

# Global Urbanism Trends around the World

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## Description

Global urbanism refers to the global challenges and urban conditions of cities in different geographical contexts and it evaluates hegemonic and Euro-centric representations that have shaped urban scholarship. As an area of study, global urbanism attentions on critical discussions of urban theory, global policy agendas, and contemporary issues that have framed the ways in which cities are researched, represented, and positioned in a global landscape. Aiming on cities in the Global South, global urbanism addresses demands for a more universal accepting of cities across the globe and the importance of developing policies for supportable cities and communities. Global urbanism incorporates concepts of comparative, relational, and Southern urbanism that have become an increasingly important feature of urban geographical scholarship over recent decades. There is also a focus on the distinct challenges presented to scholars and practitioners in cities of the Global South, including large informal economies, slum housing, and precarious livelihoods, with attention to gender and youth sensitive analyses of the lived experiences of urbanism. Global urbanism requires methodological shifts, particularly in relation to opportunities offered by participation and coproduction that will enable researchers to translate the concept of relational urbanism into urban policies for developing sustainable cities in diverse global contexts.

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Throughout history, urban areas have publicized vast variety and variability across different cultures and geographies, and even within the same cultural or geographical sphere. The pre-medieval and medieval cities of Asia are typical examples of compact cities with midrise houses and high population densities.

The capability of income and assets is relative. Less absolute income is required to survive where multigenerational living arrangements are common. In such cases the burden of home ownership is decreased and economies of scale reduce the cost of living for any one person. By contrast, in societies that increasingly value autonomy and privacy, elderly persons must bear greater individual financial responsibility. Often governments define a scarcity threshold below which persons cannot 'reasonably' survive. Poverty thresholds can be challenging as they are often arbitrary. In the United States, many elderly are often 'near poor' even though they may not meet the standards for poverty assistance because they do receive a government pension. Marital statuses, gender, education, health, and rural versus urban residence are important determinants of economic security in old age, as well as earlier in life. Those who are poor when they are young are often poor when they are old.

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