

## Community Development Processes

Lecture: Tuesday 12:00 - 2:40pm, 108B Hayes Hall  
Instructor: Rob Silverman  
Office: 201K, Hayes Hall  
Office Hours: Tuesday 3:00pm-4:00pm and by appointment.  
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### The Course:

Community development encompasses issues related to housing, economic development, social capital, citizen participation, social welfare, public safety, education, the environment and other aspects of community life. During the semester, we will examine many of these 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 related theory and research techniques. The semester places an emphasis on the definition of community development and the study of community. Selected areas of community development will also be examined in-depth. A major focus of the course will be on the application of community development tools and techniques in low-income and minority neighborhoods. The course will culminate with an applied exercise examining university-community partnerships as they relate to community development issues affecting Buffalo's low-income and minority neighborhoods.

We will meet for the next 15 weeks. During each class session we will discuss the assigned readings and the applied exercise. Everyone should be prepared to participate during each lecture. Regular and punctual attendance is required for full credit.

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]

- 1) Bonds, Michael. 2004. *Race, Politics, and Community Development Funding: The Discolor of Money*. Binghamton, NY: The Haworth Social Work Press.
- 2) Gilderbloom, John I. and R. L. Mullins Jr. 2005. *Promise and Betrayal: Universities and the Battle for Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods*. Albany, NY: State University of New York Press.
- 3) Green, Gary Paul and Anna Haines. 2002. *Asset Building & Community Development*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 4) Kotler, Milton. 2005. *Neighborhood Government: The Local Foundations of Political Life*. New York, NY: Lexington Books.
- 5) 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:**

**Book Critique:** A critique of the following book: *Neighborhood Government: The Local Foundations of Political Life* is required. The critique should examine Kotler's worldview and model for neighborhood government and discuss the degree to which it can be used to guide contemporary neighborhood planning and community development practice. Undergraduate students must write 3 pages (approximately 750 words), graduate students must write 5 pages (approximately 1250 words). Do not exceed the page requirement. The book critique is due at the beginning of class on October 3, 2006.

**Exams:** There will be two exams during the semester. Both exams are take-home and essay in nature. Each exam will be based on the course material preceding it in the syllabus. Exam questions will be distributed the week before the respective due dates. Exam 1 focuses on materials covered between August 29 and October 24. Exam 2 focuses on materials covered between November 7 and November 28. Questions for Exam 1 will be distributed at the end of class on October 24 and are due at the beginning of class on October 31. Questions for Exam 2 will be distributed at the end of class on November 28 and are due at the beginning of class on December 5.

**University-Community Partnerships in Buffalo?:** This is a group assignment. The class will be divided into four groups composed of graduate students enrolled in PD606 and two groups composed of undergraduate students enrolled in PD406. Each group will be assigned a local college or university to examine. This examination will focus on the scope of university-community partnerships in which each group's respective college or university is engaged. A specific emphasis should be on university-community partnerships aimed at assisting low-income and minority neighborhoods in Buffalo. Based on its analysis each group will formulate a set of recommendations aimed at increasing university engagement, community empowerment, and neighborhood activism in Buffalo. The group assignment will be discussed in greater detail during class on: September 5, September 26 (during the university-community partnership roundtable), October 3, October 31, and December 5. On December 12 each group will turn in a final report and present it to the class.

**Class Participation:** A portion of your overall grade will be determined by your participation in the university-community partnership roundtable discussion on September 26 and other class activities. Make sure you complete the assigned readings before each class, and be prepared to discuss them. Regular and punctual attendance is required for full credit.

### **Grading Policy:**

Your grade will be based on the following:

Book Critique	20 %
EXAM 1	30 %
EXAM 2	30 %
Group Assignment: University-Community Partnerships in Buffalo?	15 %
CLASS PARTICIPATION	5 %

**Undergraduate Student Grading Scale:**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
A	96-100
A-	90-95.99
B+	87-89.99
B	84-86.99
B-	80-83.99
C+	77-79.99
C	74-76.99
C-	70-73.99
D+	67-69.99
D	60-66.99
F	0-59.99

**Graduate Student Grading Scale:**

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Total Points</u>
A	96-100
A-	90-95.99
B+	87-89.99
B	84-86.99
B-	80-83.99
C+	77-79.99
C	70-76.99
D	60-69.99
F	0-59.99

**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 Undergraduate Catalog* and 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:

- Undergraduate students can go to the Writing Place for assistance. The Writing Place is located at 209 Baldy Hall, (716) 645-2394; <http://tlc.buffalo.edu/lcwrite.htm> ,
- 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> ,
- International students can contact the English Language Institute. The English Language Institute is located at 320 Baldy Hall; (716) 645-2077; [curtiskl@buffalo.edu](mailto:curtiskl@buffalo.edu); <http://wings.buffalo.edu/gse/eli> .

**SYLLABUS****August 29: Introduction to the Course****September 5: The Community Development Field**

*Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 1, 2

Arefi, Mahyar. 2004. "An Asset-Based Approach to Policymaking: Revisiting the History of Urban Planning and Neighborhood Change in Cincinnati's West End." *Cities*, 21.6: 491-500. **Reserve**

*Other Activities:*

Discuss Group Assignment: University-Community Partnerships in Buffalo?

Discuss Book Critique

**September 12: Neighborhood Control and Change**

*Assigned Readings:*

Kotler: All

Blauner, Robert. 1969. "Internal Colonialism and Ghetto Revolt." *Social Problems*, 16.4: 393-408.

