**Urban Politics and Economic Development**

**Fall 2015**

**Political Science 331/ Urban Studies 387**

**201 Armitage Hall, Rutgers University, Camden**

**Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:05-10:00**

Dr. Melanie Bowers

Office: 401 Cooper St

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Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday   
10:30am-12pm and By Appointment

**OVERVIEW**

This class introduces and explores issues of urban economic development policy and politics in the U.S. This course is appropriate for students of all majors and does not assume any prior knowledge of urban politics or development issues. The goal of the class is to help students understand the complexity of economic development, including the many problems cities face in pursuing economic growth, the diversity of actors involved, variation in approaches to development and the theoretical underpinnings of those approaches, consequences for vulnerable populations, and the hope that well-planned economic development offers cities. This is a seminar course that requires students to engage and discuss the readings, taking an active role in their own learning process.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

By the end of the course students should be able to:

1. Identify and articulate the relationship between urban politics, governance and economic development.
2. Understand and be able to articulate the complexity of urban development efforts
3. Identify and be able to explain the various approaches to economic development
4. Critically assess the consequences and outcomes of economic development
5. Practice and improve written and verbal communication skills, with a particular focus on visual and digital communication

**DISABILITIES**

Students with disabilities are welcome in this class.  If you have a disability or suspect you might have a disability but do not yet have documentation, please contact the Coordinator of Disability Services immediately: [(856) 225-6442](tel:%28856%29%20225-6442), Armitage Hall, Room 231 (in the Rutgers-Camden Learning Center).  No accommodations may be made without the explicit approval of the Office of Disability Service.  If you already have documentation of a disability, please present it to me within the first week of class so I may work with you to ensure you can properly access and complete the work for this course.

**INCLUSIVITY AND NAMES**

This is an inclusive classroom that is welcoming of all people and perspectives, including those of diverse races, religions, ethnicities, ages, gender identities and sexual orientations. If you go by a name or gender that is different from the one on official Rutgers documents, please let me know so that I can use the proper name and pronouns.

**EXPECTATIONS AND ATTENDANCE**

In this class we will create a learning community where we will discuss ideas, apply new concepts and begin to understand the relationship between economic development and urban politics. To do this, attendance and preparation are necessary. As your teacher, I expect you to complete the reading and show up to class, ready to actively engage in your own learning process. In return, you can expect me to be prepared, present the material enthusiastically, respond to your questions and concerns in a timely fashion, and lead you in a learning experience that will help you understand both urban politics and your own interests as learners.

**Class Attendance is Mandatory.** You may miss no more than three classes without providing documentation of an extenuating circumstance. After these three absences, you will lose 10% of your participation grade for each unexcused absence. Legitimate reasons for additional absences include severe illness, family emergencies, and issues that must be approved by me.

**ASSIGNMENTS**

There are 1000 possible points.

1. Sidewalk Ethnography 150 points (15%)
2. Weekly Development Show and Tell 150 points (15%)
3. Reading Pop Quizzes 150 points total (15%)
4. In-Class Participation 250 points (25%)
5. Urban Development Blog/Journal 300 points (30%)

**LATE POLICY**

LATE ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED unless there are exceptional circumstances such as severe illness, or a family death.

**GRADE SCALE**A= 90-100  
B+= 87.5-89.9   
B= 80-87.4   
C+= 77.5-79.9  
C= 70-77.4  
D= 60-69.5  
F= 0-59.5

**PARTICIPATION**

This is a discussion-based seminar. Because of this, I expect you to participate in class on a regular basis. This includes asking and answering questions, discussing core concepts with fellow students, and offering your own insights and understandings of class readings. I understand that many people are uncomfortable speaking in class and we will work as a class to develop a safe environment. That said, I expect students to step out of their comfort zones and be active members of the classroom community.

