

URBAN POLICY: SHAPING THE CITY
COURSE # 90-734
HEINZ COLLEGE
SPRING 2021

Instructor: Jane Downing

Cell Phone: 412 508-1952

Fax: 412 391-5156

E-mail: downingj@pghfdn.org

Course Time: Tuesday, 6:30 – 9:20 pm

Course Location: Remote

Office Hours: By appointment

Course Description: This course will examine economic forces and public policies that have shaped modern cities and metropolitan areas in the US and other countries. We will explore land use policies and federal programs in community development, affordable housing, workforce development and the environment designed to mitigate the effects of land use policies. The course will concentrate on the physical, geographical and built aspects of metro areas, but also will address the relationship between the physical nature and the quality of community that develops, focusing on low-income communities. Guest speakers will provide local examples of how public policies are implemented.

Textbooks:

- Richard LeGates and Frederick Stout, Editors. The City Reader (Sixth Edition).
- Bruce Katz and Jeremy Nowak. The New Localism: How Cities Can Thrive in the Age of Populism.

Course Objectives: You will be able to identify policies that have shaped the physical environment of cities and metropolitan areas and understand their impact on low-income populations, the role of cities and NGOs as change agents and the importance of civic engagement in a region's quality of life.

Assignments and grading: Excerpts from the textbooks and handouts from the instructor contain the required course reading. Students will provide reflections on policy issues addressed in the readings and lead class discussions each week. In Week 3, each student will turn in a written rationale for an urban policy topic to research. Week 6, a 15-page essay on the selected policy issue will be due. Each student will present a PowerPoint summary of the paper at the last class.

Grading for the course will be based on class participation (20%), weekly written reflections on readings (20%), policy paper (40%) and the final presentation (20%). I will assign a 0 if assignments are not turned in, papers are plagiarized or developed for another course. I expect each student to complete written assignments on his/her own.

Each session will be audio/video recorded for educational use by students in this course.

March 23, 2021
Week 1

Course Introduction: Expectations. Evolution of Cities: Setting the Context for Studying Cities/Metropolitan Areas. Pittsburgh Case Study.

March 30, 2021
Week 2

Planning. Planning as a government activity. Historical and contemporary urban form. Tools of land use planning.

Reading Assignments:

The City Reader Selections:

Frederick Law Olmstead. "Public Parks and the Enlargement of Towns," pgs. 364-370

Ebenezer Howard. "Author's Introduction" and "The Town-Country Magnet," from Garden Cities of Tomorrow, pgs. 371-378

Le Corbusier. "A Contemporary City," from The City of Tomorrow and Its Planning, pgs. 379-387

Frank Lloyd Wright. "Broadacre City: A New Community Plan," Architectural Record, pgs. 388-393

Bruce Katz and Jeremy Nowak. "Everything has Changed" and "Revaluing Urban Growth: Pittsburgh Case Study." The New Localism, Pgs. 41-87.

Emily Badger and Quoc Trung Bui. "Cities Start to Question an American Ideal: A House with a Yard on Every Lot." New York Times, June 18, 2019.

David Tuller. "Housing and Health: The Role of Inclusionary Zoning," Health Affairs Health Policy Brief, June 7, 2018.

Peter Salins. "Rethinking Urban Planning in Detroit and Beyond." Urban Policy, 2018, pgs. 95-116. (handout)

April 6, 2021

Week 3. WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE: RESEARCH TOPIC

Housing. Overview of U.S Housing Policy. The Role of Markets. Homelessness. Housing Justice Policies.

Reading Assignments:

The City Reader Selection:

Doug Saunders. "The Place Where Everything Changes," pgs. 677-686

Richard Rothstein. "Preface: Looking Forward, Looking Back; and Considering Fixes." The Color of Law. Pgs. Vii-xvii; 177-213 (handout)

Community Change. "New Deal for Housing Justice: A Housing Playbook for the New Administration." January 2021. (handout)

Jeffrey Liebman, Jens Ludwig, Lawrence Katz, Raj Chetty et al. "Evaluating the Impact of Moving to Opportunity in the United States." Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab. 2016 (handout)

Andrew Aurand et. al. "Out of Reach 2020: The High Cost of Housing." National Low Income Housing Coalition (handout)

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. "Home, Together: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness." July 2, 2018. (handout)

April 13, 2021 **Week 4**

Sustainable Development. Climate Change. Equitable Development. Infrastructure. Energy Policy.

