

## 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 neighborhood planning, citizen participation, grassroots organizing, housing, economic development, social capital, social welfare, public safety, education, the environment and other aspects of community life. Community development is distinct from other aspects 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 theory. 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*

- 1) Brower, Sidney. 2000. *Good Neighborhoods: A Study of In-Town and Suburban Residential Environments*. Westport, CT: Praeger.
- 2) Green, Gary Paul and Anna Haines. 2008. *Asset Building & Community Development, Second Edition*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- 3) Kotler, Milton. 2005. *Neighborhood Government: The Local Foundations of Political Life*. New York, NY: Lexington Books.
- 4) Purcell, Mark. 2008. *Recapturing Democracy: Neoliberalization and the Struggle for Alternative Urban Futures*. New York, NY: Routledge.
- 5) Required Reserve Readings are available on the S:drive, and on UBLearn.

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:**

***Good Neighborhoods Discussion:*** A discussion of the following book will be held on September 9, 2008: *Good Neighborhoods: A Study of In-Town and Suburban Residential Environments*. Students will be assigned parts of the book to lead the class in a discussion. The assignments for the group discussion will be elaborated upon on September 2, 2008.

***Homelessness Discussion:*** A discussion of homelessness will be held on October 21, 2008. This discussion will cover the readings assigned for October 21. Students will be assigned supplemental readings and lead the class in a discussion on selected topics. The assignment will be elaborated upon on October 14, 2008.

***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 23, 2008 and is due at the beginning of class on October 7, 2008.

***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 October 28, 2008 and is due at the beginning of class on November 18, 2008.

***Fair and Affordable Housing Plan for WNY Suburbs:*** Students will propose a fair and affordable housing plan for WNY suburbs. The plan should draw from assigned readings and lecture materials. The plan will be assigned on November 11, 2008 and is due at the beginning of class on December 2, 2008.

### **Grading Policy:**

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

<i>Good Neighborhoods</i> Discussion	5 %
Homelessness Discussion	5 %
Neighborhood Plan Critique	30 %
Community Development Manifesto	30 %
Fair and Affordable Housing Plan for WNY Suburbs	30 %

### **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 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> ,
- 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 26: Introduction to the Course****September 2: Community Development and Community Planners**

*Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 1, 2

Needleman, Martin L. and Carolyn Emerson Needleman. 1974. "Community Planning, A Necessary Step Backward" Pp. 321-344 in *Guerrillas in the Bureaucracy: The Community Planning Experiment in the United States*, by Martin L. Needleman and Carolyn Emerson Needleman. New York: John Wiley & Sons. **Reserve**

Planners Network Disorientation Guide: Your How-To Manual for a Progressive Planning Education 2004-2005. **Reserve**

*Other Activities:*

*Good Neighborhoods* Groups Assigned

**September 9: Good Neighborhoods Discussion**

**September 16: Neighborhood Control and Change**

*Assigned Readings:*

Kotler: All  
Purcell: Ch 4

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 23: Neighborhood Plans in the Public and Private Spheres**

*Assigned Readings:*

Gregory, Michelle. 1996. "Anatomy of a Neighborhood Plan: An Analysis of Current Practice." Chicago: APA Growing Smart Working Paper, 1-25. **Reserve**

McKenzie, Evan. 2003. "Common-Interest Housing in the Communities of Tomorrow." *Housing Policy Debate* 14(1/2): 203-234. **Reserve**

Patterson, Kelly L and Robert Mark Silverman. 2004. "Paradise Lost: Social Capital and the Emergence of a Homeowners Association in a Suburban Detroit Neighborhood." Pp. 67-83 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**

*Other Activities:*

Neighborhood Plan Critique Assigned

**September 30: Rosh Hashanah – No Class**

**October 7: Public Participation and Grassroots Organizing**

*Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 3

Silverman, Robert Mark. 2005. "Caught in the Middle: Community Development Corporations and the Conflict Between Grassroots and Instrumental forms of Citizen Participation." *Community Development: Journal of the Community Development Society* 36(2): 35-51. **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**

*Other Activities:*

Neighborhood Plan Critique Due

**October 14: Neoliberalism and the Right to the City**

*Assigned Readings:*

Purcell: Ch 1, 2, 3

Swarts, Heidi. 2008. "Political Opportunity, Venue Shopping, and Strategic Innovation: ACORN's National Organizing" Pp. 134-161 in *Transforming the City: Community Organizing and the Challenge of Political Change*, edited by Marion Orr. Lawrence, KS: University Press of Kansas. **Reserve**

*Other Activities:*

Homelessness Discussion Topics Assigned

**October 21: Homelessness Discussion**

*Assigned Readings:*

*2008 Street Survey of Buffalo and Erie County*. 2008. Homeless Alliance of Western New York. **Reserve**

Amster, Randall. 2003. "Patterns of Exclusion: Sanitizing Space, Criminalizing Homelessness." *Social Justice* 30(1):195-221. **Reserve**

Bassuck, Ellen L. and Stephanie Geller. 2006. "The Role of Housing and Services in Ending Family Homelessness." *Housing Policy Debate* 17(4): 781-806. **Reserve**

*Buffalo and Erie County Annual Homeless Profile*. 2008. Homeless Alliance of Western New York. **Reserve**

Colhane, Dennis P. and Stephen Metraux. 2008. "Rearranging the Deck Chairs or Reallocating the Lifeboats?: Homelessness Assistance and Its Alternatives." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 74(1): 111-121. **Reserve**

**October 28: Community-Based Organizations and Local Institutional Structures**

*Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 4, 10

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**

Silverman, Robert Mark. 2008. "The Influence of Nonprofit Networks on Local Affordable Housing Funding: Findings from a National Survey of Local Public Administrators." *Urban Affairs Review* OnlineFirst: 1-16. **Reserve**

*Other Activities:*

Community Development Manifesto Assigned

**November 4: The Forms of Capital***Assigned Readings:*

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

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**

Zimmerman, Jeffrey. 2008. "From Brew Town to Cool Town: Neoliberalism and the Creative City Development Strategy in Milwaukee." *Cities* 25: 230-242. **Reserve**

**November 11: Community Development Block Grant and Housing Policy***Assigned Readings:*

Green and Haines: Ch 7

Gilderbloom, John Ingram, Michael Brazley and Michael Anthony Campbell. 2008. "Hope VI: A Dream or Nightmare?" Pp. 115-143 in *Invisible City: Poverty, Housing, and New Urbanism*, by John Ingram Gilderbloom. Austin: University of Texas Press. **Reserve**

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**

*Other Activities:*

Fair and Affordable Housing Plan for WNY Assigned November 11

**November 18: Community Development Manifesto Due - No Class****November 25: Fair Housing and Mortgage Discrimination***Assigned Readings:*

National Fair Housing Alliance. 2008. *Dr. King's Dream Denied: Forty Years of Failed Federal Enforcement (2008 Housing Trends Report)*. Washington, DC: National Fair Housing Alliance. **Reserve**

2008. Residential Segregation and Housing Discrimination in the United States: Violations of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (A Report to the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination). **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**

Smart Growth Network. 2001. *Affordable Housing and Smart Growth: Making the Connection*. Washington, DC: Smart Growth Network and National Neighborhood Coalition. **Reserve**

**December 2: Fair and Affordable Housing Plan for WNY Suburbs Due**

