Community Development Processes

Lecture: Tuesday 12:00 - 2:40pm, 108B Hayes Hall
Instructor: Rob Silverman
Office: 201K, Hayes Hall
Office Hours: Monday & Thursday 12:00pm - 1:00pm (and by appointment)
Phone: 829-2133 x227
E-Mail: rms35@buffalo.edu

The Course:

Community development encompasses issues related to neighborhood planning, citizen participation, grassroots organizing, housing, economic development, social networks, social welfare, public safety, education, the environment and other aspects of community life. Community development is distinct from other types of urban planning in two respects. First, community development views the urban planning process as transparent and driven by the general public. Second, community development strives to create an urban milieu that is centered on enhancing the quality of life for residents.

During the semester, we will examine many of the dimensions of the community development process. As they are explored, you should maintain a holistic view and remain conscious of how each dimension interacts with the others. In addition to examining substantive issues in community development, this course focuses on critical thinking. Selected areas of community development will be examined in-depth.

We will meet for the next 15 weeks. During each class session we will discuss the assigned readings. Everyone should be prepared to participate during each lecture.

If you have any questions during the semester, please bring them to your professor’s attention. He will be available during his office hours and by appointment. Also, you may contact him using e-mail.

Required Text and Required Reserve Readings:
The required texts are available at the University Medical Bookstore and The College Store


3) Required Reserve Readings are available on the S:drive and on UBLearns.

Note: In addition to the required readings it is suggested that students purchase a copy of a style manual (i.e. The Chicago Manual of Style, or a similar manual) to use as a reference when writing papers and other assignments during the semester.
Course Requirements:

Topics in Community Development Discussion #1: A student led discussion of emerging topics in community development will take place September 22, 2009. Students will be assigned supplemental readings and lead the class in a discussion on selected topics. The assignment will be elaborated upon on September 8, 2009.

Topics in Community Development Discussion #2: A student led discussion of emerging topics in community development will take place October 27, 2009. Students will be assigned supplemental readings and lead the class in a discussion on selected topics. The assignment will be elaborated upon on October 13, 2009.

Neighborhood Plan Critique: Students will be given planning and other documents to critique. The critique should draw from assigned readings and lecture materials. The neighborhood plan critique will be assigned on September 29, 2009 and is due at the beginning of class on October 13, 2009.

Community Development Manifesto: Students will write a community development manifesto. The manifesto should draw from assigned readings and lecture materials. The manifesto will be assigned on November 3, 2009 and is due at the beginning of class on November 24, 2009.

Fair and Affordable Housing Action Plan: Students will propose a fair and affordable housing action plan for a local community. The plan should draw from assigned readings and lecture materials. The plan will be assigned on November 17, 2009 and is due at the beginning of class on December 8, 2009.

Grading Policy:

Your grade will be based on the following (100 points possible for the semester):

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Topics in Community Development Discussion #1</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topics in Community Development Discussion #2</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Plan Critique</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Development Manifesto</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fair and Affordable Housing Action Plan</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Grading Scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Total Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>96-100</td>
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<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>90-95.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>87-89.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>84-86.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>80-83.99</td>
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<tr>
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<td>60-69.99</td>
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**Academic Integrity:**

Students are expected to approach the course with seriousness and integrity. It is important to complete assignments on time, attend class regularly, and foster a collegial learning environment. Plagiarism and other instances of academic misconduct will result in a failing grade on a respective assignment, exam, or paper. Students should refer to the *University at Buffalo Graduate Catalog* for clarification on the University’s policies and procedures.

**Accommodations for Disabilities:**

If you have a disability (physical, learning, or psychological) that impacts your course work please contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), 25 Capen Hall, (716) 645-2608. ODS will provide you with information and review appropriate arrangements for reasonable accommodation (such as recruiting note-takers, readers, or extended time on assignments). You must bring requests for accommodations for a disability to the professor’s attention within the first two weeks of class.

**Writing Centers:**

The University at Buffalo has a number of writing center where students can get assistance with essays, term papers, and thesis projects. Students should contact one of the following if they would like to access these campus resources:

- Graduate students can contact the Graduate Student Association (GSA) about their Editorial Assistance Program. For information about this program go to the GSA office in 310 Student Union, (716) 645-2960; [http://wings.buffalo.edu/gsa/services.html](http://wings.buffalo.edu/gsa/services.html).
- International students can contact the English Language Institute. The English Language Institute is located at 320 Baldy Hall; (716) 645-2077; elibuffalo@buffalo.edu; [http://wings.buffalo.edu/gse/eli](http://wings.buffalo.edu/gse/eli).
SYLLABUS

September 1: Introduction to the Course

September 8: Community Development and Community Planners
Assigned Readings:
Green and Haines: Ch 1, 2


Other Activities:
Topics in Community Development Discussion #1 Groups Assigned

September 15: Neighborhood Control and Change
Assigned Readings:
Kotler: All


September 22: Topics in Community Development Discussion #1

September 29: Neighborhood Plans in the Public and Private Spheres
Assigned Readings:


Other Activities:
Neighborhood Plan Critique Assigned
October 6: Public Participation and Grassroots Organizing
Assigned Readings:
Green and Haines: Ch 3


October 13: Neoliberalism and the Right to the City
Assigned Readings:


Other Activities:
Neighborhood Plan Critique Due
Topics in Community Development Discussion #2 Groups Assigned

October 20: Emerging Governance Structures and Development Strategies
Assigned Readings:


October 27: Community Development Discussion #2
**November 3: Community-Based Organizations and Local Institutional Structures**

**Assigned Readings:**
Green and Haines: Ch 4, 10


**Other Activities:**
Community Development Manifesto Assigned

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**November 10: The Forms of Capital**

**Assigned Readings:**
Green and Haines: Ch 5, 6, 11, 8 (skim), 9 (skim)


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**November 17: Community Development Block Grant and Housing Policy**

**Assigned Readings:**
Green and Haines: Ch 7


**Other Activities:**
Fair and Affordable Housing Action Plan Assigned
November 24: Community Development Manifesto Due - No Class

December 1: Fair Housing and Mortgage Discrimination
Assigned Readings:


December 8: Fair and Affordable Housing Action Plan Due