What This Course is About

For the first time in history, a majority of the earth’s human population lives in cities. Vast metropolitan areas are arising in developing and middle income countries, while in the United States – where about 80 percent of the population lives in urban areas, although most of them in suburbs -- there is a resurgence in interest in urban living. Urbanists, planners, mayors, developers, and others are promising that strong cities can unleash productivity, bring diverse people together, and even save the planet.

Amid this promise, cities still face many of the challenges that have plagued them for decades. These include concentrated poverty and stark inequality, the challenges of providing adequate housing for all residents, the persistence of residential racial segregation, and the problem of sprawl and environmental sustainability. There are also controversies over what makes a city “livable,” who should have the power to shape cities and neighborhoods, and how much density is OK.

This is a seminar/discussion course about America's cities -- and what we can do to address the problems they (and their residents) face. It is also a course in policy analysis -- evaluating different public policies in terms of their effectiveness at making life better. 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, and others -- 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 strengthen and improve 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 "urban policy"). How are cities governed? ("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? How do we account for the similarities and differences between Los Angeles, New York, Seattle, Boston, Atlanta, San Francisco, Chicago, Paris, Copenhagen, Toronto, Mexico City, Nairobi, and Beijing? What can we learn from these differences and similarities to help address the problems facing American cities?
Books to Purchase

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

- Kozol, *Savage Inequalities*
- Bernstein, *All Together Now*
- Nivola, *Laws of the Landscape*

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.

Course Requirements

Your grade will be based on the following:

1. **One-quarter** of 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-quarter** of your grade will be based on your participation in and written observations about three public events dealing with issues raised in the course – housing, displacement, the minimum wage, police misconduct, public health and the environment, and other topics. You will be expected to attend three meetings, rallies, public hearings, or other public events, record your observations of these events, and write a short evaluation of the different perspectives and political sides of the issue. These events need to be off campus. I have identified two such events in the syllabus, but there will be many others. If you learn about such events, please share them with the rest of the class.
3. **One-quarter** of your grade will be based on written assignments. UEP 301 is a junior writing seminar. You will be assigned a number of short (3 to 4 page) papers, based primarily on the readings. These can 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.

4. **One quarter** of your grade will be based on your short movie reviews. This is another kind of writing assignment. You should view three of the films listed below during the semester. Don’t pick a film you’ve already seen! Hand in a two-page (double-spaced) review of each film, highlighting how it is relevant to the concepts we’re discussing in class. On your paper, indicate when and where you saw the film. Two of these reviews should be handed in before the March 9-13 spring break; one should be handed in after the spring break. All of them are available in the library:

1. **“Urbanized”** -- A documentary about the design of cities, which looks at the issues and strategies behind urban design and features some of the world’s foremost architects, planners, policymakers, builders, and thinkers.
2. **“Sicko”** – Michael Moore’s documentary about the American health care crisis and how it compares to health care in other countries.
3. **“Heist”** -- A documentary about the banking crisis, who caused it, and who were its victims.
4. **“Who Killed the Electric Car?”** -- A documentary that investigates the birth and death of the electric car, as well as the role of renewable energy and sustainable living in the future.
5. **“The New Los Angeles”** -- This documentary looks beyond the Hollywood dreamscape to a city grappling with issues like immigration, globalization, de-industrialization, economic inequality, and a shrinking middle class, and profiles the work of activists trying to make LA a more livable city.
6. **“The Pruitt-Igoe Myth”** – This documentary tells the story of the transformation of the American city in the decades after World War II, through the lens of the infamous Pruitt-Igoe housing development and the St. Louis residents who called it home.
7. **“The Times of Harvey Milk”** – A documentary about the first openly gay American to get elected to a major political office – San Francisco’s Board of Supervisors. It is much better than the Hollywood version of this story, “Milk.”
8. “Daley: The Last Boss” – A documentary about Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, who ran the city like it was his fiefdom, earning him the reputation as a political “boss.”

