What This Course is About

This is a seminar/discussion course about America's urban crisis -- and what we can do about it. It is also a course in policy analysis -- evaluating different public policies in terms of their effectiveness. It is also a course in American politics -- examining how political conflicts over ideas and interests influences policy regarding cities.

Many politicians, candidates, journalists, business leaders, and philanthropists frequently express concern about the "urban crisis." They hold hearings, issue reports, write articles, and fund research about what caused the crisis and what to do about it. Are other cities, like L.A in 1992, ticking time bombs, waiting to explode? Are the problems facing American cities--poverty, homelessness, high levels of infant mortality, racial segregation, traffic gridlock, pollution, etc.--solvable?

There's been a great deal of research and writing about urban problems in the past few years. Most of the readings for this course draw on up-to-date research and thinking. But many of the urban problems we face today have been around for some time. People have been thinking about urban problems for many years. We can learn a great deal from the urban thinkers of the past as well.

The major questions addressed in this seminar include the following:

1. As the U.S. has changed, so has the shape, function, and number of cities and metropolitan areas. How have these changes come about? How and why did the suburbs grow, especially after World War 2? What's the difference between cities and suburbs? Are they growing more alike or more apart? How has the physical shape of metropolitan areas -- its architecture, roads, residential areas, open spaces, factories, stores, offices, neighborhoods, downtowns -- changed? What impact have these changes had on how people live their lives?

2. Are there certain "urban" characteristics -- economic, social, political, psychological -- common to all cities and metropolitan areas? What is meant by the term "urban crisis?" Does it affect all urban areas in the same way? How has the distribution of wealth and power in the
larger society influenced the economic, social, and physical conditions of cities and metro areas? What are the causes of urban poverty and racial segregation?

3. Should there be a national urban policy designed to help rebuild cities? Or should there simply be policies to help individuals wherever they happen to live? What approaches have been tried? What works? What has failed? Why? How do we assess proposals to deal with our urban problems? We'll look at such issues as poverty and employment, housing and homelessness, public health, transportation and environment, racial segregation and discrimination, and others. What are the current policy debates regarding these and other issues?

4. What role do cities play in our national political life? (This is often called "the politics of urban policy"). How are cities governed? (This is often called "urban politics"). Who runs our cities? Business? Local politicians? Neighborhood groups? Developers? Unions? No one? What are the different ways that cities and metro areas are governed? What difference does it make?

5. Do cities in other countries have the same problems? Why or why not? Even if we find some common characteristics, we also know that L.A. has a quality about it that differs from Boston; that Paris is hardly the same as Nairobi; that Beijing is quite different from Mexico City; that San Diego is very different from San Francisco. How do we account for these differences? What can we learn from these differences to help address the problems facing American cities?

Course Requirements
Your grade will be based on the following:

1. One-third your grade will be based on your class participation. This is a seminar course. Its success depends on class discussions. Students are expected to do the readings on time and participate in class discussions. When doing the reading, think about the issues you want to discuss in class. Most of the readings are short articles from newspapers and magazines with little or no technical jargon. Some readings are more difficult and will take more time to digest. I encourage students to debate and disagree -- but to do so based on information and evidence as well as your own values.

2. One-third of your grade will be based on written assignments. You will be assigned a number of short (3 to 4 page) papers, based primarily on the readings. These include book reviews, policy analyses, newspaper editorials, and others. All papers should be typed, double-spaced. Proofread your papers. Check for correct spelling, punctuation, grammar. Put your names on the first page. Cite your sources in the essay (Author: Page Number) and in the bibliography (Author, Title, Publisher, Date). Examples or statistics should be used to illustrate your major points, not as a substitute for critical analysis. A few assignments will require you to work in groups.

3. One-third of your grade will be based a research project that I will explain in class.

Books to Purchase
You should purchase the following paperback books, available at the college bookstore:

- Kozol, Savage Inequalities
Website Readings

Most of the readings for this source will be found on the Moodle website for UEP 301. The course readings to be found on the website are marked with an asterisk (*). It is each student’s responsibility to get these readings from the website. Please download them so you can mark them up as well as bring them to class. There are many separate articles from magazines, newspapers, journals and other sources, so it may take time to download them each week. Make sure you have sufficient time to do this.

Films

You should view six films – "Urbanized," “Sicko,” “Who Killed the Electric Car?,” “The New Los Angeles,” “Daley: The Last Boss,” and “The Pruitt-Igoe Myth” -- on your own time. They are available at the Library reference desk under this course. The deadlines for watching these films are listed in the syllabus.

