

UAP 5424 Environment & Behavior Studies
Fall Semester 2012

<p>Instructor Shalini Misra, PhD Assistant Professor Urban Affairs and Planning School of Public and International Affairs College of Architecture and Urban Studies Virginia Tech (National Capital Region) shalini@vt.edu</p>	<p>Class Hours: Thursdays, 4:15 – 6:45 PM Location: TBA Office hours: By appointment (Room 224)</p>
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Course objectives: Why do people over consume scarce natural resources? How can they be motivated to adopt more environmentally sustainable lifestyles? How does the design of our cities, neighborhoods, and buildings affect our health and wellbeing? What impact do crowding, noise, and poverty have on people? How is the increasing use of information and communication technologies affecting the quality of our lives? Questions like these are of interest to environment-behavior scholars and professionals. Through the readings, lectures, exercises, activities, and assignments in this course you will: (1) learn about major theories, concepts, and principles of environment and behavior studies; (2) appreciate the linkages between the social, cultural, and physical aspects of our environments; (3) be acquainted with the research methods, tools, and techniques used in this field; (4) understand and critically evaluate empirical research and its findings in the field of environment and behavior studies; and (5) create a research evidence-based product to address a real environment-behavior issue in the local community.

Course material:

There are two books required for this course:

- (1) Lynch, K. (1960). *The Image of the City*.
<http://www.amazon.com/Image-Harvard-MIT-Center-Studies-Series/dp/0262620014>
- (2) Hall, E. T. (1966). *The Hidden Dimension*.
<http://www.amazon.com/The-Hidden-Dimension-Edward-Hall/dp/0385084765>

In addition to the course textbooks, you will be required to complete a set of readings *before* each class session. The readings for the first three weeks of this course can be downloaded from the electronic dropbox created for this class. Here is the link to the dropbox: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/5766gjp8zgmynhk/ZaxkN1_KNK

Course requirements:

Article summaries (30% of final grade): Starting week 2, you are asked to write a one-page summary of the readings assigned each week. Your summary should include the following elements: (1) a brief discussion of the important topics, concepts, or themes introduced in the readings; (2) connections and contradictions between readings; and (3) critical questions that arise from the readings (draw on your background and experience).

Please email me your article summaries at least 24 hours before class (i.e., by 4 PM on Wednesday) so that I can incorporate your questions and reflections on the readings into the class discussion.

Class participation (20% of final grade): The success of this seminar course depends on your active involvement in the discussions during class. You will receive credit for class participation.

Research paper (50% of final grade): You are required to write a research paper on a topic of your choice that is relevant to the core principles and themes of environment and behavior studies. You have the option of working with one other student to write a co-authored paper, or you may work individually. Your research paper could be: (1) an empirical study describing the rationale, methods, and results of a mini research project; (2) a theoretical paper introducing a new concept or idea, or extending an existing theory in environment and behavior studies; or (3) a research report linking environment and behavior studies principles or research findings to an urban planning, design, or public policy issue. You are encouraged to be creative with this research paper. We will discuss the requirements further in class.

Discussion Topics and Readings

<p>August 30</p>	<p>Course Overview and Introduction</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Bell, P. A., Fisher, J. D., Baum, A., & Greene, T. E. (2001). Why study environmental psychology? What is environmental psychology? <i>Environmental psychology</i> (5 ed., pp. 1-9). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson Learning.</p> <p>Carr, N. (2008, August). Is Google making us stupid? <i>The Atlantic</i>. Retrieved from http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2008/07/is-google-making-us-stupid/6868/</p> <p>Epstein, H. (n.d.). GHETTO MIASMA; Enough to make you sick? <i>New York Times</i>. Retrieved August 8, 2012, from http://www.nytimes.com/2003/10/12/magazine/ghetto-miasma-enough-to-make-you-sick.html?pagewanted=all&src=pm</p> <p>Mehaffy, M., & Salinger, N. A. (2011, October 12). The architect has no clothes. Retrieved August 8, 2012, from http://www.guernicamag.com/blog/the_architect_has_no_clothes/</p>
<p>September 6</p>	<p>Conceptualizing the Environment</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Stokols, D. (1981). The environmental context of behavior and well-being. In D. Perlman & C. Cozby (Eds.), <i>Social psychology</i> (pp. 442-472). NY: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston.</p> <p>Firey, W. (1945). Sentiment and symbolism as ecological variables. <i>American Sociological Review</i>, 10, 140-148.</p> <p>Michelson, W. (1970). What human ecology left behind in the dust. <i>Man and his urban environment: A sociological approach</i> (pp. 3-32). Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.</p> <p>Wicker, A.W. (1979). Introduction; Behavior settings. <i>An introduction to ecological psychology</i>. (pp. 1-25). Monterey, CA: Brooks/Cole.</p> <p>Sime, J. D. (1986). Creating places or designing spaces? <i>Journal of</i></p>

