Global Cities and Global Order

Instructor: Prof. Simon Curtis (University of East Anglia)

Date: June 26 - 30
Time: 4.30 pm - 6.30 pm
Room: 24.133 Fred Halliday - Mercè Rodoreda Building 24 (Floor 1)

The re-emergence of the city from the long shadow of the state in the late-twentieth century was facilitated by the state itself. The unprecedented size and scale of today’s global cities owe their conditions of possibility to a fundamental shift in the character of political order at the level of the international system. This course explores the notion that we must understand the rise of the global city as part of a wider process of the transformation of international political order, and of the character of international society.

The course will draw upon international theory, political geography and urban studies. It covers the emergence of global cities as part of a liberal world order, and explains their role in contemporary global governance. It examines challenges to the global city today, and assesses the future potential of global cities to evolve into more social just and environmentally sustainable forms, and to transform the nature of globalism.

Session 1. Introduction: A Mutation in Urban Form

Required reading:


**Further reading:**


**Session 2. Theorizing Global Cities**

**Required reading:**


**Further reading:**


**Session 3. Global Cities and International Change**

**Required reading:**


**Further reading:**


Session 4. Cities in a Global Order

Required reading:


Further reading:


Session 5. The Future of Global Cities: Dangers and Opportunities

Required reading:


Further reading:

Barber, B. 2013. If mayors ruled the world: dysfunctional nations, rising cities. Yale University Press.


Additional Readings