Reading Assignments

Selections from The City Reader

David Owen. "Green Manhattan: Everywhere Should be More Like New York," pgs. 414-421

Peter Calthorpe. "Urbanism in the Age of Climate Change," pgs. 511-524

Steve Rugare and Terry Schwartz, Eds: "The Cleveland Land Lab: Experiments for a City in Transition." Cities Growing Smaller, Pgs. 73-83 (handout)

Ryan Curren, Nora Liu, Dwayne Marsh and Kalima Rose. "Equitable Development as a Tool to Advance Racial Equity." Government Alliance on Race and Equity. Pgs. 1-20. 2016

Environmental Defense Fund and Pennsylvania Environmental Council. "Comments on CO2 Budget Trading Program." January 14, 2021. (handout)

David T. Stevenson. "A Review of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative." Cato Journal, Vol. 38, No. 1 (Winter 2018). Cato Institute. (handout)

Shardul Agrawala, Walid Oueslati, Ionnis Tikoudis and Alexandros Dimitropoulos. "Rethinking Urban Sprawl: Moving Towards Sustainable Cities. Policy Highlights." Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. 2018

"Sustainable Development Goals." United Nations Development Programme. 2015

April 20, 2021
Week 5

Community Development/ Civic Engagement. Role of Intermediaries in Neighborhood Revitalization. Concentrated Poverty. Mobility Programs. Civic Capacity as an Element in Urban Policy.

Reading Assignments:

The City Reader Selections:

Robert Putnam: “Bowling Alone: America’s Declining Social Capital,” pgs. 154-162

Institute of Metropolitan Opportunity. “American Neighborhood Change in the 21st Century: Executive Summary.” University of Minnesota Law School. April 2019. (handout)

“Urban Displacement Project: Executive Summary.” University of California Berkley. December 2015. (handout)

Bruce Katz and Jeremy Nowak. “New Localism and Economic Inclusion.” The New Localism, Pgs. 145-171.

Eric S. Belsky and Jennifer Fauth: “Crossing Over to an Improved Era of Community Development.” Investing in What Works in America’s Communities. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, Pgs. 72-103 (handout)

Alexander von Hoffman: “The Ingredients of Equitable Development Planning: A Cross-case Analysis of Equitable Development Planning and CDFIs.” Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University. 2019. (handout)

Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley: “Houston and El Civics,” The Metropolitan Revolution, Pgs. 88-109 (handout)

GUEST SPEAKER: Stephanie Chernay, Chief Operating Officer, Neighborhood Allies

April 27, 2021
Week 6 – WRITING ASSIGNMENT DUE

Urban Development. Public sector implementation of economic and housing development policies. Relationship of urban design to quality of development and quality of life. Inner city revitalization.

Reading Assignments:

Selections from The City Reader

Jane Jacobs. "The Uses of Sidewalks: Safety," pgs. 149-153
Kevin Lynch. "The City Image and Its Elements" pgs. 576-586
William Whyte. "The Design of Spaces" pgs. 587-595

Paul C. Brophy, Robert Weissbourd, Andy Beideman. "Transformative Economies: Emerging Practices for Aligning Growth and Inclusion." Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Pgs. 1-15. October 2017.

Bruce Katz, Karen Black and Dr. Louise Noring. "Cincinnati's Over-the-Rhine: A Private-Led Model for Revitalizing Urban Neighborhoods." Drexel University Nowak Metro Finance Lab. Pgs. 5-71. 2019.

Bruce Katz and Jeremy Nowak. "Inventing Metro Finance." The New Localism, Pgs. 173-200.