In order to earn a high grade for participation, students should:

● Attend class

● Arrive on time and stay for the entire class

● Read all assigned readings and come to class with questions about and thoughts on the readings

● Consistently take an active part in class discussions

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

There are four required books that can be purchased either in the university bookstore or online. The cost each of these books used is $4-$10.

**\***All texts are available on reserve in the library if you are unable to purchase them\*

* Jacobs, Jane. *The death and life of great American cities*. Vintage, 1961.
* Florida, Richard. *The Rise of the Creative Class--Revisited: Revised and Expanded*. Basic books, 2014.
* Ehrenhalt, Alan. *The great inversion and the future of the American city*. Alfred a Knopf Incorporated, 2012.
* Glaeser, Edward. *Triumph of the city: How our greatest invention makes us richer, smarter, greener, healthier and happier*. Pan Macmillan, 2011.
* Additional readings available on Sakai

**ACADEMIC HONESTY**

PLAGARISM AND CHEATING OF ANY KIND WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. Blatant plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students. I don’t want to do this, so don’t cheat. I have software that checks for plagiarism and I will use it if I feel this is becoming a problem.

It is your responsibility to be familiar with Rutgers’ academic honesty statement. This statement is available at <http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/academic-integrity-policy/>.

**SCHEDULE OF READINGS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

# Week 1: Introduction

## Wednesday September 2: Introduction

No Reading

## Friday September 4: Economic Development as a Reflection of Politics READING:

## Mollenkopf, The Postwar Politics of Urban Development \*Available on Sakai\*

## Savitch, Kantor and Vicari "The Political Economy of Urban Regimes" \*Available on Sakai\*

## 

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 1 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

# Week 2: Why Economic Development?

## Monday September 7: LABOR DAY, NO CLASS \*\*\* CLASS RESCHEDULED FOR TOMORROW 9/8 at 9:05am\*\*\*

## Tuesday September 8: Cities as Evolving Entities

READING:Douglas, Rae. 2005. City: Urbanism and its End. Chapter 1- “Creative Destruction and the Age of Urbanism.” (Available on Sakai)

WEEK 1 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Name Starts with A-I

## Wednesday September 9: Urban Decay READING: Glaeser: Chapter 2 Why Do Cities Decline

WEEK 1 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Thursday September 10: LAST DAY TO DROP WITHOUT A W

## Friday September 11: Race and Economic Development

## READING:Thomas Sugrue. 1998. The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit. Introduction. (Available on Sakai)

WEEK 1 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS:Last Names Starts with S-Z  
**\* POST YOUR WEEK 2 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

# Week 3: Considerations for Economic Development

## Monday September 14: Role of Neighborhoods/Purpose of Economic Development READING: Jacobs Introduction WEEK 2 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday September 16: Role of Space for Safety

READING: Jacobs Chapter 2: The Uses of Sidewalks Safety  
WEEK 2 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS*:*Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday September 18: Role of Space for Community

READING: Jacobs Chapter 3: The Uses of Sidewalks Contact  
WEEK 2 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS*:*Last Names Starts with S-Z  
ASSIGNMENT: 1 Paragraph Plan for Sidewalk Ethnography Due in Class \*Must Print\*

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 3 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

# Week 4: Considerations for Economic Development

## Monday September 21: How to Divide Space READING: Jacobs Chapter 8: The Need for Mixed Primary Uses WEEK 3 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-M

## Wednesday September 23: Goal of Redevelopment and the Challenge of Solving Urban Problems READING: 1. Jacobs Chapter 15: Unslumming and Slumming 2. Chapter 22: The Kind of Problem a City Is

WEEK 3 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with N-Z

## Friday September 25: NO CLASS, POPE COMING

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 4 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 5: Who Does Economic Development?**

## Monday September 28: NO CLASS, POPE COMING

## Wednesday September 30: Local Government and Local Communities

## READING: 1. Michael Cooper, ―Mayors See No End to Hard Choices for Cities, The New York Times, January 21, 2011 (Available on Sakai)

## 2. Blakely and Leigh, Chapter 4, ―The Local Economic Development Profession and Professionals, pp. 101-114. (Available on Sakai)

## WEEK 4 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-M ASSIGNMENT: Come to office hours this week to check in about your development blog/journal. I will replace Monday office hours with Friday from 10:30-12.