	<i>Environmental Psychology</i> , 6(1), 49–63.
September 13	<p style="text-align: center;">**** Research Paper Title Due****</p> <p>Environmental Perception and Cognition</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Hall, E. Chapter 1. Culture as Communication. p 1-6.</p> <p>Hall, E. Chapters 4- 7. p. 41-100.</p> <p>Lynch, K. The Image of the City. Chapters 1, 2 and 3 (p. 1-90), Appendix A (123-139).</p> <p>Milgram, S., & Jodelet, D. (1976). Psychological maps of Paris. In H.M. Proshansky, W.H. Ittelson, & L.G. Rivlin (Eds.), <i>Environmental psychology</i>. Second edition (pp. 104-124). New York: Holt, Rinehart, & Winston.</p> <p>Evans, G. W., Skorpanich, M. A., Gärling, T., Bryant, K. J., & Bresolin, B. (1984). The effects of pathway configuration, landmarks and stress on environmental cognition. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 4(4), 323–335.</p>
September 20	<p>Personal Space, Territoriality, & Crowding</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Hall, E. Chapter 9 through 12. P. 101-163.</p> <p>Altman, I. (1975). Introduction (pp. 1-9) and Chapter 7, Territorial behavior: Conceptual issues (pp. 103-125). <i>The environment and social behavior</i>. Monterey, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishing Company.</p> <p>Brown, B. (1985). Residential burglaries: Cues to burglary vulnerability. <i>Journal of Architectural and Planning Research</i>, 2, 231-243.</p> <p>Sommer, R. (1987) Crime and vandalism in university residence halls: A confirmation of defensible space theory. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 7(1), 1-12.</p> <p>Stokols, D. (1972). On the distinction between density and crowding: Some implications for future research. <i>Psychological Review</i>, 79, 275-277.</p>

	<p>Evans, G.W. & Wener, R. (2007). Crowding and personal space invasion on the train: Please don't make me sit in the middle. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 27(1), 90-94.</p>
<p>September 27</p>	<p>Socio-cultural and Personality Factors</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Michelson, W. (1970). Determinism by the urban environment. <i>Man and his urban environment: A sociological approach</i> (pp. 168-190). Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley.</p> <p>Gosling, S.D., Ko, S.J., Mannarelli, T., & Morris, M.E. (2002). A room with a cue: Personality judgments based on offices and bedrooms. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 82, 379-382.</p> <p>Proshansky, H. M., Fabian, A. K., Kaminoff, R. (1983). Place-identity: Physical world socialization of the self. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 3(1), 57-83.</p> <p>Di Masso, A., Dixon, J. Pola, E. (2011). On the contested nature of place: 'Figuera's Well', 'The Hole of Shame' and the ideological struggle over public space in Barcelona. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 31(3), pp. 231-244.</p> <p>Florida, R. (2002). Preface, pp. ix-xii; The power of place. <i>The rise of the creative class</i> (pp. 215-234). NY: Basic Books</p>
<p>October 4</p>	<p>***Research Paper Outline Due***</p> <p>Research Methods in Environment-Behavior Studies</p> <p>Winkel, G., Saegert, S., & Evans, G. (2009). An ecological perspective on theory, methods, and analysis in environmental psychology: Advances and challenges. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 29(3), 318-328.</p> <p>Bell, P.A., Fisher, J.D., Baum, A., & Greene, T.E. (1990). How is research in environmental psychology done? <i>Environmental psychology</i>, 3rd Edition. NY: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, pp. 11-23.</p> <p>Zeisel, J. (2006). Observing physical traces. <i>Inquiry by design</i> (pp. 159-179). NY: W. W. Norton & Company.</p> <p>Zeisel, J. (2006). Observing environmental behavior. <i>Inquiry by design</i> (pp.</p>