9. “Taken for a Ride” – A documentary about why mass transportation declined dramatically in American cities in the 1950s and 1960s. You’ll be surprised to learn the answer.

10. “City of Hope” – This is a fictionalized story about a real city in New Jersey and how white and black politicians, community activists, and developers promoted and fought against gentrification.

11. “Do The Right Thing” -- Spike Lee’s famous film about daily life in the Brooklyn ghetto

12. “Is Wal-Mart Good for America?” – A documentary about the impact of the world’s largest corporation on our urban, suburban and rural communities

13. “Building Hope” – A documentary about the history and track record of community development corporations

14. “Boom – The Sound of Eviction” – A documentary about community activists and tenants rights organizations fighting gentrification in the Mission District of San Francisco, where Silicon Valley high-tech professionals are displacing low-income families.

15. “Holding Ground: The Rebirth of Dudley Street” – A documentary about successful community organizing in a low-income neighborhood of Boston in the 1980s, focusing on the efforts of residents to close down illegal dumps, gain unprecedented control of land from the city, and create a comprehensive plan to rebuild the fabric of a community devastated by bank redlining and arson-for-profit.

16. “Gaining Ground” -- This is a sequel/update to “Holding Ground.” It explores a new generation of leaders and activists working to prevent foreclosures and bring jobs and opportunities for young people to one of the city’s most diverse and economically challenged neighborhoods.

17. “Save the Farm” and “The Garden” – These are two documentaries about how Latino families, politicians, a wealthy developer, environmental activists, and celebrities collide over the fate of a community farm in South Los Angeles, the largest urban garden in the country.

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 (http://www.cbpp.org) 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.cityjournal.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 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 reach can 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.publiccampaign.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.calipeaceaction.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.launionaflcio.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
If you want to keep up-to-date about urban issues, you should read at least one daily newspaper -- the LA Times, the New York Times, the Washington Post, or the Wall Street Journal -- on a regular basis. You can read them the old-fashioned way (holding it
in your hands and folding over the pages) or on-line. If you read an article 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, you can 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 the class Moodle site.

PART I

POLITICS AND POLICY ARE ABOUT VALUES AND CHOICES

Personal Values (Tuesday, January 20)
"Looking for Housing" exercise

Social Choices (Thursday, January 22)
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 27)
Bernstein, All Together Now (entire book)

Health Care: YOYO vs WITT (Thursday, January 29)
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
Watch this video before class: “The Daily Show,” MSNBC, August 1, 2013 - about the minimum wage and fast food workers:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8wiudhAhaA
*Gladwell, “The Moral Hazard Myth” (New Yorker, August 9, 2005)
*Parker-Pope, “Tackling a Racial Gap in Breast Cancer Survival” (NYT, December 20, 2013)
*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)
*Ward, “Obamacare to the Rescue” (LAT, December 6, 2011)
*Lapidos, “Sabotaging Health Care, One Lie at a Time” (NYT, September 23, 2013)
*Gawande, “States of Health” (New Yorker, October 7, 2013)
*Goodnough, “Success of Kentucky’s Health Plan Comes With New Obstacles” (NYT, December 29, 2014)
*Hanauer, “The Pitchfork’s Are Coming for Us Plutocrats” (Politico, July/August 2014)
*Thompson, “How the $15 wage deal came together in Seattle” (Seattle Times, May 3, 2014)

Rally to Raise the Minimum Wage
Los Angeles City Hall
Friday, January 30, 9 am
More info: LARaisetheWage.Org

**URBAN PLANNING AND LIVABLE CITIES**

What Makes Cities Livable? (Tuesday, February 3)
*Dreier, “The United States in Comparative Perspective” (Contexts, August 2007)
*"Toronto and Detroit" (Economist, May 19, 1990)
*Greenhouse, "Why Paris Works" (NYT, July 19, 1992)
*Alderman and Greenhouse, “Living Wages, Rarity for U.S. Fast-Food Workers, Served Up in Denmark” (NYT, October 27, 2014)
*Khazan, “The Secret to Finland’s Success With Schools, Moms, Kids—and Everything” (Atlantic, July 11, 2013)
*Francis, “It’s Better to be Poor in Norway Than in the US” (Christian Science Monitor, April 14, 2005).


