This course will provide an overview of the key worldwide issues and trends, institutions and initiatives, with respect to global urban policy and development. Several sessions will address specific challenges and solutions, including urban/regional economies and metropolitan economic strategy; infrastructure, transportation, land-use, energy, and environment; poverty, informality, jobs, livelihoods, housing, and communities; and sustainable and inclusive economic development.

**Group Project:** (75 percent of final grade) Students will work together in teams assigned to provide policy guidance and strategic advice to key public and private policymakers in five major Brazilian cities -- Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, and Sao Paulo -- and one team will do the same for Beirut, Lebanon. Each team will determine and analyze major policy challenges facing their city/urban region, and propose policy solutions to address these challenges. The results will be presented by each team in a 10-15 minute PowerPoint presentation during the final class session, and each team also will complete a 10-page double-spaced memo to the city’s chief executive, highlighting the background research and summarizing the key findings and policy recommendations (due at the final class session).

**Class Participation:** (25 percent of final grade) Students are encouraged to actively participate in class sessions by asking questions and engaging in conversation and debate, and to read the various assigned materials and come to class fully prepared to discuss them.

**Office Hours:** Thursdays, 3:00-4:00 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm, Room 1309 IAB.

**Readings:** Three books will be available in paperback at the Columbia University Bookstore (and on reserve at the SIPA Library). One book is assigned: Jeb Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution: How Cities are Changing the World* (2009). Two books are recommended: Janice Perlman, *Favela: Four Decades of Living on the Edge in Rio de Janeiro* (2010); and Hugh Schwartz, *Urban Renewal, Municipal Revitalization: The Case of Curitiba, Brazil* (2004). Additional readings, both assigned and recommended, including articles from *Global Urban Development (GUD) Magazine*, will be available on Courseworks and on reserve at the SIPA Library. (Many of the readings also are available on the Global Urban Development website, www.globalurban.org.)
Class Schedule:

This class session will focus on the economic, social, demographic, cultural, technological, and environmental transformation of cities and urban regions in developing countries.


January 26: Global Urban Policy and Development – Institutions and Initiatives
This class session will focus on the governance, policy, fiscal, and political challenges facing cities and urban regions in developing countries, including the role of global and international agencies, organizations, and networks.


February 2: Urban/Regional Economies and Metropolitan Economic Strategy


February 9: Infrastructure, Transportation, Land-Use, Energy, and Environment


February 16: Poverty, Informality, Jobs, Livelihoods, Housing, and Communities

Guest Speakers: Ivan De Pellegrin, Director of Planning, Programs, and Investment Attraction, and Moema Pereira Nunes, Deputy Director of Planning, Programs, and Investment Attraction, Rio Grande do Sul Development Agency (AGDI), Porto Alegre, Brazil.


February 23: Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Development


March 1: Team Presentations and Concluding Discussion

Due: Individual and Group Papers