I would also encourage you to go to the Library and view some of the following films that are relevant to the topics in the course. I’ve listed those here:

- "Hull House: The House that Jane Built" (documentary about the first wave of urban social reform at the turn of the 20th century)
- “The Times of Harvey Milk" (documentary on the rise of gay politics in San Francisco)
- “Taken for a Ride” (documentary about the political maneuvering that led to the dismantling of urban public transportation in the mid-20th century)
- “Bread and Roses” (feature film about the “justice for janitors” union campaign in LA)
- “City of Hope” (a feature film, directed by John Sayles, about urban politics)
- “Do The Right Thing” (Spike Lee's film about the Brooklyn ghetto)
- “Home Economics” (documentary about daily life in the LA suburbs)
- “Is Wal-Mart Good for America?” (documentary about the impact of the world’s largest corporation on our communities)
- “Building Hope” (documentary about the history and track record of community development corporations)
- “Holding Ground: The Rebirth of Dudley Street” (documentary about successful community organizing in a low-income neighborhood of Boston)

Web Sites

The internet is a great way of connecting to the larger worlds of public policy. There are thousands of web sites that deal with social issues and thousands of advocacy organizations and political networks that have their own web sites. Here are several key sites with which you should be familiar. I encourage you to bookmark them so you can find them easily.

Brookings Institution Metropolitan Policy Program (http://www.brookings.edu/metro.aspx), the Urban Institute (http://www.urban.org), and the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities
are three outstanding research and policy centers focusing on urban issues. These websites are constantly being updated with new reports on a diversity of issues -- housing, transportation, welfare, banking, segregation, poverty, and other topics.

Campaign for America’s Future (http://www.ourfuture.org), the Economic Policy Institute (http://www.epinet.org), and the Center for American Progress (http://www.americanprogress.org) These sites are a goldmine of policy ideas and data about economic and social policy from a liberal/progressive perspective. Similar organizations from a conservative perspective include the Cato Institute (http://www.cato.org), the Heritage Foundation (http://www.heritage.org), and the American Enterprise Institute (http://www.aei.org).

Community Organizing and Development (http://comm-org.wisc.edu) -- This site is a link with hundreds of groups involved in urban community development. If you want to find out what groups are working on different urban issues, this is the site. It also has many articles and reports on urban community development and community organizing.

The Center for Neighborhood Technology (http://www.cnt.org), the National Housing Institute (www.nhi.org), the Metropolitan Initiative (http://www.cnt.org/mi/index.html), Planners Network (http://www.plannersnetwork.org), Civic Practices Network (http://www.cpn.org), and Citistates (http://www.citistates.com) all focus on innovative research and programs that strengthen urban neighborhoods and metropolitan areas. Each site has links to many other resources about particular issues, programs, cities, and metropolitan areas. Two magazines -- Shelterforce (http://www.nhi.org/online) and City Limits (http://www.citylimits.org) -- provide examples of interesting urban politics and policy from a liberal/progressive perspective. City Journal (http://www.city-journal.org), published by the Manhattan Institute, provides interesting articles on urban issues from a conservative perspective. Next American City is a provocative magazine about livable cities, innovative practices, and debates over what cities are doing the best. (http://americancity.org)

The Poverty Resource Center of the United Way of Greater Los Angeles (http://www.unitedwayla.org/GETINFORMED/RR/Pages/default.aspx) has regular reports on various issues related to poverty in the LA area:

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has its own web site with information about its programs, policies, data bases, and many links. HUD's Office of Policy Development & Research (http://www.huduser.org) has its own site with a great deal of information about housing and urban problems, studies and publications, and available data. You can reach the HUD library, with many reports and publications about cities and housing problems, at this site.

American Prospect (http://www.prospect.org), and The Nation (http://www.thenation.com). These are two of the most important magazines analyzing American politics from a progressive, grassroots perspective

Demos - A Network for Ideas and Action (http://www.demos-usa.org/demos); Center for Responsive Politics (http://www.opensecrets.org); Public Campaign (http://www.publicampaign.org); Good Jobs First (http://www.goodjobsfirst.org); Center on
Budget and Policy Priorities (http://www.cbpp.org); California Budget Project (http://www.cbp.org); -- These think tanks all provide interesting policy ideas on such issues as tax policy, campaign finance, anti-poverty policy, economic development, citizen participation, housing and homelessness, voting rights, and others

MoveOn.Org: Democracy in Action (http://www.moveon.org); Jobs with Justice (http://www.jwj.org); AFL-CIO (http://www.aflcio.org); Union Summer (http://www.aflcio.org/unionsummer); Center for Community Change (http://www.communitychange.org); California Peace Action (http://www.californiapeaceaction.org); Industrial Areas Foundation (http://www.tresser.com/IAF.htm); Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) (http://www.laane.org); Los Angeles County Federation of Labor (http://www.launionafclio.org); Community Coalition (http://www.ccsapt.org); Communities for a Better Environment (http://www.cbecal.org) Strategic Action for a Just Economy (SAJE) (http://www.saje.net); Southern California Assn. for Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH) (http://www.scanph.org); Liberty Hill Foundation (http://www.libertyhill.org) -- These websites from various activist organizations reflect much of the best organizing taking place around the U.S. and in L.A.