## Friday October 2: Public-Private Partnerships

## READING: 1. Public-Private Partnerships to Revamp US Infrastructure, Introduction (Available on Sakai) 2. Public-Private Partnerships to Revamp US Infrastructure, Chapter 1: Public-Private Partnerships in Theory and Practice (Available on Sakai) 3.The Impact of Community Development Corporations on Urban Neighborhoods, Section 1. How CDC's Influence Neighborhood Quality and Community Capacity(Available on Sakai) 4. The Impact of Community Development Corporations on Urban Neighborhoods Section 3 Case Studies of CDC Neighborhood Impacts: Jamaica Plain Boston MA and Five Points Denver (p. 34-46) ONLY (Available on Sakai)

## WEEK 4 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with N-Z ASSIGNMENT: Come to office hours this week to check in about your development blog/journal. I will replace Monday office hours with Friday from 10:30-12.

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 5 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT**\*

**Week 6: How does Economic Development Get Done?**

## Monday October 5: Bricks and Mortar READING: Camden Downtown Redevelopment Plan 2004 (Available on Sakai) WEEK 5 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday October 7: Anchor Institutions Guest Speaker: Suzanne Zammit, Camden Co-Lab and Rutgers ED READING: 1. Anchor Institutions and Urban Economic Development: From Community Benefit to Shared Value (Available on Sakai) 2. Case Study: The Cleveland Evergreen Cooperatives: Building Community Wealth through Worker-Owned Businesses WEEK 5 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday October 9: Job Creation and Tax Incentives READING: No reading, instead Listen to This American Life "How to Create a Job" available <http://www.thisamericanlife.org/radio-archives/episode/435/how-to-create-a-job> WEEK 5 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 6 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 7: How does Economic Development Get Done**

## Monday October 12: People-Oriented Economic Development READING: 1. Florida: Preface 2. Florida Chapter 1: The Transformation of Everyday Life WEEK 6 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I ASSIGNMENT: Sidewalk Ethnography Due in Class \*Print and Staple\*

## Wednesday October 14: Creative Economy and the Creative Class

READING   
1. Flordia Chapter 3: The Creative Economy pg. 44-48 ONLY  
2. Chapter 4: The Creative Class  
WEEK 6 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday October 16: What Does the Creative Class Want?

READING: Florida Chapter 10: The Experiential Life  
WEEK 6 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z  
**\* POST YOUR WEEK 7 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 8**: **How does Economic Development Get Done**

## Monday October 19: How Does a Place Affect People and What do Creative Places Look Like? READING: 1. Florida Chapter 12: The Power of Place 2. Florida Chapter 13: The Geography of Creativity WEEK 7 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday October 21: How Does Place and Creativity Relate to Economic Development?

READING: Florida Chapter 14: Technology, Talent and Tolerance The 3 T's of Economic Development  
WEEK 7 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday October 23: How to Build a Creative Place READING: Florida Chapter 16: Building the Creative Community

## WEEK 7 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 8 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 9: Consequences of Economic Development**

## Monday October 26: Gentrification READING: Dealing with Neighborhood Change: A Primer on Gentrification and Policy Choices, Section I-IV ONLY

## WEEK 8 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday October 28: Environmental Justice

NO READING, Watch Documentary Laid to Waste: A Chester Neighborhood Fights for its Future  
WEEK 8 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday October 30: Can we Avoid Negative Consequences?

