Listing of Modules and Exercises
Seminar "Anthropology of Globalization – Cities"

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The following modules were included in the course:

1. Reading spatial information

What is a GIS?
- data and visualization
- vector and raster data model
- concept of scale
- concept of projection
- gerrymandering

What is a spatial question?
- Cholera example (Snow)
- Poverty map (Booth)
- nearness, distribution, density, spatial relationships, spatial correlations, networks
- elevation/3D, slope, viewsheds

Exercise: Find and study the map of the city you are investigating. Describe what you see, provide an interpretation and a rationale for it.
What can you learn about the history, culture, development, structure, and spatial dynamics of the place? Where does your material come from? Are there agencies, stakeholders with particular interests and, if so, which are they? What is the purpose of the representation? What analytical and what ethnographic questions does your interpretation raise?

2. Creating maps

How is GIS typically used in urban analysis?
- population density and economy of infrastructure
- sprawl: amount of urban land
- urbanization and mega-cities
- study of social change
- social inequality
- community profiles, neighborhoods, crime statistics

Introduction to ArcGIS
- maps and attribute tables
- thematic maps
- map layers
- georeferencing

Exercise: Load the data provided for your city into ArcMap. Open the attribute table and understand the information contained in there. Choose some data and generate a choropleth map. Interpret what you see and discuss in your group. What questions does that raise? What kind of data would you use to address this question? Add additional layers and/or data to your map. What issues does that raise?