Virtually every city on the planet is competing to be “the greenest city" in America, in Europe, in South America, etc. In this class we will explore what strategies cities are pursuing to be more environmentally friendly. We will talk about things like urban growth boundaries, compost recycling, water conservation, green fleets, solar programs, etc. But we'll also consider why city living (even without any conscious effort to be green) is better for the environment. And, since this is a political science class, we'll visit with policy makers to discuss why green is good politics and how green policies work in practice. We will also explore the different political environments that shape green policies and politics in America and Europe.

The required books for purchase for the course are Green Metropolis by David Owen and Green Urbanism by Timothy Beatley. Other readings will be assigned and will be available on e-reserve.

The syllabus is still something of a work in progress, but here's the basic outline:

**Class 1, January 24th**
What is Green Urbanism?

**Class 2, January 31st**
Cities and Land Use.

**Class 3, February 7th**
Cities and Water.

**Class 4, February 14th**
Cities and Air.

**Class 5, February 21st**
Cities and Transportation.
Class 6, February 28th
Cities and Climate Change.

Class 7, March 6th
Cities and Energy
Guest Lecturer Scott Bernstein
Center on Neighborhood Technologies, Chicago

Class 8, March 13th
A Free Market View of Green Cities
Guest Lecturer John Norquists
Former Milwaukee Mayor
President, Congress For New Urbanism, Chicago

Class 9, March 20th
Green Urbanism in Wisconsin State Government
Spencer Black
Former State Representative &
Chair of Assembly Natural Resources Committee

Class 10, March 27th
Mid-Term Exam

SPRING BREAK, NO CLASS APRIL 3RD

Class 11, April 10th
Cities & Their Regions

Class 12, April 17th
Green Pioneer, Master Politician Gaylord Nelson
Guest Lecturer Bill Christopherson
Nelson Biographer

Class 13, April 24th
No lecture. Final paper consultations.

Class 14, May 1st
Class 15, May 8th

City Ethic: Why Making a Home in the City Matters

FINALS WEEK OF MAY 15TH

Grading

My thought is that we would break it down this way:

25% Mid-term

25% Final

25% Paper

25% Class participation

We can discuss details of this during our first class. I would like to hear your ideas about the pros and cons of take home versus in class exams, closed versus open book, several short-answer questions versus a few long ones, etc. I will also want to get your thoughts on formats for research papers. At this point I’m thinking around ten pages on a topic we agree on by, say, Spring Break.