*Rosenthal, “In German Suburb, Life Goes On Without Cars” (NYT, May 12, 2009)

*Jaffe, “Buses Are for Other People” (The Atlantic, January/February 2015)

*Johansen, “Scandanavia Gets Serious on Global Warming” (Progressive, July 2007)

**Urban Planning: The Built Environment (Thursday, February 5)**

Film: “The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces”

*Lennard and Lennard, “The Genius of the European Square”


*Sampson, “Placed” (from Great American City, 2013, pages 3-13)

*Dreier, “Jane Jacobs’ Radical Legacy” (Shelterforce, Summer 2006)

*Jacobs, “The Uses of Sidewalks: Safety” and “The Uses of Sidewalks: Contacts” (from Jacobs, The Death and Life of Great American Cities)

*Bloomekatz, “Backlog of Broken Sidewalks” (LAT, Nov. 28, 2011)


*Owen, “Green Manhattan” (The New Yorker, October 18, 2004)


**Urban Planning: Whose City? (Tuesday, February 10)**

*Fainstein, “Planning and the Just City” (in Marcuse, ed., Searching for the Just City: Debates in Urban Theory and Practice, 2009)

*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)

*Jackson, “Once Again, the City Beckons” (NYT, March 30, 2001)

*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.)

*Haas, “Inequality, Gentrification & the Right to the City” (PeaceWork,
February 2009)
*Janis, “Special Attention Paid to ‘Special Interests’” (LA Business Journal, August 9, 2010)
*Krumholz and Clavel, “Portland: Interview with Margaret Strachan” (from Reinventing Cities: Equity Planners Tell Their Stories, 1994)

**Gentrification (Thursday, February 12)**
Watch this slide show, “50 Years of Gentrification: A Timeline” (The Next City): http://nextcity.org/gentrificationtimeline#intro
Listen to these National Public Radio stories about the gentrification of LA’s Highland Park: http://yorkandfig.com
*Logan, “Highland Park renters feel the squeeze of gentrification” (LAT, December 21, 2014)
*Fellner, “What the Mermaid Taught Me” (Shelterforce, Fall 2008)
*Aron, “L.A.’s Culture War Over the Last True Skid Row in America” (LA Weekly, July 24, 2014)
*Gerber, “Arts District’s changing landscape is worrisome to longtime residents” (LAT, July 29, 2014).
*McDonald, “The Reclamation of Skid Row” (City Journal, August 2007)
*Gonzalez, “South Central Los Angeles Residents Fight to Save Their Beloved Community in the Face of USC Expansion Plans” (Progressive Planning, Summer 2012)

**How National Policy Shapes Cities (Tuesday, February 17)**
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 (Thursday, February 19)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters
   Chapter 5, “From FDR to Obama: A Brief History of Federal Urban Policy”*
*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)

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

“Heist”
I will be showing this film at 7 pm in Weingart 117. It focuses on the reasons for the nation’s widening inequality and especially the role that Wall Street has played. You can also watch in on your own time; the library has a copy on reserve. Just make sure you see if before the February 25 class.

The Magnitude of Inequality (Tuesday, February 24)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters
   Preface
   Chapter 1 – “Place Still Matters”
   Chapter 2 – “The Facts of Economic Segregation and Sprawl”
*Sing, “Families Strain to Make Do, Study Finds’ (LAT, Sept. 28, 2005)
* Obama, “Remarks by the President on Economic Mobility” (December 4, 2013)
* Popper, “Income Divide Grows in the US” (LAT, Dec. 6, 2011)
* 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)
**”Middle Class in America” (Focus, Summer 2010)
* Making Ends Meet: How Much Does It Cost to Raise a Family in California? (California Budget Project, December 2013) - just read pages 1-13, 16, and 35