	<p>191-220). NY: W. W. Norton & Company.</p> <p>Lynch, K. The Image of the City. Appendix B and C 140-181.</p>
October 11	<p>Environmental Stressors</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Milgram, S. (1970). The experience of living in cities. <i>Science</i>, 167, 1461-1468.</p> <p>Mathew, K.E., & Canon, L.K. (1975). Environmental noise levels as a determinant of helping behavior. <i>Journal of Personality and Social Psychology</i>, 32, 571-577.</p> <p>Sapolsky, R. (2005). Sick of poverty. <i>Scientific American</i>, 293, 92-99.</p> <p>Evans, G. (2004). The environment of childhood poverty. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 99(2), 77-92.</p> <p>Wachs, T. D., & Camli, O. (1991). Do ecological or individual characteristics mediate the influence of the physical environment upon maternal behavior. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 11(3), 249-264.</p> <p>Appleyard, D. (1981). Three streets in San Francisco. <i>Livable streets</i> (pp. 15-28). Berkeley, CA: University of California Press.</p>
October 18	<p>Environments and Health</p> <p>Vanderbilt, T. (2012, April 10). The crisis in American walking: How we got off the pedestrian path. <i>Slate</i>. Retrieved from http://www.slate.com/articles/life/walking/2012/04/why_don_t_americans_walk_more_the_crisis_of_pedestrianism_.html</p> <p>Wells, N.M., Evans, G.W. & Yang, Y. (2010). Environments and Health: Planning Decisions as Public Health Decisions. <i>Journal of Architectural and Planning Research</i>, 27 (2), 124-143.</p> <p>Campbell, T., & Campbell, A. (2007). Emerging disease burdens and the poor in cities of the developing world. <i>Journal of Urban Health</i>, 84(1), 54-64.</p> <p>Campbell-Lendrum, D., & Corvalán, C. (2007). Climate change and developing-country cities: Implications for environmental health and equity.</p>

	<p><i>Journal of Urban Health</i>, 84(Suppl 1), 109–117.</p> <p>Christakis, N. A., & Fowler, J. H. (2007). The spread of obesity in a large social network over 32 years. <i>New England Journal of Medicine</i>, 357(4), 370–379.</p> <p>Optional:</p> <p>Vanderbilt, T. (2012, April 13). Learning to walk: How America can start walking again. <i>Slate</i>. Retrieved from http://www.slate.com/articles/life/walking/2012/04/walking_in_america_how_we_can_become_pedestrians_once_more_.html</p> <p>Vanderbilt, T. (2012, April 12). What's Your Walk Score? The company that puts a number on walkability. <i>Slate</i>. Retrieved from http://www.slate.com/articles/life/walking/2012/04/walking_in_america_how_walk_score_puts_a_number_on_walkability_.html</p>
October 25	<p style="text-align: center;">***Research paper draft (2-3 pages) due*** *** Movie: The Corporation***</p> <p>Environmental Consumption and Conservation</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Durning, A.T. (2005). An ecological critique of global advertising. In L. Pojman (Ed), <i>Environmental Ethics: Readings in Theory and Application</i> (4th Edition) (pp. 640-646). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson</p> <p>Maruyama, M. (1963). The second cybernetics: The role of deviation-amplifying mutual causal processes. <i>American Scientist</i>, 5(2), 164-179.</p> <p>Hardin, G. (1968). Tragedy of the commons. <i>Science</i>, 162, 1243-1248.</p> <p>Hardin, G. (2005). A Lifeboat ethics: The case against helping the poor. In L. Pojman (Ed.), <i>Environmental Ethics: Readings in Theory and Application</i> (4 ed., pp. 778-789). Belmont, CA: Wadsworth/Thomson.</p> <p>DeYoung, R. (2000). Expanding and evaluating motives for environmentally responsible behavior. <i>Journal of Social Issues</i>, 56(3), 509-526.</p> <p>Kaplan, S. (2000). Human nature and environmentally responsible behavior. <i>Journal of Social Issues</i>, 56(3), 491-508.</p>

	<p>Steg, L. & Vlek, C., (2008). Encouraging pro-environmental behaviour: An integrative review and research agenda. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 29(3), 309-317.</p> <p>Uzzell, D. (2002). The psycho-spatial dimension of global environmental problems. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 20(4), 307-318.</p>
<p>November 1</p>	<p>Environmental Restoration</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Ulrich, R.S. (1984). View through a window may influence recovery from surgery. <i>Science</i>, 224, 420-421.</p> <p>Kaplan, S. (1995). The restorative benefits of nature: Toward an integrative framework. <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 15, 169-182.</p> <p>Wells, N., M. & Evans, G., (2003). Nearby nature: A buffer of life stress among rural children. <i>Environment and Behavior</i>, 35(3), 311-330.</p> <p>Takano, T., Nakamura, K., & Watanabe, M. (2002). Urban residential environments and senior citizens' longevity in megacity areas: The importance of walkable green spaces. <i>Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health</i>, 56(12), 913-918.</p> <p>Frumkin, H. (2001). Beyond toxicity: Human health and the natural environment. <i>American journal of preventive medicine</i>, 20(3), 234-240.</p>
<p>November 8</p>	<p>Technological Change</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Negroponte, N.P. (1995). The post-information age. <i>Being Digital</i> (pp. 163-171). NY: Vintage Books.</p> <p>Small, G., & Vorgan, G. (2008). Meet your iBrain. <i>Scientific American</i>, October / November, 42-49.</p> <p>Rosen, C. (2007). Virtual friendship and the new narcissism. <i>The New Atlantis</i>, 17, 15-31.</p> <p>Noam, E.M. (1995). Electronics and the dim future of the university. <i>Science</i>, 270, 247-249.</p>

