**Latin American City Model**

1. Commercial
2. Elite Residential Sector
3. Middle-class Residential
4. Zone of situ accretion
5. Zone of maturity
6. Gentrification
7. Zone of peripheral squatter settlements

**General Definition:** The Latin American City Model combines elements of Latin American Culture and globalization by combining radial sectors and concentric zones. Includes a thriving CBD with a commercial spine. The quality of houses decreases as one moves outward away from the CBD, and the areas of worse housing occurs in the disamenity sectors.

**Different aspects of the model:**
Commercial / CBD: The focus of employment, entertainment, and economic activity; Roads, trains, and buses are fairly reliable here.

Market: - informal economy - primitive form of capitalism; beyond control/taxation of gov't; unlicensed people sell homemade goods and services; may or may not be illegal.
- formal economy - taxed and licensed by the government
- often a central plaza is at the center with the CBD and the Market Area

Industrial

Elite residential sector: The elite sector forms on either side of a narrow spine that contains amenities attractive to the wealthy, such as water and electricity, as well as offices, shops, restaurants, etc.

Zone of maturity: Residential area in which a stable population has gradually transformed the district into one that is fully serviced.

Zone of in situ accretion: A mix of middle and low income housing, generally thought of as a transitional area (moving either up on down).

Zone of peripheral squatter settlements/periferico: Home for impoverished and unskilled; housing consists of mostly shantytowns. Lawless barrios/favelas and is usually behind a main ring highway known as a perifico.

Gentrification: A process of converting an urban neighborhood from a predominantly low income renter-occupied area to a predominantly middle to upper-middle class owner-occupied area.

Disamenity: Contains relatively unchanging slums (barrios or favelas) that may not be connected to regular city services.

Outside the CBD, the dominant component is a commercial spine surrounded by the elite residential sector

These two zones are interrelated and called the spine/sector
Essentially an extension of the CBD down a major boulevard
Here are the city’s important amenities — parks, theaters, restaurants, and even golf courses
Strict zoning and land controls ensure continuation of these activities, protecting elite from incursions by low-income squatters - Note: zoning does not usually occur in these cities excepting in the elite areas

Inner-city zone of maturity
Less prestigious collection of traditional colonial homes and upgraded self-built homes
Homes occupied by people unable to participate in the spine/sector
Area of upward mobility - parts of it may be gentrifying

Zone of accretion
Diverse collection of housing types, sizes, and quality
Transition between zone of maturity and next zone
Area of ongoing construction and change
Some neighborhoods have city-provided utilities
Other blocks must rely on water and butane delivery trucks for essential services

Zone of peripheral squatter settlements
Where most recent migrants are found
Fringe contrasts with affluent and comfortable suburbs that ring North American cities
Houses often built from scavenged materials
Gives the appearance of a refugee camp
Surrounded by landscape bare of vegetation that was cut for fuel and building materials
Streets unpaved, open trenches carry wastes, residents carry water from long distances, electricity is often “pirated”
Residents who work have a long commute
Many are transformed through time into permanent neighborhoods
Note:
This model makes sense when you think about it.
- The larger poor areas reflect the influx of intraregional migrants (rural moving to urban areas)
- The industry in the city and even entering into the city to the core reflects the economic strength of many of these peripheral countries that now take on industrial work.
- The gentrification and middle class areas as well as the elite reflect an economy that is improving or allowing some to rise up (not what we see in the African City Model).
- Industry is on the opposite side of the elite
- The middle class are next to the elite separating them from the poor
- Disamenity can reach all the way to the core but tends to stick to the outside
- Gentrification is more likely near the CBD and elite area
- Model created by Griffin and Ford and sometimes called that (Griffin-Ford Model)

- Physical geography could also influence the distribution of classes like in Rio, where residents were attracted to the neighborhoods that had nice views of the Atlantic Ocean and beaches.