The Magnitude of Poverty (Thursday, February 26)
Watch: Before coming to class watch the film, “The Pruitt-Igoe Myth: An Urban History”
* Joe Cortright and Dillon Mahmoudi, Lost in Place (City Observatory, December 2014)
* Lopez, “Buses are Their Route to a Better Future” (LAT, December 18, 2013)
**”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)
* Kaufman, “Time to Take on Concentrated Poverty and Education” (The Nation, February 1, 2013)
* Egan, “Good Poor, Bad Poor” (NYT, December 22, 2013)
* Ehrenreich, “Too Poor to Make the News” (NYT, June 14, 2009)
* DeParle, “Harder for Americans to Rise From Lower Rungs” (NYT, January 4, 2012)
* Bohan, “In an election year, Republicans join the debate on poverty” (Fiscal Times, January 9, 2014)
* Stevens and Page, “War on Poverty – It’s Not a Lost Cause” (LAT, January 8, 2014)
* Paton, “Poverty Is Not Inevitable: What We Can Do Now to Turn Things Around” (YES, August 25, 2014)
**”Poverty Thresholds - 2013"
**”Number in Poverty and Poverty Rate: 1959 to 2013” (chart)
**”Poverty Rates by Age: 1959 to 2013” (chart)
**”People and Families in Poverty by Selected Characteristics: 2012 and 2013” (table)
The Consequences of Poverty and Inequality (Tuesday, March 3)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters

Chapter 3 – “The Costs of Economic Segregation and Sprawl”
*Davey, “In a Soaring Homicide Rate, a Divide in Chicago” (NYT, January 2, 2013)
*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)
*Sahagun and Orr, “Ailments Diminish, Air Improvements are Notable After Oil Field Closes” (LAT, January 11, 2014)
*Rosenblatt, “Minority Women in LA Found to have Higher Rates of Chronic Disease” (LAT, May 24, 2007)
*Rothstein, “The Urban Poor Shall Inherit Poverty” (American Prospect, January/February 2014)
*Turner, “Place Matters Even More than We Thought: New Insights on the Persistence of Racial Inequality” (PPRAC, July/August 2013)
*Burtless, “What Have We Learned About Poverty and Inequality? Evidence from Cross-National Analysis” (Focus, No. 1, 2007)
*Barboza, "Rampant Obesity, a Debilitating Reality for the Urban Poor" (NYT, Dec. 26, 2000)
*Lyderson, “Making Food Deserts Bloom” (Shelterforce, Summer 2008)
*Brooks-Gunn and Duncan, “The Effects of Poverty on Children” (The Future of Children, Summer/Fall 1997, pages 55-68)
*Finder, “As Test Scores Jump, Raleigh Credits Integration by Income” (NYT, Sept. 25, 2005)

Segregation and Racism

Racial Segregation (Thursday, March 5)
*Rothstein, “The Making of Ferguson” (American Prospect, October 2014)
*Massey and Denton “The Construction of the Ghetto” (from American Apartheid, Chapter 2)
Racial Prejudice and Discrimination (Tuesday, March 17)

*“Study: It Helps To Have a White Name” (Associated Press, January 14, 2003)
*Peterson, “Racial Gap in Loans is High in State” (LAT, Sept. 29, 2005)
*Bajaj and Fessenden, “What’s Behind the Race Gap?” (NYT, Nov. 4, 2007)
*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)
*Martino and Bensman, “Regular Work in an Irregular Economy’ (American Prospect, September 2008)
*Echaveste, “African Americans and Immigrants” (American Prospect, September 2008)
*Profiting from Poverty: How Payday Lenders Strip Wealth from the Working Poor (National Peoples Action January 2012)
The Many Faces of Segregation and Integration (Thursday, March 19)
*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 (Tuesday, March 24)
*"Flee the City" (Cartoon)
*Jackson, “The Drive-In Culture of Contemporary America” (from Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States, 1985)
*Thompson, “How Suburbs Destroy Democracy” (Monu)
*Schafran, “As a Child of the Suburbs – A response to Michael Thompson’s ‘How Suburbs Destroy Democracy’” (Monu)
*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)
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** (Thursday, March 26)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, *Place Matters*