	<p>Gergen, K. J. (2002). The challenge of absent presence. In J. E. Katz & M. Aakhus (Eds.), <i>Perpetual Contact: Mobile Communication, Private Talk, Public Performance</i> (pp. 227-241). Cambridge, U.K.: Cambridge University Press.</p> <p>Marche, S. (2012, May). Is facebook making us lonely? <i>The Atlantic</i>. Retrieved from http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2012/05/is-facebook-making-us-lonely/8930/</p>
November 15	<p style="text-align: center;">Research Paper Draft (8-10 pages) due ***Movie: The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces***</p> <p>Environmental Design</p> <p>Readings:</p> <p>Jacobs, J. (1989). <i>The death and life of great American cities</i> (pp. 17-25 & 143-151). NY: Random House.</p> <p>Oldenburg, R. (1999). The problem of place in America (Chapter 1). In <i>The great good place</i>. NY: Marlowe & Company, 3-19</p> <p>Lynch, K. Chapter 4 and 5. P. 91-122</p> <p>Hall, E. Chapter 13 and 14. p. 165-190</p> <p>Wright, F.L. (1958). <i>The living city</i> (pp. 31-32, 54-73). NY: Horizon.</p> <p>Banerjee, T. (2001). The future of public space: beyond invented streets and reinvented places. <i>Journal of the American Planning Association</i>, 67(1), 9-24.</p>
November 22	<p>---Thanksgiving Break; No Class---</p>
November 29	<p style="text-align: center;">*** Movie: Urbanized***</p> <p>Globalization, Urbanization, & Social Change</p> <p>Heller, N. (2012, April 16). The disconnect. <i>The New Yorker</i>. Retrieved from http://www.newyorker.com/arts/critics/books/2012/04/16/120416crbo_books_heller?printable=true&currentPage=all</p> <p>Putnam, P.D. (1995). <i>Bowling alone: America's declining social capital</i>.</p>

	<p><i>Journal of Democracy</i>, 6, 65-78.</p> <p>Wood, L. & Giles-Corti, B. (2008). Is there a place for social capital in the psychology of health and place? <i>Journal of Environmental Psychology</i>, 28(2), 154-163.</p> <p>Banerjee, T. (2008). Urban outcomes of globalization: Theory, research, and practice. <i>Journal of Urban History</i>, 34(6), 1044-1054</p>
December 6	<p style="text-align: center;">*** Discussion of Student Research Papers***</p> <p>Future Directions in Environment-Behavior Studies</p> <p>Stokols, D., Misra, S., Runnerstrom, M. G., & Hipp, J. A. (2009). Psychology in an age of ecological crisis: From personal angst to collective action. <i>American Psychologist</i>, 64 (3), 181-193.</p> <p>Gladwell, M. (2010, October 4). Small change. <i>The New Yorker</i>. Retrieved from http://www.newyorker.com/reporting/2010/10/04/101004fa_fact_gladwell?printable=true&currentPage=1</p> <p>Shirky, C. (2011). The political power of social media: Technology, the public sphere and social change. <i>Foreign Affairs</i>, 90(1), 28-41.</p> <p>Goodman, R. (2012, January 15). Gluttony Goes Viral. <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i>. Retrieved from https://chronicle.com/article/Gluttony-Goes-Viral/130285/?sid=cr&utm_source=cr&utm_medium=en</p> <p>Ratti, C., & Townsend, A., (2011). The social nexus, <i>Scientific American</i>, 305(3), 42-48. http://senseable.mit.edu/papers/pdf/2011_Ratti_Townsend_Nexus_SA.pdf</p> <p>Mcdonald, J. C., Robert, & Denning, C. (2012, January 22). Ecological urbanism for the 21st century. <i>The Chronicle of Higher Education</i>. Retrieved from https://chronicle.com/article/Ecological-Urbanism-for-the/130384/?sid=cr&utm_source=cr&utm_medium=en</p> <p>Bullard, R. D., & Johnson, G. S. (2000). Environmental justice: Grassroots activism and its impact on public policy decision making. <i>Journal of Social Issues</i>, 56(3), 555-578. doi:10.1111/0022-4537.00184</p>
Friday, December 14	---Papers due---