.67; B+=3.33; B=3.0; B-=2.67; C+=2.33; C=2.0; C-=1.67; D+=1.33; D=1.0; D-=0.67; E=0.0). Students cannot pass AMH 3460 unless they take both examinations and submit the paper, and there will be no make-up examinations, except in cases of medical emergencies. Anyone requiring special accommodations must register with the Dean of Students Office and discuss his or her particular needs with me during the first three weeks of the semester. Students must conform to the university's conduct policy regarding cheating and the use of copyrighted materials, which can be reviewed at [www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/](http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code/). Finally, students are expected to provide professional feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on giving this feedback is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and the course-evaluation results will be available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

### Zoom Links and Passcodes:

Mondays: 958 0049 3523 (class meeting); 525 114 (passcode)  
Wednesdays: 966 7081 7021 (class meeting); 306 620 (passcode)  
Fridays: 918 3039 0553 (class meetings); 772 124 (passcode)  
Office hours on Wednesdays: 953 8237 2146; 508 713 (passcode)  
Office hours on Fridays: 988 9088 2891; 170 859 (passcode)

Class Schedule and Reading Assignments:

1. Aug. 23, 25                      Cities in the Age of Discovery  
No Reading Assignment
  
2. Aug. 28, 30, Sept. 1        Urban Society in Early America  
No Reading Assignment
  
3. Sept. 6, 8                        The Industrial Revolution  
Reading Assignment: Anbinder, *Five Points*, chaps. 1-4
  
4. Sept. 11, 13, 15                Mass Immigration and the Remaking of the American City  
Reading Assignment: Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, chaps. 1-2
  
5. Sept. 18, 20, 22                Class Identity, Blood Sports, and Recreational Violence  
Reading Assignment: Anbinder, *Five Points*, chaps. 5-9
  
6. Sept. 25, 27, 29                The Birth of the Political Machine  
Reading Assignment: Anbinder, *Five Points*, chaps. 10-14
  
7. Oct. 2                                Death in the Industrial City  
Reading Assignment: Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, chaps. 3-9
  
- Oct. 4                                Mid-Semester examination (no class meeting)
  
8. Oct. 9, 11 13                    The “New Immigrants” and Scientific Racism  
Reading Assignment: Riis, *How the Other Half Lives*
  
9. Oct. 16, 18, 20                The Making of the Racial Ghetto  
Reading Assignment: Boyle, *Arc of Justice*, prologue-chap. 3
  
10. Oct. 23, 25, 27                Race, Class, and Suburbs in the Age of the Automobile  
Reading Assignment: Boyle, *Arc of Justice*, chap. 4-epilogue
  
11. Oct. 30, Nov. 1, 3              Redlining  
No Reading Assignment
  
12. Nov. 6, 8                        Poverty, Crime, and the Rustbelt  
Reading Assignment: Hinton, *America on Fire*
  
13. Nov. 13, 15, 17                The Post-Industrial City

Reading Assignment: Kraut, *Silent Travelers*, chap. 10

14. Nov. 20

Inequality in the Modern City

Reading Assignment: Ansell, *The Death Gap*, chaps. 1-8

15. Nov. 27, 29, Dec. 1

Urban America in the Twenty-First Century

Reading Assignment: Ansell, *The Death Gap*, chaps. 9-13

16. Dec. 6

End-of-Semester Examination (no class meeting)

No Reading Assignment