**COURSE SCENARIO**

***Interdisciplinary Approaches to Nature in Urban Setting***

**CLASS 1**

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| **TOPIC** | Introduction to urban anthropology and sociology |
| **LEARNING CONTENT - DETAILED CHARACTERISTICS** | This lecture will explore the fundamental concepts of urban anthropology and sociology, investigating how these disciplines analyze the dynamics of urban environments. We will delve into theories that explain urbanization's social, cultural, and spatial dimensions and discuss the role of power, identity, and community in shaping urban life. |
| **KEY WORDS** | Urban anthropology, urban sociology, urbanization, spatiality, social identities. |
| **SUGGESTED TOOLS** | Whiteboard for brainstorming and diagramming, Mentimeter, googlemaps. |
| **TIPS / METHODOLOGICAL REMARKS****(If applicable)** | During the class, students are encouraged to actively engage in discussions and ask questions. Provide real-world examples to make abstract concepts more relatable. Suggest further reading to deepen understanding. |
| **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CLASSES**  | **STEP 1** | Lecture starts with an open-ended question: "What comes to mind when you think about cities?"Students engage in a brainstorming session, noting their responses on the whiteboard or mentimeter.Class transitions to discussing the importance of studying cities anthropologically and sociologically. |
| **STEP 2** | Lecturer presents key urban anthropology and sociology theories and readings: Urbanism as a way of life, The production of space, The right to the city.Further introducing notable figures like Henri Lefebvre, Jane Jacobs, and Michel de Certeau.Emphasizing how these theories offer insights into urban structures, social relationships, and cultural practices. |
| **STEP 3** | Lecturer opens the floor for questions and thoughts on the presented theories. Also encourages students to relate the theories to their own experiences or observations of urban life. Discussion on how these theories challenge traditional views of cities and how they have evolved over time. |
| **STEP 4** | Lecturer presents brief case studies from diverse urban contexts, such as informal settlements, gentrified neighborhoods, or smart cities. Later asks questions like: How do these cases reflect the theories we've discussed? How do they highlight social inequalities or community dynamics? Lecturer encourages students to critically analyze the cases using the theoretical framework. |
| **STEP 5** | Lecturer summarizes the key takeaways from the lecture, emphasizing the interdisciplinary nature of urban anthropology and sociology.A list of recommended readings, including seminal texts and contemporary research articles is presented (below).Students are invited to explore how these disciplines can inform solutions to urban challenges. |

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL 1 WORK CARD (Urban reflections)**

To encourage students to reflect on their initial impressions and perceptions of urban environments.

* Take a few minutes to individually jot down your thoughts about cities. What images, words, or feelings come to mind?
* Note those reflections, feelings, thoughts and prepare the notes for the upcoming lecture
* Share your reflections with a partner and discuss the similarities and differences in your perceptions.
* As a group, share some of the common themes that emerged from your discussions.
* Consider how your personal experiences might influence your perceptions of urban life.