READING:   
1. Dealing with Neighborhood Change: A Primer on Gentrification and Policy Choices, Section V and Appendix A- San Francisco and Atlanta ONLY (Available on Sakai)   
2. Cities Mobilize to Help Those Threatened by Gentrification" (Available on Sakai)  
WEEK 8 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 9 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

# Week 10: Consequences of Economic Development

## Monday November 2: More than Gentrification, it’s Citywide Change READING: 1. Ehrenhalt Prolouge: Trading Places 2. Ehrenhalt Chapter 2: A Neighborhood in Chicago ASSIGNMENT: Come to office hours this week to check in about your development blog/journal.

WEEK 9 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday November 4: Economic Development Doing What It’s Supposed To Do?

READING: Ehrenhalt: Chapter 3 Re-creation in New York  
WEEK 9 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R  
ASSIGNMENT: Come to office hours this week to check in about your development blog/journal.

## Friday November 6: What do the Suburbs Look Like? READING: 1. Ehrenhalt: Chapter 4: The New Suburbia 2. Ehrenhalt: Chapter 5: Caught in the Middle

WEEK 9 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z  
ASSIGNMENT: Come to office hours this week to check in about your development blog/journal.

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 10 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 11: Consequences of Economic Development**

## Monday November 9: Transitional Space READING: 1. Ehrenhalt: Chapter 6 Uneasy Coexistence 2. Ehrenhalt: Chapter 7 The Urban Squeeze WEEK 10 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Tuesday November 10: LAST DAY TO DROP A CLASS WITH A W

## Wednesday November 11: Transitional Space

## READING: Ehrenhalt: Chapter 8: Creating a Downtown WEEK 10 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday November 13: Transitional Space

## READING: 1. Ehrenhalt: Urbanizing the Suburbs 2. Ehrenhalt: Conclusion WEEK 10 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z \* POST YOUR WEEK 11 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\*

**Week 12: Consequences of Economic Development**

## Monday November 16: Urban Sprawl READING: Glaeser: Chapter 7 Why Has Sprawl Spread WEEK 11 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday November 18: Positive Community Outcomes for Low Income Residents

READING:  
1. Martinson, Karin, Alexandra Stanczyk and Lauren Eyster. 2010. Low-Skill Workers' Access to Quality Green Jobs. The Urban Institute. (Available on Sakai)   
2. Tveten, Julianne Baltimore Combats Food Deserts with Urban Farming Tax Break (Available on Sakai)  
WEEK 11 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday November 20: Guest Speaker

READING: Review PIDC Website- <http://www.pidcphila.com> to Prepare for Guest Speaker  
WEEK 11 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 12 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

# Week 13: Catch-Up Week

## Monday November 23: Catch Up READING: No new reading, catch up on things you’ve missed WEEK 12 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-Z

## Wednesday November 25: NO CLASS FOR THANKSGIVING \*USE THIS TIME TO GET YOUR PROJECTS TOGETHER\*

## Friday November 27: NO CLASS FOR THANKSGIVING

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 13 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 14: Hope for the Future**

## Monday November 30: What’s Great About Cities READING: 1. Glaeser Introduction: Our Urban Spaces 2. Glaeser Chapter 1: What do they make in Bangalore WEEK 13 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-I

## Wednesday December 2: Transitioning out of Poverty READING: Glaeser Chapter 3: What’s Good About Slums WEEK 13 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with J-R

## Friday December 4: The Benefits of Urban Geography READING: Glaeser Chapter 6: What’s So Great About Skyscrapers WEEK 13 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with S-Z

**\* POST YOUR WEEK 14 PICTURE TO DROPBOX BY MIDNIGHT\***

**Week 15: Hope for the Future**

## Monday December 7: Environmental Cities READING: Glaeser Chapter 8: Is there Anything Greener than Blacktop WEEK 14 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with A-M

## Wednesday December 9: Urban Success READING: 1. Glaeser Chapter 9: How do Cities Succeed 2. Glaeser Conclusion: Flat World, Tall City WEEK 14 PICTURE PRESENTATIONS: Last Names Starts with N-Z