Chapter 8 – “Regionalisms Old and New”

*Foster, “A Dream Grows in Copenhagen” (NYT, March 5, 2012)

*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)


*Hernandez, “Making Green Housing Affordable” (Al Jazeera, April 27, 2013)

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

*Kirp, “Here Comes the Neighborhood” (NYT, October 20, 2013)

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

*Cone, "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)

*Biron, “US Cities Joining Push to Dump Fossil Fuel Investments” (Truth-out, April 27, 2013)

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

Power and Politics

**City Finances (Tuesday, March 31)**

Watch: "The New Los Angeles" on your own in the Library before this class. Compare how power is exercised in Los Angeles. Who are the key players?

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, *Place Matters*

Chapter 6 – “City Limits: City Limits: What Can Motown Teach Us About Wealth, Poverty and Municipal Finance?”


*Hiltzik, “The Boeing Vote and the Death of the Middle Class” (LAT, January 5, 2014)

*Fiscal Stress Faced by Local Governments (Congressional Budget Office, Dec. 2010)

*City of Los Angeles, 2013-2014 Budget Summary (Skim this document to learn what functions is the city of LA responsible for, where does the money come from, and where does the money go)

*Zahnhisier, Saillant, and Finnegan, “LA is Facing a Grim Future, Panel Says” (LAT, January 9, 2014)
Who Rules Cities? (Thursday, April 2)
Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters
Chapter 7 – “Urban Politics Matters: Progressive, Liberal and Conservative Cities”
*Dreier and Pitcoff, "I’m a Tenant and I Vote: New Yorkers Find Victory in Rent Struggle" (Shelterforce, July/August 1997)
*Dreier, “Radicals in City Hall: An American Tradition” (Dissent, December 19, 2013)
*Davidson, “Why Mayors Can’t Combat Income Inequality” (NYT, December 1, 2013)
*Meyerson, “LA Story” (American Prospect, August/September 2013)
*Connor and Smith, “Imagine: If Mayor de Blasio Really Were a Socialist” (Truthout, January 2, 2014)
*Meyerson, “Dan Cantor’s Machine” (American Prospect, January/February 2014)
*Hames, “Connections Are Key to Valley Most Powerful Person: David Fleming” (San Fernando Valley Business Journal, December 10, 2007)

Housing and Banking

The Banking Crisis, Foreclosures, and Homeownership (Tuesday, April 7)
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
Video: “Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) : Why Haven't The Wall Street Banks Been Prosecuted?” (Watch this 7 ½ minute video before class):
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TkyCX3cGtk
*Murphy, “A Homecoming and a Home Lost” (LA Times, August 11, 2011)
*Steinhauer, “A Cul-de-Sac of Lost Dreams, and New Ones” (NYT, Aug 23, 2009)
*Home Wreckers: How Wall Street Foreclosures Are Devastating Communities (Re-Fund California, 2011) -- just skim this report to get the key points
*Atlas and Dreier, “The Conservative Origins of the Sub-Prime Mortgage Crisis” (American Prospect, Dec. 18, 2007) – just read the intro section, the “what is subprime lending?” section and the “who benefitted and who got hurt?” section
*Reich, “Moral Hazard” (September 7, 2007)
*Wright, “The Assault on the Black Middle Class” (American Prospect, June 2009)
*Rivlin, “How Wall Street Defanged Dodd-Frank” (The Nation, April 30, 2013)
*Dreier, “Steve Mnuchin, Meet Rose Gudiel” (Huffington Post, October 3, 2011)
*Dreier, “Putting Names And Faces To The 1 Percent: Wells Fargo’s Tim Sloan”* (Huffington Post, October 2, 2012)

