SOCI 3300: Urban Sociology

Instructor: Megan Lawson
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 972.261.7975
Email: megan.lawson@unt.edu

COURSE DESCRIPTION

We live in an increasingly urbanized world. At the start of the 21st century over half of world’s population were living in urban areas. Urban sociology focuses on the study of these spaces. The study of urban sociology will provide you with the tools to understand how and why urbanization occurs and what impacts that level of development will have on people living within these urban environments and the natural environment.

GOALS

At the conclusion of this course, you will be able to
1. Understand multiple approaches to urban sociology
2. Articulate the major factors of urbanism
3. Describe and examine how urbanization impacts social phenomena such as culture, the self, social structure, and inequality;
4. Better understand the impacts of development in the developing world
5. Identify environmental impacts of urbanization

REQUIRED TEXT


COURSE FORMAT

This is an online course intended to provide you with a unique and practical learning experience. The course material will be administered online. You will be introduced to new concepts and material online in Blackboard. You will have the ability to check your understanding and knowledge of the material through mastery quizzes administered in Blackboard. It is a course expectation that you will complete the assigned online modules, quizzes, exams, and assignments in the time allocated on the course outline located at the end of this document.
ACADEMIC HONESTY

Dishonesty, cheating, and plagiarism will not be tolerated in this course. During this course, you may submit for evaluation only work that is your own and that is submitted originally for this course. Forms of conduct that will be considered evidence of academic dishonesty include but are not limited to:

- Conversations between students during an exam
- Unauthorized collaboration on an assignment (e.g. discussing your answers to assignment questions prior to submission)
- Submission without proper acknowledgement of work that is based partially or entirely on the ideas or writings of others (traditionally, this is referred to as plagiarism)

Violation of the academic honesty policy will in an automatic zero on the assignment and a report to judicial affairs. I adhere to and enforce UNT’s policy on academic integrity (cheating, plagiarism, forgery, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty and sabotage). You should review the policy. (UNT Policy Manual Section 18.1.16) I will address violations of academic integrity in this course in compliance with the penalties and procedures laid out in this policy.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class.

For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at http://www.unt.edu/oda. You may also contact them by phone at 940.565.4323
COMMUNICATIONS

Information will be sent to students via their e-mail (please check your e-mail often) and also posted on Canvas - check the Announcements tab often.

Interaction with Instructor Statement: The primary means to contact me will be via e-mail: megan.lawson@unt.edu or telephone: 972-261-7975. However, I prefer e-mails since I try my best to respond to students within 24 hours, even on weekends. In case I do not reply to your e-mail within 48 hours, please e-mail me again.

GRADING AND ASSIGNMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter Grade</th>
<th>Point Range</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Point Value</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>540+</td>
<td>Discussions (10 at 10 points each)</td>
<td>100</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>480-539</td>
<td>Quizzes (3 at 100 points each)</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>420-479</td>
<td>Student Response Research Paper</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>360-419</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>418 and below</td>
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</table>

Total 600

Teaching Philosophy

Online classes are very fast paced; thus, it is important for students to stay up with assignments and complete them on time. You CANNOT procrastinate. To do well in this class, students should ask questions whenever they have one, and do all the assignments ON TIME (discussions, quizzes, video evaluations, and exams). Please PROOF-READ your work before submitting it as your grades will be partially based on the clarity of your writing. Your grades in this course will be based on discussions, video/article evaluations, and exams.

1. There will be ten (10) discussions

2. There will be one (1) written student response research paper

3. There will be three (3) quizzes

4. Each quiz and discussion will be available for Seven (7) Days.
5. Papers, Exams, and Discussions **CANNOT** be made up after they turn off.

6. Your assignments **MUST** be posted during the allotted time.

7. No discussions, assignments, or exams will be accepted after the deadline without prior approval from myself for extreme and university-approved circumstances.

8. PLEASE do not e-mail me your assignment, I will not read it, unless prior approval is given due to issues with submission on Canvas.

9. I will read each and every post and provide feedback when necessary.

10. Please be courteous in the Course-room. Do not post anything offensive, threatening, inflammatory, or illegal. Also, do not call people names if you disagree with their views.