Neighborhood Planning: http://www.neighborhoodplanning.org. This is a wonderful website about what makes cities and communities livable. It looks at neighborhoods (and neighborhood planning) from the point of view of planning tools for housing, transportation, schools, economic development, public safety, and other issues. It also has a section on the “heroes” of community planning - some of the most important figures in the history of planning, architecture, organizing, and other topics.

Newspapers, Magazines and Journals
Students are expected to read at least one daily newspaper -- the LA Times, the New York Times, or the Wall Street Journal -- on a regular basis. When an article appears in one of these papers that relates to the topics in the course, bring it up in class. There are also many magazines -- such as The Neighborhood Works, Governing, Next American City, and Planning -- targeted to urban practitioners and policymakers. The best sources for following national politics are Washington Post Weekly and National Journal. You should also become familiar with the major journals that focus on urban problems and policies. In the Library, peruse these publications to see what scholars and practitioners are saying. The major journals include Urban Affairs Quarterly, Journal of the American Planning Association, Journal of Urban Affairs, and National Civic Review. Other relevant journals include Social Work, Social Policy, and Challenge.
TOPICS AND READINGS

(Readings preceded by an *asterisk are available on-line.

PART I

POLITICS AND POLICY ARE ABOUT VALUES AND CHOICES

Personal Values (Tuesday, January 24)
"Looking for Housing" exercise

Social Choices (Thursday, January 26)
Kozol, Savage Inequalities (entire book)
*Bernstein, “Is Education the Cure for Poverty?” (American Prospect, April 2007)

Two Approaches to Public Policy: YOYO vs. WITT (Tuesday, January 31)
Bernstein, All Together Now (entire book)

Health Care, Housing, and Banking: YOYO vs WITT (Thursday, February 2)
Film: On your own time, watch the Michael Moore film, “Sicko,” available on reserve in the library, before the February 2 class. If you’ve already seen it, see it again, looking at it from the perspective of YOYO vs. WITT. Likewise, when reading the articles, consider how YOYO and WITT perspectives shape views about health care and housing/banking.
Watch: This 5-minute video, from February 19, 2009. This “rant” about mortgages is considered the beginning of the Tea Party movement: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jiCOb49vVVM

Health Care:
*Alter, “Health Care as a Human Right” (Newsweek, August 31, 2009)
*Reid, “5 Myths About Health Care Around the World” (Washington Post, August 23, 2009)
*Terhune and Epstein, “The Health Insurers Have Already Won” (Business Week, Aug. 6, 2009)
*Ward, “Obamacare to the Rescue” (LAT, December 6, 2011)
*Boffey, “Will Health Care Reform Survive the Courts?” (NYT, August 20, 2011)

Banking and Housing:
*Steinhauer, “A Cul-de-Sac of Lost Dreams, and New Ones” (NYT, Aug 23, 2009)
*Kudlow, “More Foreclosures Will Solve Housing” (National Review, March 29, 2010)
*Reich, “Moral Hazard” (September 7, 2007)
*Lowenstein, “Walk Away from Your Mortgage” (NYT, Jan. 7, 2010)
PART II

URBAN PLANNING AND LIVABLE CITIES

What Makes Cities Livable? The Experiences in Other Countries (Tuesday, February 7)
*Dreier, “The United States in Comparative Perspective” (Contexts, August 2007)
*Reid, “The European Social Model” (in The United States of Europe, 2004)
*Hall, "How Foreign Cities Cope" (The World & I, June 1991)
**"Toronto and Detroit" (Economist, May 19, 1990)
*Greenhouse, "Why Paris Works" (NYT, July 19, 1992)
*Ibrahim, "To French, Solidarity Outweighs Balanced Budget" (NYT, Dec. 20, 1995)
*Smith, “France Has an Underclass, But Its Roots Are Still Shallow” (NYT, Nov. 6, 2005)
*Francis, “It’s Better to be Poor in Norway Than in the US” (Christian Science Monitor, April 14, 2005).
*Selvin, "The View From the European Bus" (LAT, Aug. 15, 1999)
*Simons, "Amsterdam Plans Wide Limit on Cars" (NYT, Jan. 28, 1993)
*James, “Eco-cities --Next Swedish Export" (Planning, May 2002)