**Reserve**

Poindexter, Georgette C. 1996. "The Empowerment of the Neighbourhood." *Urban Studies*, 33.10: 1821-1829. **Reserve**

**September 19: UB-DAY of LEARNING - NO CLASS****September 26: Urban-Community Partnership Roundtable**

*Assigned Readings:*

Refer to the Urban-Community Partnership Handout for Group Reading Assignments and Instructions

**October 3: Book Critique Due**

*Other Activities:*

Discuss Group Work Plan and Research Strategy for University-Community Partnerships in Buffalo?

**October 10: Public Participation and Grassroots Organizing***Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 3

Dreier, Peter. 1996. "Community Empowerment Strategies: The Limits and Potential of Community Organizing in Urban Neighborhoods." *Cityscape*, 2.2: 121-159. **Reserve**

Roberts, Nancy. 2004. "Public Deliberation in an Age of Direct Citizen Participation." *American Review of Public Administration*, 34.4: 315-353. **Reserve**

Silverman, Robert Mark. 2003. "Citizens' District Councils in Detroit: The Promise and Limits of Using Planning Advisory Boards to Promote Citizen Participation," *National Civic Review*, 92.4: 3-13. **Reserve**

Stall, Susan and Randy Stoecker. 1998. "Community Organizing or Organizing Community?: Gender and the Crafts of Empowerment." *Gender & Society*, 12.6: 726-756. **Reserve**

**October 17 & October 24: Community-Based Organizations and Local Political Structures***Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 4

Capraro, James F. 2004. "Community Organizing + Community Development = Community Transformation" *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 26.2: 151-161. **Reserve**

Cooper, Christopher A. and Anthony J. Nownes. 2003. "Citizen Groups in Big City Politics." *State and Local Government Review*, 35.2: 102-111. **Reserve**

Marwell, Nicole P. 2004. "Privatizing the Welfare State: Nonprofit Community-Based Organizations as Political Actors," *American Sociological Review*, 69.2: 265-291. **Reserve**

McDermott, Mark. 2004. "National Intermediaries and Local Community Development Corporation Networks: A View from Cleveland." *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 26.2: 171-176. **Reserve**

*Other Activities:*

Distribution of Questions for Exam #1 on October 24

**October 31: Exam #1 DUE – Happy Halloween ☺***Other Activities:*

Discuss Group Assignment: University-Community Partnerships in Buffalo?

**November 7: The Forms of Capital**

Green and Haines: Ch 5, 6, skim 8

Knotts, H. Gibbs. 2005. "Sticks, Bricks, and Social Capital: The Challenge of Community Development Corporations in the American Deep South." *Community Development Journal*, 41.1: 37-49. **Reserve**

Light, Ivan. 2004. "Social Capital for What?" Pp. 19-33 in *Community-Based Organizations: The Intersection of Social Capital and Local Context in Contemporary Urban Society*, edited by Robert Mark Silverman. Detroit: Wayne State University Press. **Reserve**

Stoecker, Randy. 2004. "The Mystery of the Missing Social Capital and the Ghost of Social Structure: Why Community Development Can't Win." Pp. 53-84 in *Community-Based Organizations: The Intersection of Social Capital and Local Context in Contemporary Urban Society*, edited by Robert Mark Silverman. Detroit: Wayne State University Press. **Reserve**

**November 14: Community Development Block Grant**

*Assigned Readings:*

Bonds: All

Rosenfeld, Raymond A., Laura A. Reese, Vicki Georgeau and Scott Wamsley. 1995. "Community Development Block Grant Spending Revisited: Patterns of Benefit and Program Institutionalization." *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, 25.4:55-72. **Reserve**

**November 21: Housing Policy**

*Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 7

Schwartz, Alex F. 2006. "Chapter 5: The Low-Income Housing Tax Credit." Pp. 83-100 in *Housing Policy in the United States: An Introduction*, by Alex F. Schwartz. New York: Routledge. **Reserve**

Schwartz, Alex F. 2006. "Chapter 9: State and Local Housing Policy and the Nonprofit Sector." Pp. 177-204 in *Housing Policy in the United States: An Introduction*, by Alex F. Schwartz. New York: Routledge. **Reserve**

Shlay, Anne B. 2006. "Low-income Homeownership: American Dream of Delusion." *Urban Studies*, 43:511-531. **Reserve**

**November 28: Fair Housing and Mortgage Discrimination***Assigned Readings:*

Dreier, Peter. 2003. "The Future of Community Reinvestment: Challenges and Opportunities in a Changing Environment." *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 69.4: 341-353. **Reserve**

Schwartz, Alex F. 2006. "Chapter 11: Fair Housing and Community Reinvestment." Pp. 215-249 in *Housing Policy in the United States: An Introduction*, by Alex F. Schwartz. New York: Routledge. **Reserve**

Squires, Gregory D. 1999. "The Persistence of Housing Discrimination: The Indelible Color Line." *The American Prospect*, 42: 67-70. **Reserve**

*Other Activities:*

Distribution of Questions for Exam #2

**December 5: EXAM #2 DUE***Other Activities:*

Discuss Group Assignment: University-Community Partnerships in Buffalo?

**December 12: UNIVERSITY-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS IN BUFFALO? - FINAL REPORTS DUE AND PRESENTATIONS**