11. All assignments/assessments turn on/off at 11:59 pm in this class.

12. Check Canvas DAILY. Email-me at: megan.lawson@unt.edu if you have questions.

13. **Please do not email me last minute about technical difficulties; if you are experiencing technical difficulties please contact the help desk. If you wait until the last minute to complete assignments, discussions, or exams; I will not extend the deadlines for you because you have a last-minute problem. If you submit your assignment with enough time before the due date I may have the ability to help you with any potential problems you experience so that you may still meet the deadline. This is especially important for exam(s); I cannot re-open an exam after the deadline.**

14. There are no extra credit assignments; it is essential to your grade to complete all work and submit your assignments by the due date(s) listed in this syllabus. This is imperative for success in this course.
TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS / ASSISTANCE

The following information has been provided to assist you in preparation for the technological aspect of the course.

UIT Help Desk: http://www.unt.edu/helpdesk/index.htm
Computer and Internet Literacy: http://clt.odu.edu/osol/index.php?src=pe_comp_lit
Necessary plug-ins: http://goo.gl/1lsVF
Internet Access with compatible web browser
Headset/Microphone (if required for synchronous chats)
Word Processor
[Other related hardware or software necessary for the course]

Minimum Technical Skills Needed:

Examples include:
Using the learning management system
Using email with attachments
Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats
Copying and pasting
Downloading and installing software
Using spreadsheet programs

ACCESS & NAVIGATION Access and Log in Information

This course was developed and will be facilitated utilizing the University of North Texas’ Learning Management System, Canvas. To get started with the course, please go to: https://unt.instructure.com/login/ldap
You will need your EUID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your EUID or have forgotten your password, please go to: http://ams.unt.edu.

STUDENT RESOURCES Being a Successful Online Student

- What Makes a Successful Online Student?
- Self Evaluation for Potential Online Students
How the Course is Organized
Thirteen chapters are covered during this term. There are weekly readings for this course. There
are 3 exams, 10 discussion fora, and 1 student response research paper.

What Should Students Do First?
First, make sure you read the syllabus and understand its content. Make note of the deadlines.
Ask the instructor questions if you have any. Make sure you have your textbook and that you
familiarize yourself with Canvas.

How Students Should Proceed Each Week for Class Activities
There are weekly readings that you need to keep up with in order to do well in this class. If you
have problems accessing assigned articles, email me at: megan.lawson@unt.edu. Make note of
deadlines.

Student Technical Support
The University of North Texas provides student technical support in the use of Canvas and
supported resources. The student help desk may be reached at:
Email: helpdesk@unt.edu
Phone: 940.565-2324

In Person: Sage Hall, Room 130
Regular hours are maintained to provide support to students. Please refer to the website (http://
www.unt.edu/helpdesk/hours.htm) for updated hours.

Student Support Services
Also known at the University of North Texas campus as SSS. All activities and services provided
by SSS are intended to help students progress through their degree to an on-time graduation.
Please refer to the website (https://trio.unt.edu/sss) for detailed list of services.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS
Readings and Assignments: Students are expected to do all assigned readings for each week
and be prepared to share their views on the different issues raised in the readings.

Successful completion of these assignments satisfy learning modules 1-7.
1. **Student Response Research Paper: (200 points total)** — One written response research paper will be completed in this course. The purpose is to provide students with an opportunity to think about and comment on particular issue(s) that is/are being covered. You are required to submit an **APA style** (link for APA guidelines is highlighted at the end of the student resources section) **typed-written (font size =12) double-spaced** response paper on a topic you have chosen, and I have agreed to (2000-minimum word count). Each assignment should follow the below requirements:

**Student Response Research Paper**

**Points Breakdown**

**Student Response Research Paper (Total of 200 points)**

*Uploading Rough Draft and Providing Feedback to Peers: 25 points*

*Final Paper: 175 points*

**Pick a topic (Due 10/2/2022):** Upload your topic to me through Canvas in the Assignments section, I will give feedback on topics. This does not need to be APA format, it is just what you are choosing to write about. Pick something that you are passionate about, skim the chapters of the book if you aren’t sure what area of urban sociology interests you. I am not picky, choose something that you WANT to research! No points for this however, if it is not completed you will lose 5% on your final paper grade.