Urban Planning: The Built Environment (Thursday, February 9)
Film: “The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces”
*Lennard and Lennard, “The Genius of the European Square”
*Jacobs, “The Uses of Sidewalks: Safety” and “The Uses of Sidewalks: Contacts” (from The Death and Life of Great American Cities)
*Bloomekatz, “Backlog of Broken Sidewalks” (LAT, Nov. 28, 2011)
*Davis, “Fortress LA” (from City of Quartz)
*Kunstler, “Home From Nowhere” (The Atlantic, September 1996)

Urban Planning: Whose City? (Tuesday, February 14)
*Silver, “The Racial Origins of Zoning in American Cities” (from In the Shadows: Urban Planning & the African American Community, 1997)
*Ritzdorf, “Locked Out of Paradise” (from In the Shadows: Urban Planning & the African American Community, 1997)
*Burden, “Jane Jacobs, Robert Moses & City Planning Today” (Gotham Gazette, Nov. 6, 2006)
*Fishman, “The Mumford-Jacobs Debate” (Planning History Studies, 10 (1-2), n.d.)
How National Policy Shapes Cities (Thursday, February 16)
Watch the film “Urbanized” before coming to class. It is on reserve in the Library.
Nivola, Laws of the Landscape (entire book)

Federal Urban Policy and its Consequences (Tuesday, February 21)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters (Chapter 4)
*Mohl, “Planned Destruction: The Interstates and Central City Housing” (In Baumann, et al., From Tenements to the Taylor Homes)
*Dreier and Rothstein, “Seismic Stimulus: The California Quake's Creative Destruction” (American Prospect, Summer 1994)
*Dreier, “Katrina and Power in America” (Urban Affairs Review, March 2006)
*Moroz, “Mayors vs. Governors” (The Atlantic, November 2009)
*Kotkin, “The Luxury City vs. the Middle Class” (The American, May 2009)
*Jackson, “Once Again, the City Beckons” (NYT, March 30, 2001)
*Cooper, “Cities Face Tough Choices as U.S. Slashes Block Grants Program” (NYT, Dec. 21, 2011)
*Cooper, “Few Cities Have Regained Jobs They Lost, Report Finds” (NYT, Jan. 18, 2012)

Assignment: Go to the National Priorities Project website (http://nationalpriorities.org). This website examines the impact of federal spending priorities on states, cities, and communities. Go to the Tradeoffs page (http://www.nationalpriorities.org/tradeoffs) and the Cost of War page (http://www.nationalpriorities.org/costofwar_home) and look up your state, your city or town, and your Congressional district. Bring with you to class your findings about how federal spending impacts where you live.
PART III
THREE MAJOR FACTORS SHAPING URBAN LIFE:
INEQUALITY, RACISM, AND SUBURBANIZATION

Inequality and Poverty

The Magnitude of Inequality (Thursday, February 23)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters (Preface; Chapters 1-3)
*Tale of Two Cities/One Future: LA County Ten Years Later (United Way of Greater Los Angeles, 2010) - handout
*Cooper, “The Two Worlds of Los Angeles” (Nation, August 21, 2000)
*”Income Distribution in Los Angeles” (SCANPH, 2007)
*Popper, “Income Divide Grows in the US” (LAT, Dec. 6, 2011)
*Pizzigati, “Have the Rich Won?” (Dollars & Sense, November/December 2009)
*Surowiecki, “Soak the Very, Very Rich” (New Yorker, August 16/23, 2010)
*Frank, “The Rising Treshold for Being in America’s Top 1%” (Wall Street Journal, October 11, 2010)
http://blogs.wsj.com/wealth/2010/11/08/is there an optimal rich poor gap
*Sing, “Families Strain to Make Do, Study Finds’ (LAT, Sept. 28, 2005)
*”Middle Class in America” (Focus, Summer 2010)
*Conley, “Don’t Blame the Billionaires” (American Prospect, Nov. 20, 2009)