## Thursday December 10: LAST DAY OF CLASSES

## Friday December 11: NO CLASS, READING DAY

**\* YOU DON’T HAVE TO POST YOUR PICTURE FOR THIS WEEK BUT IT MUST BE IN YOUR BLOG/JOURNAL\***

**Week 16: Finals Week  
NO CLASSES**

**BUT**

***Wednesday December 16:* ALL FINAL PROJECTS MUST BE SUBMITTED to CLASS DROPBOX BY 12 NOON**

**Week 17: Finals Week  
*Monday December 21:*** NO CLASS, NO FINAL EXAM

**EXPLANATION OF ASSIGNMENTS**

1. **Sidewalk Ethnography (Due in class Monday October 12)**You will go to two different locations to observe the use of space, sidewalks and buildings. You should plan to spend at least 2 hours in each of these locations taking notes on the people who use the sidewalk and their interactions, the types of buildings in the area, the amount of construction/development/redevelopment in the area, the presence of municipal police vs. public policing, the cleanliness etc.. At least one of the locations should be in Camden or Philadelphia, the other can be in a suburb, your hometown, or another location of your choosing. If you choose to do both of your observations in Camden or both in Philadelphia, please chose locations that are different in terms of the use, wealth, or demographics of the area. For example, in Camden you might observe the courthouse during business hours and the riverfront during prime tourist time. From your observations you will write a 5 page paper comparing and contrasting the two locations and applying Jane Jacobs’ concepts of strong neighborhoods.

**\*Use standard formatting 1” margins, 10 or 12pnt font, double space, Times New Roman or Calibri font\***

1. **Development Show and Tell (Weekly assignment see syllabus for the day you present each week)**

Every week you will take a picture that represents one of the major concepts in the week’s readings/discussion. \*If you do not have a way to take a picture, please come see me ASAP.\* You will present this picture to the class the following week and give a 2-3 minute explanation of what the picture is, why you chose it and how it relates to the economic development concepts we’ve discussed. This is a chance for you to be creative and look for the economic development activity happening around you. You will be graded on your explanation and ability to connect the image to class concepts. You must put your picture into the class Dropbox on Sakai by 11:59pm (EST) (midnight) on the Friday of the week you take it. For example, for week 1 you will take a picture of a concept we discussed on either the first or second day of class and submit the picture by Friday 9/4 at midnight. You will then present the picture in week 2. Save the picture as a JPEG and title it WeekXFirstNameLastName, for example Week1MelanieBowers. I will have your picture ready to project in front of the class on the day you present.

1. **Development Blog/Journal** **(Due Wednesday December 16 by 12 noon)**

You will create either an online blog or a journal in Word. This is a way for you to process and apply class concepts, find outside materials, practice your writing skills, and let me know how you are thinking about the issues. You will have a minimum of 30 entries (2 per week). Posts must include the following content

* 15 posts will be picture entries based on the photos you take for show and tell. For each photo must also have a 2-3 paragraph entry that applies class concepts to the picture.
* 5 posts must be current event entries that include a news article about an economic development issue and a 2-3 paragraph response to the article that critically analyzes the situation using class concepts. You must provide a link to the news article or a copy of the news article itself.
* 5 posts must be a numeric representation of economic development issues, for example graphs, charts, or infographics. You should have a 2-3 paragraph explanation of what the graph/chart is saying, how it relates to economic development, whether it makes sense based on what you have read, and a connection to class materials.
* 5 posts can be of your choosing: picture, news, numeric depiction, or some other idea that you have. As with the other posts you must have a 2-3 paragraph response that applies course concepts.

I highly recommend that you work on this project throughout the course. You will not be able to do a good job if you do this last minute. We will have two progress check-ins throughout the semester, one the week of 9/30 and the other the week 11/2. This assignment must be submitted to the Sakai Dropbox by 12 noon on Wednesday December 16. If you do an online blog you must provide an active link; if you create a Word document, you must submit the journal as either a Word or PDF document (I recommend saving as a PDF to ensure formatting is as you intend).