Jennifer S. Vey, Tracy Hadden Loh, Elwood Hopkins. "A New Place-Based Federal Initiative for Empowering Local Real Estate Ownership." Brookings Blueprints for American Renewal and Prosperity. December 16, 2020.

GUEST SPEAKER: Diamonte Walker, Deputy Executive Director, Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh

May 4, 2021
Week 7

Transportation and Workforce Development. Federal policies. Implications of development patterns on jobs. Workforce development system. Metropolitan Decision Making.

Reading Assignments:

The City Reader Selections:

W.E.B. DuBois. "The Negro Problems of Philadelphia;" "The Question of Earning a Living;" and "Color Prejudice," pgs. 124-130.

Stout. The Automobile, the City and the New Urban Mobilities, pgs. 696-706.

Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley. "Denver: The Four Votes." The Metropolitan Revolution, Pgs. 41-63. (handout)

Rick Grahn, Stan Caldwell and Chris Hendrickson. "Recommended Policies for the 21st Century Trends in US Mobility." Carnegie Mellon University. 2019. (handout)

Steven Higashide, Hayley Richardson, Borken Fried, Billy Fleming, Emily Mangan, Scott Goldstein, et al. "A Green New Deal for City and Suburban Transportation." TransitCenter, Transportation for America, The McHarg Center. March 2020. (handout)

Maureen Conway & Robert Giloth, Eds. Connecting People to Work: Workforce Intermediaries and Sector Strategies, Pgs. 1-19 and 411-432. 2014. (handout)

Noelle St. Clair.. “Investing in America’s Workforce: Report on Workforce Development Needs and Opportunities.” Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2017 (handout).

GUEST SPEAKER: Susie Puskar, Chief Program Officer, Partner4Work

May 11, 2021

Week 8

CLASS PRESENTATIONS

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Shardul Agrawala, Walid Oueslati, Ionnis Tikoudis and Alexandros Dimitropoulos. “Rethinking Urban Sprawl: Moving Towards Sustainable Cities. Policy Highlights.” Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. 2018.

Andrew Aurand et al. “Out of Reach 2020.” National Low Income Housing Coalition.

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Eric S. Belsky and Jennifer Fauth: “Crossing Over to an Improved Era of Community Development.” Investing in What Works in America’s Communities. Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco, Pgs. 72-103. (handout)

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Maureen Conway and Robert Giloth, Eds. Connecting People to Work: Workforce Intermediaries and Sector Strategies. The American Assembly, Columbia University, 2014.

Ryan Curren, Nora Liu, Dwayne Marsh and Kalima Rose. “Equitable Development as a Tool to Advance Racial Equity.” Government Alliance on Race and Equity. 2016.

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Bruce Katz and Jennifer Bradley. “Denver: The Four Votes” and “Houston and El Civics.” The Metropolitan Revolution: How Cities and Metros Are Fixing Our Broken Politics and Fragile Economy. The Brookings Institution. 2013.

Bruce Katz and Jeremy Nowak. The New Localism: How Cities Can Thrive in the Age of Populism. Brookings Institution Press. Washington, D.C., 2018.

Richard T. LeGates and Frederic Stout, Editors. The City Reader. Sixth Edition. Routledge, 2016.

Jeffrey Liebman, Jens Ludwig, Lawrence Katz, Raj Chetty et. al. “Evaluating the Impact of Moving to Opportunity in the United States.” Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab. 2016.

Justine Marcus and Miriam Zuk. “Urban Displacement Project: Executive Summary.” University of California Berkeley. December 2015.

Richard Rothstein. The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America. Liveright Publishing Corporation. New York, NY, 2017.

Steve Rugare and Terry Schwartz, Editors. Cities Growing Smaller. Kent State University, 2008.

Peter D. Salins. “Rethinking Urban Planning in Detroit – and Beyond,” Urban Policy 2018. Manhattan Institute, December 2018.

Noelle St. Clair. “Investing in America’s Workforce: Report on Workforce Needs and Opportunities.” Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. 2017.

David T. Stevenson. “A Review of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative.” *Cato Journal*, Vol 38, No 1 (winter 2018), Cato Institute.

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