**Upload Rough Draft and Peer Feedback (Upload of Rough Draft Due 10/30/2022 and Peer Review Due 11/06/2022):** Write a rough draft and post a copy of it on the discussion board in canvas. You will be required to comment on 5 (five) peer rough drafts. Always provide feedback for those with none first. Each person should have feedback from at least one peer, if you do not at the end please email me and I will provide brief feedback!

I would like you to do three things in these comments: 1) point out something they did really well 2) suggest something they could improve and 3) comment on any grammar/spelling/APA errors.

This is worth 25 points total of the paper grade overall (25 for uploading and responses and 175 for the final paper). If you respond to others papers only you will not be able to get the full 25 points, and if you only upload your paper and do not respond you will not get the full 25 points.

**Final Draft Due (12/16/2022):** Consider the feedback left by your peers and edit your draft.
Student Response Paper Guidelines

This reflection assignment is intended to measure your ability to apply a range of course concepts to the assigned videos and articles. **You should summarize, relate and support your arguments using additional information found in scholarly articles and credible sources** (do not cite Wikipedia, Yahoo Answers, etc. If you cite a blog for an anecdote, be sure to give the information of the blog and explain the relevance however, these will not count towards the scholarly source count). Newspaper, News, and magazine articles are not scholarly sources, they can enhance your paper but will not count towards to scholarly source requirement. Scholarly sources are those that have been peer reviewed and edited, they include scholarly journal articles (look online through the UNT library or Google Scholar) and textbooks, aside from our course text.

A successful paper will include the following sections:

**Summarize.** What is the main argument of the article(s)? What is the subject or focus within racial studies? What is some specific data from the article that stuck out to you?

**Urban Sociology.** How does this relate to things you’ve read in the textbook? What are some specific theories and concepts from the textbook that come out in this material?

**Reflection.** What did you learn from this material? What did you agree with in it? Did you disagree with anything? Where else have you seen similar arguments? What are your thoughts on the subject discussed? Can you find support for your opinion in other sources?

****Make sure to always back up your opinions with scholarly article citations and course citations; use the research to enhance and bring credibility to your opinions.****

A successful paper will follow the following formatting:

**2000+ words.** Points will be deducted if you do not meet the minimum word requirement. This word count does not include references, headers, cover page, or abstract (if you provide one)

**5+ outside scholarly sources.** In addition to the course textbook and the original prompt materials, you will need to cite five or more outside scholarly sources (such as, peer reviewed books, articles, journals, etc.)

**5+ direct quotes from textbook.** You will need five or more direct quotes from your textbook.

**APA Reference Page.** You must also have a reference page with an APA citations for your outside sources, the prompt materials, and the textbook. Information about APA formatting can be found below. All citations both in text and in the references should be APA.
All paper formatting should be in APA, although NO abstract is required. If you add an abstract it will not count towards the word count.

**APA Writing Style Guidelines**

All written coursework is to follow APA guidelines. Please refer to the website: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html for help and assistance with APA guidelines for papers as well as citations.

2. **Discussions: (100 points total)**. Discussion questions are posted in the Discussions tab. You are required to POST in your comments, read all of the posts of your classmates, and reply to two of the posts that you read. Please make sure you hit ‘QUOTE’ when you are replying to someone’s post or mention the name of the person whose post you are responding to, otherwise, I will not be able to follow what you are saying.

In your discussions, be as detailed as possible. At least one posting must be a major or substantial post in which you make a significant contribution by answering the prompt, asking pertinent or interesting questions and/or making important, thoughtful points. Technically, a major post should consist of at least 400 words (~1.5 pages double-spaced) and show a clear understanding of the topic. A consistent record of major posts can help if you have a borderline grade at the end of the term.

*You must back up your opinions with fact(s) from the course materials.*

In addition, proper grammar, utilizing APA citations, referencing sources at the end of the post in APA format, and a word count of a minimum 400 words is required for discussion posts.

In your required peer reply(s); refrain from short answers like “I agree”, “yes, this is true”, etc. Please make sure you explain why you agree or think the posting is good or true. Whatever you say, make sure you explain why you think the way you do. Also, **the word count for peer replies are 200 minimum words.**

Students will have **Mondays from 11:59 pm until the following Sunday at 11:59 pm** to post and reply to two of their group members’ posts. After 11:59 pm on Sundays, you will NOT be ABLE to post your answer to the discussion question. I would highly suggest making your first post within 72 hours of the discussion forum opening up – this gives more ability for others to comment.
3. **Quizzes. (300 points)**—There will also be three quizzes given during the semester on the dates specified in the schedule (see below). You will have a certain amount of time to take the exam once you begin it. There will not be any study guides posted for quizzes, they are open book.

