**Overall Questions**

What are some of the key concepts and readings that you’d include in an urban sociology syllabus and what do they tell us about the urban?

How did the structure vs. agency debate play out in your readings for this exam?

Pulling from different readings throughout your list, how has segregation and social inequality always been a part of the urban experience?

What readings have been influential in thinking your dissertation topic?

**Classical Readings in Urban Sociology**

How have different urban theorists conceived of the city?

What effect does living in a city have on individuals as opposed to living somewhere else?

Which concerns of classical urban theory that are still relevant today?

**Urban Political Economy**

What are some of the different ways that urban political economists define the city and how do they contrast to classical theorists?

What is the “city” for these thinkers?

What is the “right to the city” and why is this discussion important?

How does the local and global work together?

**Urban Ethnography**

Describe the power and importance of ethnography using some of the authors you’ve read.

How does Pattillo’s concern with the poor working class relate to that of Anderson’s?

How does Desmond address issues of structure and agency with his policy suggestions?

**Gentrification**

What is gentrification and what are some of its central debates?

How does race fit into the debates about gentrification?

Why do debates about gentrification seem to have persisted?

Explain the demand- and supply-side theories of gentrification.

**Residential Segregation and the Ghetto**

What is segregation, how is it measured, and what are some of the trends?

What is the underclass and how does this debate relate to the concentrated poverty debate?

What are some the critiques of the concept of concentrated poverty?

What are some different ways to define the ghetto and what is the debate about using the term?

**Housing Policy and the Foreclosure Crisis**

What are the dominant themes of federal housing and the larger policy context?

What does housing discrimination look like and what policies have been developed in response?

How has public housing policy changed since it began in the 1930s?

What were some of the causes of the Foreclosure Crisis?