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“World cities” (Hall, 1966; Friedmann and Wolf, 1982) and “global cities” (Sassen, 1991) have increasingly attracted the attention of urban-focused social science research since Peter Hall introduced the idea in the mid-1960s. Social scientists working on comparative social change are now concerned with situating these cities conceptually and empirically within the broad currents of the world political economy (e.g., Smith, 1996; Timberlake, 1985). A more recent development among scholars of cities, urbanization, and development is to view city networks as constituting an important structural dimension of the world system. From this perspective, the great cities of the world are organizational nodes in multiple global networks of economic, social, demographic, and information flows. This relational view allows us to begin to think about mapping cities in terms of their structural relationships with one another. This, in turn, suggests a research agenda the objectives of which range from describing the structure of a world network of cities, to identifying and explaining hierarchical relations among world cities, to understanding the “nesting” of the world city network into the broader world-system, to analyzing the connections between particular cities’ places in the global hierarchy and social relations within them.