URBAN CONFLICT AND URBAN JUSTICE

PHD COURSE
SPRING 2012

UPPSALA
17-18 JANUARY

LUND
12-14 MARCH

MALMO
10-12 APRIL
PhD course

URBAN CONFLICT and URBAN JUSTICE

7.5 ECTS

Spring 2012

3 modules in Uppsala (17-18 January), Lund (12-14 March) and Malmö (10-12 April)

Language: English, with some of the non-compulsory course literature in Swedish

Fees: SEK 2,500 (PhD-students from member departments of the National Programme – No fee)

Organised by

Guy Baeten, Department of Human Geography, University of Lund (course responsible)
Carina Listerborn, Department of Urban Studies, Malmö University
Irene Molina, Department of Social & Economic Geography, Uppsala University

Apply

By sending an email to guy.baeten@keg.lu.se the latest by December 10th, 9am, with your affiliations and short description (max. 250 words) of your research work. The first 20 applicants will be accepted, the other ones will be put on a waiting list.

Aims

An interdisciplinary approach is used to analyse and understand urban conflict and urban justice, with a focus on contemporary urban questions. The course aims to enable individual postgraduate students to view their own projects in an urban theory perspective, drawing upon the combined use of geographical, planning, architectural, sociological and historical theory.

Objectives

On completion of the course, the postgraduate student will be able to describe and analyse examples of the various urban expressions related to urban conflict and urban justice, based on urban theoretical frameworks. The postgraduate student will have acquired knowledge of how
different perspectives and concepts can be used to understand conflict and justice in an urban framework.

Overall theme

We are currently witnessing a wave of political uprisings and (often violent) conflict in cities across the globe due to dramatic political and economic transformations. This course seeks to connect academic work in urban geography, planning, urban studies and architecture with the current wave of urban unrest.

The city is the prime spatial arena where social inequalities erupt in conflict. Whether it is injustices emanating from differences in class, gender, race, ethnicity or sexual preference, they first and foremost lead to conflict, harassment, protest, contestation, exploitation, demonstration, victories and violence in urban (public) settings. Conflicts can revolve around the use of urban space itself (struggles around housing, transport, sidewalks, office development, water provision, body politics, etc.) but highly symbolic places in the city such as central squares and streets can also be occupied by (urban) social movements to give weight to their cause. In this way, the city becomes the site of inclusion and exclusion, of polarization and segregation, of fight and loss, of repression and revolution.

This course would like to be a source of information and discussion around four recurring themes.

- How can we understand urban conflict through (geographical) theory? This topic discusses theories available (gender theory, post-political theory, theories of neoliberalism, intersectionality, etcetera) and in what cases and in what ways they can be applied to contemporary urban conflicts.
- How can we understand geographical theory through urban conflict? This theme should provide insights in how we can reject, criticize or contribute to existing theories through field work and empirical findings centred around conflict in the city.
- How do we understand the role and power of urban contestation, street violence, uprisings? This topic deals with historical and contemporary urban movements and their goals, tactics and uses of urban space.
- How can the study of urban conflict contribute to a better understanding of ’urban justice’? This theme deals with the revival of ‘justice’ thinking in urban geography, planning and architecture, and how academic research can contribute to emancipatory urban practices.
Schedule

**Uppsala**

*January, Week 3*

**Tuesday 17 January:**

11.00 - 12.30: Irene Molina, *Coffee, welcome and introduction*
12.30 - 13.30: Lunch
13.30 - 15.00: Irene Molina, *Racialization of cities*

**Wednesday 18 January:**

8.30 - 10.00: Mats Frantzén, *Space and The Public* (preliminary title)
10.00 - 12.00: Irene Molina (with Loic Wacquant), *field trip to Uppsala suburb Gottsunda*
13.00 - 14.30: Irene Molina and Brett Christophers, *Seminar on Loic Wacquant*
15.00 - 17.00: Loic Wacquant, *Title to be confirmed*

**Lund**

*March, Week 11*

**Monday 12 March**

13.00-13.30: Guy Baeten, *Coffee, welcome and introduction*
13.30-15.00: Eric Clark, *Shifting 'routine urban order': Seeking the unjust city in Sweden since 1976*
15.30-17.00: Seminar with Eric Clark

**Tuesday 13 March**

9.00-10.30: Guy Baeten, *Urban Development Projects and Questions of Urban Justice*
10.45-12.15: Anders Lund Hansen, *Space Wars and the Fight for Qualitative Change*
15.15-16.45: Seminar with Wendy Pullan

**Wednesday 14 March**
9.00 – 15.00: Anders Lund Hansen, *Field trip to Copenhagen, including the free state of Christiania*

**Malmö**
*April, Week 15*

**Tuesday 10 April**
13.00 – 13.30: Carina Listerborn, *Coffee, welcome and introduction*
13.30 – 17.00: Roger Johansson and Stefan Nyzell, *Political violence in the rear mirror – riots in Malmö, including a field trip in Malmö*

**Wednesday 11 April**
10.00 - 12.00: Margit Mayer, *Cities for People - not for Profit*
13.15 – 15.00: Seminar with Margit Mayer
15.15 – 16.30: Group discussions
16.30 – 17.30: Summary of group discussions

**Thursday 12 April**
9.30 – 10.45: Per-Markku Ristilammi, *Conflicts in the Urban Frontiers*
11.00 -12.00: Carina Listerborn, *What is violence?*
12.00-12.30: Guy Baeten, *Course evaluation and wrapping-up*

**Exam**
The exam will consist of a final paper (maximum 3000 words) that seeks to interpret the participants' own research within the literature and the discussions of the class. The deadline for submission is 26th of April, 9am. Participants will get personal written feedback.
Course literature

**Compulsory:**


Clark, E, to be confirmed


Pullan, W, to be confirmed


**Highly recommended:**


Harvey, D (2008), The Right to the City, *New Left Review*, 53, September October, pp. 23-40


Soja, E (2010), *Seeking Spatial Justice*, University of Minnesota Press, Minnesota


**Teachers**

**Guy Baeten**, Reader in Geography, Department of Human Geography, University of Lund

**Brett Christophers**, Research Fellow, Department of Human Geography, University of Uppsala

**Eric Clark**, Professor of Human Geography, Department of Human Geography, University of Lund

**Mats Franzén**, Professor of Sociology, University of Uppsala
Roger Johansson, Professor in History, Malmö University

Anders Lund Hansen, Lecturer in Human Geography, Department of Human Geography, University of Lund

Margit Mayer, Professor in Political Science, John F. Kennedy Institute for North American Studies, Department of Political Science, Freie Universität Berlin

Irene Molina, Docent of Human Geography, Department of Human Geography, University of Uppsala

Stefan Nyzell, Senior Lecturer in History, Malmö University

Wendy Pullan, Reader in Architecture, University of Cambridge

Per-Markku Ristilammi, Professor of Ethnology, Malmö University

Loic Wacquant, Professor of Sociology, University of California at Berkeley