Please Do Not Ask for extra work at the end of the semester. It is imperative that you complete all of your assignments and submit them by the due date.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WEEK</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>MATERIAL</th>
<th>ASSIGNMENTS (All item open and due by 11:59pm on dates listed)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>8/29 - 9/4</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 1: The New Urban Sociology</strong></td>
<td>Introduction Post Discussion One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>9/5 - 9/11</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 2: The Origins of Urban Life and Urban Sociology</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>9/12 - 9/18</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 3: Contemporary Urban Sociology</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Three</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>9/19 - 9/25</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 4: Urbanization in the US</strong></td>
<td>Quiz One (Chapters 1-4)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>9/26 - 10/2</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 5: Suburbanization, Globalization, and the Emergence of the Multicentered Region</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Four, Topics For Response Paper due by 10/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10/3 - 10/9</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 6: Urbanization in the Developed Nations</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Five</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>10/10 - 10/16</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 7: Urbanization and Mega Regions in the Developing World</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Six</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>10/17 - 10/23</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 8: Urban Social Problems</strong></td>
<td>Quiz Two (Chapters 5-6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10/24 - 10/30</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 9: Neighborhoods and Communities</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Seven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10/31 - 11/6</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 10: The revitalization of the Historical Inner City</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Eight, Post Rough Draft Online for Peer Review by 10/30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>11/14 - 11/20</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 11: Metropolitan Planning and Urban Issues</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Nine, Peer Review Feedback for Rough Draft due 11/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>11/21 - 11/27</td>
<td><strong><strong>HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!</strong></strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>11/28 - 12/4</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 12: Metropolitan Social Policy</strong></td>
<td>Discussion Ten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>12/5 - 12/11</td>
<td><strong>Chapter 13: Shifting the Focus to Results Conclusion</strong></td>
<td>Quiz Three (Chapters 9-13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15/16</td>
<td>12/12 - 12/18</td>
<td>Final Paper Due: By 11:59pm on 12/16</td>
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</table>

****I reserve the right to change the schedule as needed****
TURNITIN SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION Participation / Discussions

Information about the student’s responsibility in the course discussions; grading and posting criteria; how to post to the online discussion board, etc. Also include etiquette/protocol for participating in the online discussion board. For examples, see:

- http://online.uwc.edu/technology/ontEtiquette.asp

Online Tests/ Quizzes (to include final or proctored exam information)

(Descriptions and details if any. For example: You can access quizzes/exams by clicking the Assessments link on the course menu or see the quiz/exam icon on the designated page. Each quiz/exam is timed and can be accessed only one time within the scheduled time window. Please read the on-screen instructions carefully before you click “Begin Assessment”. After the quiz/exam time expires, you may go back to the Assessments page and click “View All Submissions” to review your exam results.

COURSE EVALUATION

Course evaluation is usually conducted during the last 2 weeks prior to final exams. I will post information about the date for evaluation on Blackboard and e-mail each student when it becomes available.

SCHOLARLY EXPECTATIONS

In keeping with the norms of higher education, any student found guilty of academic dishonesty may receive a failing grade for the course and be reported to their college dean. Refer to your student handbook for complete provisions of the policies and procedures set forth by UNT.

RESOURCES

Links to Academic Support Services, such as Office of Disability Accommodation, Counseling and Testing Services, UNT Libraries, Online Tutoring, UNT Writing Lab and Math Tutor Lab can be located within Blackboard Learn on the “Academic Support” tab. UNT Portal: http://my.unt.edu
UNT Library Information for Off-Campus Users: http://www.library.unt.edu/services/facilities-and-systems/campus-access
CTOR POLICIES

See the assignment schedule for due dates which are in this syllabus and also posted on Canvas.

Instructor Responsibilities and Feedback

The primary means to contact me will be via e-mail: megan.lawson@unt.edu or telephone: 972.261.7975. However, I prefer e-mails since I try my best to respond to students within 24 hours, even on weekends. In case, I do not reply to your e-mail within 48 hours, please e-mail me again. Please contact me for an appointment if you would like to meet via VTC or phone.

