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## GEOG 421S.01: Towns and Rural Settlement

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## TOWNS and RURAL SETTLEMENT

### (Course Outline and Reading Assignments)

TEXTS: Truman Hartshorn, Interpreting the City: An Urban Geography, 2nd Edition, 1995.  
Samuel N. Stokes, Saving America's Countryside, 2nd Edition, 1996.

#### Part #1

##### The Foundations of Urban and Rural Settlement

##### Chapter Readings

		Hartshorn	Stokes
1.	Developing Fields of Inquiry: Rural and Urban Geography		1
2.	Foundations of American Rural Settlement	1	
3.	Foundations of American Urbanism		4

#### Part #2

##### Urban and Rural Relationships

1.	Spheres of Influence: Service Areas, Tributary Areas		5
2.	Typology of Towns		
3.	Central Place Theory: The Urban Hierarchy		8
4.	Considerations of Economic Base	7	

#### Part #3

##### Rural Settlement: Patterns, Concepts, and Conservation

1.	Acquisition of Territory/Origins of Public Domain	2 - 3	
2.	Land Tenure, Patterns of Ownership	4 - 5	
3.	Rural Communities	6 - 7	
4.	Rural Conservation and Planning		8

#### Part #4

##### Towns and Regional Centers: Internal Relationships

1.	Population and Land Use		11
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2.	Theories of Urban Morphology	11
3.	Residential Patterns--Neighborhoods and Housing	12
4.	Ethnicity and Migration	13 - 14
5.	Commercial Structure	
		15 - 18
6.	The Urban Physical Environment	6

### **Term Paper and Class Presentation**

A term paper of between 10 and 15 pages will be prepared by each student on a topic assigned by the instructor. The paper will be used as the basis for a 15 minute class presentation to be held sometime during the last three weeks of the semester. The term paper is to be type written and bound in a theme cover. It should include a title page, text, footnotes, and bibliography. It is to be formatted throughout according to the standards set forth in the most recent edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. Footnotes are to be placed at the bottom of the page.

Term paper topics will be assigned from the following list:

1. The Role of Planning in Rural Conservation.
2. Economic, Demographic, and Social Issues Confronting Rural America.
3. The Role of GIS in Assisting Rural Conservation.
4. Zoning for Rural Areas and Small Towns.
5. The Role of Conservation Easements in Rural Conservation.
6. Conservation of Specialized Resources (Historic, Scenic, Recreation, Public Lands).
7. Inventorying Natural Resources: Environmental Impacts.
8. Conservation and Economic Development for Small Towns and Rural Areas.
9. Potential Problems and Hazards to Conservation.
10. Conservation and Public Awareness.
11. Issues Surrounding the Acquisition of Property of Conservation Purposes.
12. Agriculture and Rural Conservation.
13. Preserving the Health of Small Communities.
14. Open Space: Issues and Solutions.
15. Preserving Wildlife and Endangered Species.
16. The National Environmental Policy Act and State Equivalents.
17. Preserving Water and Related Resources.
18. The Role of Local Government in Conservation.
19. Rural Subdivision and Housing.
20. Dealing with Conflict as it Concerns Rural Conservation.
21. Historic Preservation and Rural Conservation.
22. The Role and Design of Impact Statements in Rural Conservation.
23. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.
24. Nature Conservancy.
25. The Heritage of Theodore Roosevelt in Conserving the West.
26. Planning for Flood Plains.
27. Creating the Rattlesnake Wilderness.
28. Status and Prospects of Montana's Roadless Areas.
29. Conservation of Archaeological Sites.
30. Penn Station, New York City (*Wilson's topic*)

### **Field Trip**

A three-hour field trip of the Missoula urban area will be scheduled late during the semester.

### **Examinations**

Examinations will be scheduled after Parts 2 and 4 of the above outline. The examination after Part 4 will be held during the regularly scheduled Final Exam Period for one hour from 3:20 to 4:20 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17.

The Final Exam is not comprehensive. Both examinations will be in essay format.