The Magnitude of Poverty (Tuesday, February 28)
Watch: Before coming to class watch the film “The Pruitt-Igoe Myth: An Urban History”
*”Mis-measuring Poverty” (American Prospect, September 2009)
*Deparle, Gebeloff and Tavernise, “Older, Suburban and Struggling, ‘Near Poor’ Startle the Census” (NYT, Nov. 18, 2011)
*El Nasser, “Suburbs Grass Isn’t Always Greener” (USA Today, October 18, 2004)
*Ehrenreich, “Too Poor to Make the News” (NYT, June 14, 2009)
*DeParle, “Harder for Americans to Rise From Lower Rungs” (NYT, January 4, 2012)
*Brooks-Gunn and Duncan, “The Effects of Poverty on Children” (The Future of Children, Summer/Fall 1997)
*”Poverty Thresholds” (Look up the poverty thresholds for 2010)
http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/threshld/
Can We Reduce Poverty and Inequality? (Thursday, March 1)
*Berube and Katz, “Katrina’s Window: Confronting Concentrated Poverty Across America”
(Brookings Institution, October 2005)
*Burtless, “What Have We Learned About Poverty and Inequality? Evidence from Cross-National Analysis” (Focus, No. 1, 2007)
*Rosenblatt, “Minority Women in LA Found to have Higher Rates of Chronic Disease” (LAT, May 24, 2007)
*Noble, "Study Shows a Big Asthma Risk for Children in Poor Neighborhoods" (NYT, July 27, 1999)
*Polakovic, “Latinos, Poor Live Closer to Sources of Air Pollution” (LAT, October 18, 2001)
*Finder, “As Test Scores Jump, Raleigh Credits Integration by Income” (NYT, Sept. 25, 2005)
*Barboza, "Rampant Obesity, a Debilitating Reality for the Urban Poor" (NYT, Dec. 26, 2000)
*Lyderson, “Making Food Deserts Bloom” (Shelterforce, Summer 2008)
*Romney, “Jobs Program a Model of Success” (LAT, Dec. 12, 2001)
*Gertner, “What is a Living Wage?” (NYT, Jan. 15, 2006)
*Economic Footprint of Unions in LA (Economic Roundtable, 2007)
*Meredith, “Job-Seeking Detroitters Cannot Get to Where the Jobs Are” (NYT, May 26, 1998)
*Boots and Martinson, “A Modern Safety Net” (American Prospect, September 2009)
*Greenberg, “Making Poverty History” (American Prospect, April 2007)
*Vanden Heuvel, “Putting Poverty on the Agenda Again” (The Nation, Jan. 16, 2011)

Segregation and Racism

Racial Segregation (Tuesday, March 6)
*Massey and Denton “The Construction of the Ghetto” (from American Apartheid, Ch. 2)
*Kotz, “Uncivil Rights” (Review of When Affirmative Action Was White, NYT, Aug. 28, 2005)
*Logan and Stults, “Racial and Ethnic Separation in the Neighborhoods: Progress at a Standstill” (Brown University, December 2010)
*”Figure 2-1a: Distribution of Households Within One Hypothetical Metropolitan Area With High Segregation and One With Low Segregation” (U.S. Census Bureau, Residential and
Racial Prejudice and Discrimination (Thursday, March 8)
"Study: It Helps To Have a White Name" (Associated Press, January 14, 2003)
Patterson, "The Paradox of Integration" (New Republic, November 6, 1995)
Thernstrom and Thernstrom, "We Have Overcome" (New Republic, Oct. 13, 1997)
Brownstein and Simon, "Hospitality Turns into Hostility" (LAT, Nov. 14, 1993)
Gilens, "Race and Poverty in America" (Public Opinion Quarterly, Winter 1996)
Massey and Denton, "The Continuing Causes of Segregation" (from American Apartheid, Ch. 4)
Smith and Cloud, "Welcome to the Neighborhood? The Persistence of Discrimination and Segregation’ (in Hartman and Squires, eds., The Integration Debate: Competing Futures for American Cities, 2010)
Martino and Bensman, "Regular Work in an Irregular Economy’ (American Prospect, Sept. 2008)
Echaveste, "African Americans and Immigrants” (American Prospect, September 2008)
Kristof, "Study Alleges Racial Bias in Auto Rates’ (LAT, Dec. 20, 2005)
Kelley, "Statistics Lend Support to Claims of Profiling” (LAT, Sept. 23, 2001)
Peterson, ‘Racial Gap in Loans is High in State’ (LAT, Sept. 29, 2005)
Profiting from Poverty: How Payday Lenders Strip Wealth from the Working Poor (National Peoples Action January 2012)

Spring Break – March 12-16

The Many Faces of Segregation and Integration (Tuesday, March 20)
Two Tables: Public Opinion of Whites on School and Neighborhood Integration
Wilkerson, "One City's 30-Year Crusade for Integration" (NYT, Dec. 30, 1991)
Scott, “Rethinking Segregation Beyond Black and White” (NYT, July 29, 2001)
Connell, Smith and Watanabe, “Local Suburbs More Diverse” (LAT, December 9, 2008)
Ramos, "Latino Middle Class Growing in Suburbia" (LAT, Nov. 30, 1997)
Benjamin, “Refugees of Diversity” (American Prospect, October 2009)
Goldstein, “Shaking Up Suburbia” (American Prospect, August 2009)
Spriggs, “The Economic Crisis in Black and White” (American Prospect, September 2008)
Pitts, “Unionization and Black Workers” (American Prospect, September 2008)