Late Work

Late assignments will not be accepted in this class.

Class Participation

Students are required to login regularly to the online class site. The instructor will use the tracking feature in Canvas to monitor student activity. Students are also required to participate in all class activities such as discussion board.

Virtual Classroom Citizenship

The same guidelines that apply to traditional classes should be observed in the virtual classroom environment. Please use proper netiquette when interacting with class members and the professor.

Incompletes

I rarely give an incomplete. Please refer to UNT policy on requesting incompletes.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties

Copyright Notice

Some or all of the materials on this course Web site may be protected by copyright. Federal copyright law prohibits the reproduction, distribution, public performance, or public display of
Copyrighted materials without the express and written permission of the copyright owner, unless fair use or another exemption under copyright law applies. [Additional sample statements can be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/sample-copyright-notices] Additional copyright information may be located at: http://copyright.unt.edu/content/unt-copyright-policies.

Undergraduate Online Course Attendance Policy

Information about the University of Texas’ Attendance Policy may be found at:


Administrative Withdrawal

Syllabus Change Policy
This schedule and syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the professor, if changes are made all students will be notified and the new syllabus will be posted for reference.

Policy on Server Unavailability or Other Technical Difficulties
The University is committed to providing a reliable online course system to all users. However, in the event of any unexpected server outage or any unusual technical difficulty which prevents students from completing a time sensitive assessment activity, the instructor will extend the time windows and provide an appropriate accommodation based on the situation. Students should immediately report any problems to the instructor and also contact the UNT Student Help Desk: helpdesk@unt.edu or 940.565.2324. The instructor and the UNT Student Help Desk will work with the student to resolve any issues at the earliest possible time.

Assignment Policy

UNT POLICIES

Student Conduct and Discipline: Student Handbook.
Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Student Code of Conduct Policy.

Academic Honesty Policy
Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Academic Policy. A sample statement may include the following:
"You are encouraged to become familiar with the University's Policy of Academic dishonesty found in the Student Handbook. The content of the Handbook applies to this course. Additionally, the following specific requirements will be expected in this class: (enter specific
requirements). If you are in doubt regarding the requirements, please consult with me before you complete any requirements of the course."

ADA Policy

As per the Office of Disability Accommodation, a syllabus for a course SHALL include the following statement:

The University of North Texas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Office of Disability Accommodation website at

http://disability.unt.edu/

. You may also contact them by phone at

940.565.4323.

Add/Drop Policy
Please refer to the UNT Faculty Handbook or your department regarding the Add/Drop Policy.

Important Notice for F-1 Students taking Distance Education Courses:

**Federal Regulation**


The paragraph reads:

(G) For F–1 students enrolled in classes for credit or classroom hours, no more than the equivalent of one class or three credits per session, term, semester, trimester, or quarter may be counted toward the full course of study requirement if the class is taken on-line or through distance education and does not require the student's physical attendance for classes, examination or other purposes integral to completion of the class. An on-line or distance education course is a course that is offered principally through the use of television, audio, or computer transmission including open broadcast, closed circuit, cable, microwave, or satellite, audio conferencing, or computer conferencing. If the F–1 student's course of study is in a language study program, no on-line or distance education classes may be considered to count toward a student's full course of study requirement.

**University of North Texas Compliance**

To comply with immigration regulations, an F-1 visa holder within the United States may need to engage in an on-campus experiential component for this course. This component (which must be approved in advance by the instructor) can include activities such as taking an on-campus exam, participating in an on-campus lecture or lab activity, or other on-campus experience integral to the completion of this course.

If such an on-campus activity is required, it is the student’s responsibility to do the following: (1) Submit a written request to the instructor for an on-campus experiential component within one week of the start of the course.

(2) Ensure that the activity on campus takes place and the instructor documents it in writing with
a notice sent to the International Student and Scholar Services Office. ISSS has a form available that you may use for this purpose. Because the decision may have serious immigration consequences, if an F-1 student is unsure about his or her need to participate in an on-campus experiential component for this course, s/he should contact the UNT International Student and Scholar Services Office (telephone 940-565-2195 or email internationaladvising@unt.edu) to get clarification before the one-week deadline.

**Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) Blackboard Learn Release 9.1**