*Reckard, “Activist Paulina Gonzalez Puts Pressure on Banks to Help the Poor” (LAT, Nov. 30, 2014)

*Reckard,” Protesters challenge $3.4-billion purchase of OneWest” (LAT, Oct. 13, 2014)


*Dreier, “To Rescue Local Economies, Cities Seize Underwater Mortgages Through Eminent Domain” (The Nation, July 12, 2013)

*Dewan, “Eminent Domain: A Long Shot Against Blight” (NYT, January 11, 2014)


Krugman, “Home - Not-so-Sweet Home” (NYT, June 23, 2008)


*Marcuse, “The Housing Change We Need” (Shelterforce, November 2008)

**Is Housing a Right or a Privilege? - Homelessness and Renters’ Rights (Thursday, April 9)**

**”L.A. has a serious housing crisis and it's time for city officials to do something about it” (LAT, January 11, 2015)**

*Logan, “Housing costs are a greater burden in L.A. than elsewhere” (LAT, June 25, 2014)

**”LA: Out of Reach in 2013” (SCANPH)**

**”What Do You Mean By Affordable?” (Livable Places)**

*Salins, ”Toward a Permanent Housing Problem” (The Public Interest, Fall 1986).

*Hartman, “The Case for a Right to Housing” (Shelterforce, Winter, 2006)

*Grabar, “The Rent is Still Too Damn High!” (Salon, January 4, 2014)

*Ruiz and Smooke, “Developers Aren’t Going to Solve the Housing Crisis in San Francisco” (Truthout, October 8, 2014)

Dreier and Pitkoff, “I’m a Tenant and I Vote” (Shelterforce, July/August 1997)

*Dellinger, “Two Veteran Community Organizers Tackle LA’s Burgeoning Rental Housing Crisis” (The Tidings, January 18, 2008)

*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,
*Renwick, "Fed-Up Tenants Take Over" (LAT, August 15, 1994)
*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 Battle Over Jobs and Economic Development

**Green Jobs, Transportation, and Sustainable Development (Tuesday, April 14)**
Watch before Tuesday’s class: “Who Killed the Electric Car?” (90 minutes)
http://documentaryheaven.com/who-killed-the-electric-car/
Watch before Tuesday’s class: “Don't Waste L.A. No More Deaths in Waste Facilities” (3 minutes) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFRg0EFpYL0
Watch before Tuesday’s class: “Evergreen Cooperatives”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gt_ZHUDhKjs (7 minutes)
Watch before Tuesday’s class: “How Evergreen Cooperative is Changing Lives”
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axX4RY265rA (3 minutes)
Video: “The Blue and Green Alliance” (8 minutes – in class)

*Axel-Lute, “Green Jobs with Roots” (Shelterforce, Summer 2010)
*Wilson, “A Trade Boom’s Unintended Costs” (LAT, April 23, 2006)
*Wilson, “Port Panels OK Plan to Cut Pollution” (LAT, Nov. 21, 2006)
*Bonney, “Port of Long Beach diesel emissions down 82% since 2005” (Journal of Commerce, September 23, 2014)
*Roosevelt, “To Go Green, Live Closer to Work” (LAT, Sept 21, 2007)
*Dreier and Steckler, “Not Just for the Gentry” (American Prospect, January 2005)
*Jamison, “Electric cars, clean air: Garcetti outlines vision for a 'sustainable' L.A.” (LAT, April 8, 2015)
"Who Rides the Bus?” (LAT, October 1994)
*Gross, "Getting There the Hard Way, Every Day" (LAT, July 16, 1995)
*Randolph, “Recession Squeeze on Buses and Trains” (NYTimes, Jan. 1, 2012)
*Jaffe, “Buses Are for Other People” (Atlantic, January/February 2015)