Suburbanization and Sprawl

A Suburban Nation (Thursday, March 22)
Sprawl Hits the Wall: Confronting the Realities of Metropolitan Los Angeles (report) (read the Executive Summary and skim the rest)
"Flee the City" (Cartoon)

*Jackson, “The Drive-In Culture of Contemporary America” (from Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States, 1985)

*Hanchett, “The Other Subsidized Housing: Federal Aid to Suburbanization, 1940s to 1960s” (in Bauman, Biles and Szylvian, eds., From Tenements to the Taylor Homes: In Search of an Urban Housing Policy in 20th Century America, 2000).

*Fulton and Shigley, “The Inland Empire Strikes Back” (Planning, February 2002)

*Gold, ‘Inland Empire Pays Price for Housing Crisis’ (LAT, May 20, 2002)


*Hayden, “Planning Suburban-Style Development” (from Building Suburbia, 2003)

*Kelley, "As Suburbs Change, They Still Satisfy" (LAT, Oct. 19, 1999)

**Kotkin, “The War Against Suburbia” (The American, January 2010)

Wilson, “Developers Are Putting Southland’s Last Dairy Farmers Out to Pasture” (LAT, May 27, 2002)

*Lyman, “Living Large, by Design, in Middle of Nowhere” (NYT, Aug. 15, 2005)

*Fulton, "Welcome to Sales Tax Canyon" (from The Reluctant Metropolis, 1997)

**Smart Growth and Regionalism (Tuesday, March 27)

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters (Chapter 6)

*Magi, “Beyond Sprawl: Part I” (Next American City, January 5, 2011)

*Leinberger, “The Death of the Fringe Suburb” (NYT, Nov. 25, 2011)

*Mazingo, “To Rethink Sprawl, Start with Offices” (NYT, Nov. 25, 2011)

*Cooper, “Smart Growth” (from CQ Researcher, Urban Issues, 3rd edition, 2007)

*Brook, “The New Environment for Housing” (American Prospect, January 2005)

*Sheehan, "What Will It Take to Halt Sprawl?" (WorldWatch, Jan/Feb 2002)


*Smothers, "City [Memphis] Seeks to Grow By Disappearing" (NYT, October 18, 1993)

*Conce, "Southland Smog Levels Are Lowest in 4 Decades" (LAT, October 21, 1995)

*Barringer, “California Moves on Bill to Curb Sprawl and Emissions” (NYT, August 28, 2008)

**Transportation and Sustainable Development (Thursday, March 29)

Watch “Who Killed the Electric Car” before this class session.


*Roosevelt, “To Go Green, Live Closer to Work” (LAT, Sept 21, 2007)

*Newton, “Tall, Green, Vital: LA As Mayor Dreams It” (LAT, February 19, 2006)

*Okrent and Gray, ‘How to Shrink a City’ (Time, Nov. 22, 2010)


*Dreier and Steckler, “Not Just for the Gentry” (American Prospect, January 2005)

*"Who Rides the Bus?" (LAT, October 1994)
*Gross, "Getting There the Hard Way, Every Day" (LAT, July 16, 1995)
*Mason, "The Buses Don't Stop Here Anymore" (American Prospect, March/April 1998)
*Randolph, “Recession Squeeze on Buses and Trains” (NYTimes, Jan. 1, 2012)

**PART IV: URBAN POLITICS AND POLICY CHOICES**

**Power and Politics**

**Who Rules Cities? (Tuesday, April 3)**
Watch: "Daley: The Last Boss" on your own in the Library before this class. Think about: who are the key players that influenced decision-making in Chicago politics?
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters (Chapter 5)
*Fiscal Stress Faced by Local Governments (Congressional Budget Office, Dec. 2010)
*City of Los Angeles, 2011-2012 Budget Summary (skim):
*Swanstrom, "The Politics of Default" (Swanstrom, The Crisis of Growth Politics, 1985)
*Nichols, "Urban Archipelago" (Nation, June 20, 2005)
*Dreier and Pitcoff, "I'm a Tenant and I Vote: New Yorkers Find Victory in Rent Struggle" (Shelterforce, July/August 1997)

