**GGRC13 – Assignment 1 - Journal article critique (15%)**

**Due: Wednesday, February 1st, 2017**

Your first assignment asks you to choose one of the following required readings from Weeks 4, 5 or 10:

* Varsanyi, M (2006) Interrogating ‘urban citizenship” vis-a-vis undocumented migration. *Citizenship Studies,* 10(2): 229-249
* Beall, Crankshaw, & S. Parnell (2002) The people behind the walls: Insecurity, identity and gated communities in Jo Beall, Owen Crankshaw, Susan Parnell (eds) *Uniting a Divided City: Governance and Social Exclusion in Johannesburg* p175-194.
* Loukaitou-Sideris, A. and R. Ehrenfeucht (2009) “Promenading and the Performances of Individual Identities”, in *Sidewalks: Conflict and Negotiation Over Public Space*. MIT Press. 39-60.

While you will have to read **all** the required readings in the syllabus in preparation for your in-class quizzes and your final exam, I want you to pick **one** of the three readings above that is most interesting to you, and read it closely. Take notes, write down your thoughts.

You will write a 3 page paper (12 pt. font 1.5 line-spaced, about 1200 words) in which you will:

1. **Introduce** the key topic of the paper; briefly summarize what the article is about (1-2 paragraphs);
   1. What does the article set out to do?
   2. What are the main concerns of the author?
2. **Outline** the central argument(s) in the article
   1. What is the *central argument*? Are there specific hypotheses?
   2. Are there gaps in the literature/knowledge on this topic that the author seeks to fill?
   3. What are the central *concepts* the author introduces? How does the author define these? Are they clearly defined?
   4. Are there specific *methods* or case study used to explore the authors’ main claims? How do they use these to support their argument?
3. **Analyze** and **discuss** the content of the article (this is the most important part of your paper). Some of the questions you might want to answer are:
   1. How convincing is the author in their argument?
   2. What questions does the article raise for you?
   3. Do you think that there are ideas, issues or questions that the author(s) ignores or leaves out?
   4. Is the article biased? How or why?