What If Everyone Had a Job? Work and Welfare (Thursday, April 16)
Watch this 2-minute video of Newt Gingrich: “Food Stamps vs. Pay Checks”
http://mrctv.org/videos/gingrichobama-best-food-stamp-president-american-history
*Taub, "What If Everyone Had a Job?” (Shelterforce, Sept./Oct. 1996)
(Institute for Policy Studies, March 11, 2015)
*Gertner, “What is a Living Wage?” (NYT, Jan. 15, 2006)
**”Economic Footprint of Unions in LA” (Economic Roundtable, 2007) (Skim pages 1-10 only)
*Greenhouse, “Movement to Increase McDonalds Minimum Wage Broadens Its Tactics” (NYT, March 2015)
*Thornburg, “How to Kill Jobs in LA” (LAT, Sept. 29, 2014)
*Kirkham and Hsu, “Would an L.A. minimum wage hike push businesses to nearby cities?” (LAT, December 26, 2014)
*Westneat, “Local facts no match for national fiction on $15 minimum-wage issue” (Seattle Times, March 20, 2015)
*Christopher, “Family Friendly Europe” (American Prospect, April 2002)

Revitalizing Downtowns: Accountable Development (Tuesday, April 21)
*Teaford, "Urban Renewal and Its Aftermath” (Housing Policy Debate 11/2, 2000)
*Hines, "The Battle of Chavez Ravine” (LAT, April 20, 1997)
*Becerra, “Decades later, bitter memories of Chavez Ravine” (LAT, April 5, 2012)
*Greenblatt and Clark, “Downtown Renaissance” (Chapter 8 in Urban Issues, 2010)
*Miles, “This Is What Los Angeles Could Look Like In 2033” (Huffington Post, August 28, 2014) – just skim
*Vincent, “L.A.’s Broadway poised for a major revival” (LAT, February 5, 2015)
*Evans, Kim and Regardie, “Downtown Development: A Rundown on 94 Projects”  
(Downtown News, January 22, 2015 -- just skim to get the big picture

*Rivera, “Staples Center’s Displaced Have New Homes and New Worries” (LAT, Oct. 9, 1999)

*Dreier, “Town versus Gown in Los Angeles” (New Labor Forum, Jan/Feb 2013)

*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)

**People or Places? Rebuild or Dismantle the Ghetto? (Thursday, April 23)**

*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)


*Thorbourne, “Whatever Happened to Obama’s ‘Promise Neighborhoods’ in NYC?”  
(City Limits, November 12, 2014)

*Massey, “Learning from Mt. Laurel”  (Shelterforce, Summer 2012)

*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)

*Tegeler and Hankins, “Prescription for a New Neighborhood”  (Poverty & Race, Spring 2010)

*Goetz, “The Reality of Deconcentration”  (Shelterforce, November/December 2004)

*Medina, “Subsidies and Suspicion”  (NYT, August 11, 2011)

**The Urban Future**

**A Policy Agenda for Urban America  (Tuesday, April 28)**

Watch this video before class: Robert Reich, “Three Biggest Mythologies” (March 10, 2015): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5PaLxOkJvJE  (2 ½ minutes)

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters  
Chapter 9 “Metropolitics for the 21st Century”

*Alperovitz, “Forging a Transformative Vision”  (Shelterforce, Fall/Winter 2013/14)

*Pastor and Braun, “Twelve Ways to Reverse Inequality and Close the California Chasm”  (Capital & Main, February 25, 2015)

**Cities in National Politics (Thursday, April 30)**

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, *Place Matters*

Chapter 10 – “Crossing the City Line: A Metropolitics for the 21st Century”

*Krugman, “It Takes a Party” (NYT, April 13, 2015)  
Carrasquillo, “De Blasio Move Raises Pressure On Clinton To Address Inequality In 2016” (Buzzfeed, April 2, 2015)

*Meyerson, “The Revolt of the Cities” (American Prospect, April 2014)

*DePillis and Tankersley “To Fix Inequality, Democrats Are Pushing Unions“ (Washington Post, March 13, 2015)

*Nichols, “Chicago’s Chuy Garcia Lost an Election, but Won a Movement” (The Nation, April 8, 2015)