**Who Runs Los Angeles? (Thursday, April 5)**
Watch: "The New Los Angeles" on your own in the Library before this class. Compare how power is exercised in Daley’s Chicago and Villaraigosa’s Los Angeles. What are the similarities and differences? Who are the key players?
*Dreier, Freer, Gottlieb and Vallianatos, "Movement Mayor: Can Antonio Villaraigosa Change Los Angeles?" (Dissent, Summer 2006)
*Hames, “Connections Are Key to Valley Most Powerful Person: David Fleming” (San Fernando Valley Business Journal, December 10, 2007)
*Frank and Wong, ‘Dynamic Political Mobilization: The LA County Federation of Labor’ (Working USA, December 2004)
*Janis, “Special Attention Paid to ‘Special Interests’” (LA Business Journal, August 9, 2010)
*Zahniser, “LA Mayor Lines Up Donors for Favorite Causes” (LAT, Dec. 18, 2007)
**”Share the Power” (LA Daily News, January 14, 2008) - editorial
The Battle Over Jobs and Economic Development

What If Everyone Had a Job? Work and Welfare (Tuesday, April 10)

Watch this 2-minute video of Newt Gingrich: “Food Stamps vs. Pay Checks”
http://mrcctv.org/videos/gingrichobama-best-food-stamp-president-american-history

Watch this 6-minute video about Evergreen Cooperatives: http://blip.tv/episode/2769043

*Bennet, “Mere Hint of Jobs Draws Crowd in Detroit” (NYT, Nov. 12, 1993)

*Son and Bernhardt, “Government Paves the Way: A Decent Work Agenda for the Obama Administration’ (American Prospect, October 2009)
*Meyer, “Accelerating Measure R's Job Creation” (LAT, August 10, 2010)
*Alperovitz, et al, “Asset-Building Comes of Age” (Shelterforce, April 2007)
*Hymowitz, “Welfare Reform is Worth Celebrating” (Seattle Post-Intelligencer, July 16, 2006)
*Scheer, “Clinton’s Blindness on Welfare Reform” (Nation, August 20, 2006)
*Christopher, “Family Friendly Europe” (American Prospect, April 2002)
*Dreier, “Growing the Minimum Wage” (TomPaine, Com, November 27, 2006)
*Thompson, "...But One Size Doesn't Fit All Workers” (LAT, Sept. 16, 1999)
*'Kill the Living Wage Extension’ (LAT, January 3, 2007) - editorial
*Hymon, “LA Living Wage Law is Upheld” (LAT, December 28, 2007)

Green Jobs (Thursday, April 12)

Film: “The Blue and Green Alliance” (8 minutes)


*The Road to Shared Prosperity (LAANE, 2007) -- hand-out
*Wilson, “A Trade Boom’s Unintended Costs” (LAT, April 23, 2006)
*Wilson, “Port Panels OK Plan to Cut Pollution” (LAT, Nov. 21, 2006)
*White and Wilson, “Opposition Grows to Ports' Clean-Air Plan” (LAT, Sept 29, 2007)
*Knickerbocker, “Many Green Mayors Fall Short” (Christian Science Monitor, Nov. 8, 2007)

Revitalizing Downtowns: Accountable Development (Tuesday, April 17)

*Teaford, "Urban Renewal and Its Aftermath" (Housing Policy Debate, 11/2, 2000)
*Greenblatt and Clark, “Downtown Renaissance” (Chapter 8 in Urban Issues, 2010)
*Tabak, "Wild About Convention Centers" (Atlantic Monthly, April 1994)
*DiMassa, “Mega-projects Could Reshape L.A. Growth” (LAT, December 13, 2006)
*Rivera, "Staples Center's Displaced Have New Homes and New Worries" (LAT, Oct. 9, 1999)
*Murray, “A Tale of Two Anaheims” (Shelterforce, Summer 2008)
*Dreier, “Good Jobs, Healthy Cities” (American Prospect, October 2009)
*Dreier, “Builders Clucking Like Chicken Little” (LAT, July 3, 2005)
*Glionna, “Oakland’s In-Your-Face Ads Invade San Francisco” (LAT, July 9, 2001)
*Curtiss and Watson, "Desperate Cities Court Developers" (LAT, Jan. 16, 1993)
*Lichtenstein, “Wal-Mart Tries To Go To Town” (American Prospect, May 2011)

**People or Places? Rebuild or Dismantle the Ghetto? (Thursday, April 19)**
*Oppel, "Many Banks Making Money on Lending in Poor Areas" (NYT, Oct. 22, 1999)
*Martin, "A Haven for Vendors" (LAT, Nov. 22, 1999)
*Pacenza, “East Harlem's Bottom Line” (Shelterforce, September/October 2002)
*Lazar, “Balancing Business and Mission” (Shelterforce, September/October 2002)
*Samara and Chang, “Gentrifying Downtown Miami” (Urban Habitat, Spring 2008)
*Serna, “Tenants Plus Land Trust Beat Gentrification” (Urban Habitat, Spring 2008)
*Dreier and Moberg, “Moving From the Hood: the Mixed Success of Integrating Suburbia” (American Prospect, Winter 1996)
*Engdahl and Tegeler, “Regional Housing Mobility: A Report from Baltimore” (Poverty & Race, November/December 2009)
*Medina, “Subsidies and Suspicion” (NYT, August 11, 2011)
*Goetz, “The Reality of Deconcentration” (Shelterforce, November/December 2004)

**Housing and Banking**

**The Banking Crisis, Foreclosures, and Homeownership (Tuesday, April 24)**
Video: “Mo' Money, Mo' Money, Mo' Money: How Greedy Corporations Destroy the American Dream” (Watch this 9-minute video before class: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWEdtVnSWQg&feature=youtu.be)
*From Foreclosure to Re-Redlining: How America’s Largest Financial Institutions Devastated California Communities* (California Reinvestment Coalition, 2010) – just read the Executive Summary and skim the rest
*Home Wreckers: How Wall Street Foreclosures Are Devastating Communities (Re-Fund California, 2011) -- just skim this report
*Murphy, “A Homecoming and a Home Lost” (LA Times, August 11, 2011)
*Lipton and Labaton, “Deregulator Looks Back, Unswayed” (NYT, Nov 17, 2008)
*Wright, “The Assault on the Black Middle Class” (American Prospect, June 2009)
*Bajaj and Fessenden, “What’s Behind the Race Gap?” (NYT, Nov. 4, 2007)
*Kaufmann, “The Silent Depression” (Nation, Sept. 25, 2009)
*Kuler, “Not With My Home” (American Prospect, June 2011)
*Savage, “Justice Dept. Opens Front Against Bias In Lending” (NYT, Jan 14, 2010)
*Cherry, “A Realistic Fix for the Mortgage Mess” (LAT, October 28, 2011)
*Krugman, “Home - Not-so-Sweet Home” (NYT, June 23, 2008)
*Karger, “The Homeownership Myth” (Dollars & Sense, September/October 2007)
*Marcuse, “The Housing Change We Need” (Shelterforce, November 2008)
*Lowery, “The Rent Isn't Too Damn High: Why it's Good News That More Americans Are Renting Rather Than Buying Homes” (Slate, May 31, 2011)

Is Housing a Right or a Privilege? - Homelessness and Renters’ Rights (Thursday, April 26)
*Salins, "Toward a Permanent Housing Problem" (The Public Interest, Fall 1986).
*Dreier and Atlas “Housing Policy’s Moment of Truth” (American Prospect, Summer 1995)
*"LA: Out of Reach 2010" (SCANPH)
*”What Do You Mean By Affordable?” (Livable Places)
*Breidenbach, “LA Story” and “What We Won” (Shelterforce, March/April 2002)
*Dellinger, “Two Veteran Community Organizers Tackle LA’s Burgeoning Rental Housing Crisis” (The Tidings, January 18, 2008)
*Archibold, “Problem of Homelessness in Los Angeles and Its Environs Draws Renewed Calls for Attention” (NYT, January 15, 2006)
*Mangano and Blasi, “Stuck on Skid Row” (LAT, October 29, 2007)
*Orlov, “Protestors Erect Tent City in Front of LA City Hall” (LA Daily News, April 13, 2007)
*DiMassa, “Crowded Out by Luxury Lofts, Poor Seek Relief” (LAT, Oct. 12, 2005)
*DiMassa, “1-Year Ban OK’d on Loft Conversions” (LAT, May 11, 2006)
*Ramos, “A Bitter Year for Victims of Collapse” (LAT, December 29, 2001)
*Fears, “Angry Tenants Protest Lack of Enforcement of Slum Laws” (LAT, March 19, 1999)
*Renwick, "Fed-Up Tenants Take Over” (LAT, August 15, 1994)
*Haefele, “Crowding Antonio” (LAT, May 10, 2007)
*Hymon, “Activists Press Council for Affordable Housing Law” (LAT, June 5, 2005)
*Lopez, “No Words, No Sign of a Heart From Developer” (LAT, December 6, 2006)
*Scott, “Lawsuit Ruling Put Housing Plan in Question” (LA Downtown News, 7/24/09)

The Urban Future

Cities and the 2012 Presidential Election (Tuesday, May 1)
TBA

Can Cities Get Back on the Nation’s Agenda? (Thursday, May 3)
TBA