

**URBAN & ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY (UEP) 301**  
**URBAN POLICY AND POLITICS**  
Professor Peter Dreier  
Spring 2016

**Class Sessions: Tuesday and Thursday 10-11:25 am, Johnson 203**  
**Office: Urban & Environmental Policy Institute (UEPI)**  
**Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30-5 pm and by appointment.**  
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**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 and many other cities over the past few years, 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
- Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters: Metropolitcs for the 21st Century, 3rd edition

### **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. 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 two 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. One of these reviews should be handed in before the spring break; one should be handed in after the spring break. All of them are available in the library. Some may be available on-line:
  1. "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
  2. "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.
  3. "Sicko" – Michael Moore's documentary about the American health care crisis and how it compares to health care in other countries.
  4. "Heist" -- A documentary about the banking crisis, who caused it, and who were its victims.
  5. "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.

6. "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.
7. "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.
8. "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."
9. "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."
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.
18. "Chavez Ravine: A Los Angeles Story" – This documentary examines the controversial urban renewal program that tore down a Mexican American neighborhood in downtown LA to make way for public housing. When that idea became too controversial, the city's leaders recruited the Brooklyn Dodgers to move to LA and gave them that site to build Dodger Stadium.
19. "The Human Scale" -- 50% of the world's population lives in urban areas. By 2050 this will increase to 80%. Life in a mega city is both enchanting and problematic. Today we face peak oil, climate change, loneliness and severe health issues due to our way of life. But why? The Danish architect and professor Jan Gehl has studied human behavior in cities through 40 years. He has documented how modern cities repel human interaction, and argues that we can build cities in a way, which takes human needs for inclusion and intimacy into account.

### **Academic Honesty**

You should be familiar with the college's policies regarding academic honesty and plagiarism. I take these issues very seriously and so should you.

### **Laptops and Cellphones**

Cell phones and all other electronic devices are to be turned off or put on silent during class. Additionally, they are to be put away to avoid distraction. Texting is not permitted. Laptops are allowed to be used only for taking notes and related classroom assignments.

### **Students with Disabilities**

Accommodation of disability-related needs is available. Please let me know if you need some kind of accommodation.

### **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.

The 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.

Local Progress (<http://localprogress.org>) is a network of hundreds of progressive local elected officials from around the country committed to a strong economy, equal justice, livable cities, and effective government.

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.

The Campaign for America's Future (<http://www.ourfuture.org>), the Economic Policy Institute (<http://www.epi.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.

Next American City (<http://americancity.org>) and CityLab (<http://www.citylab.com>)

are interesting websites with provocative articles about livable cities, innovative practices, and debates over what cities are doing the best.

The Center for Neighborhood Technology (<http://www.cnt.org>), the National Housing Institute ([www.nhi.org](http://www.nhi.org)), Poverty & Race Research Action Council (<http://www.prrac.org>), Planners Network (<http://www.plannersnetwork.org>), Sustainable Communities (<http://www.sustainable.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.city-journal.org>), published by the Manhattan Institute, provides interesting articles on urban issues from a conservative perspective.

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>), *The Nation* (<http://www.thenation.com>), and *Mother Jones* (<http://www.motherjones.org>). These are three of the most important magazines analyzing American politics from a progressive, grassroots perspective.

AlterNet (<http://www.alternet.org>), TruthOut (<http://www.truthout.com>), and Media Matters (<http://mediamatters.org>) are three websites that also provide analysis of American politics, culture, and the media from a progressive perspective.

Demos (<http://www.demos.org>), the Center for Responsive Politics (<http://www.opensecrets.org>); Every Voice Center (<http://www.everyvoicecenter.org>); Good Jobs First (<http://www.goodjobsfirst.org>); and the California Budget and Policy Center (<http://calbudgetcenter.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.

These websites from various activist and advocacy organizations reflect much of the best organizing taking place in the Los Angeles area and nationwide:

- Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment ([www.calorganize.org](http://www.calorganize.org))
- California Calls (<http://www.cacalls.org>)
- Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) (<http://www.laane.org>);
- Black Workers Center (<http://lablackworkercenter.org>)
- Laity and Clergy United for Economic Justice (<http://www.cluela.org>)
- Coalition for Economic Survival ([www.CESinAction.org](http://www.CESinAction.org))
- Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights in LA (<http://www.chirla.org>)
- East LA Community Corporation (<http://www.elacc.org>)
- East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice (<http://www.eycej.org>)
- Esperanza Community Housing Corporation (<http://www.esperanzacommunityhousing.org>)
- Inner City Struggle (<http://www.innercitystruggle.org>)

- Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance ([www.kiwa.org](http://www.kiwa.org))
- LA Community Action Network (<http://www.cangress.org>)
- LA Gay and Lesbian Center/Leadership Lab ([www.leadership-lab.org](http://www.leadership-lab.org))
- LA Voice (<http://www.lavoicepico.org>)
- SCOPE (<http://www.scopela.org>)
- Southeast Asian Community Alliance ([www.seaca-la.org](http://www.seaca-la.org))
- Union de Vecinos (<http://www.uniondevecinos.net>)
- Los Angeles County Federation of Labor (<http://www.launionaflcio.org>);
- Community Coalition (<http://cocosouthla.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>)
- American Civil Liberties Union of South California (<https://www.aclusocal.org>)
- AFL-CIO (<http://www.aflcio.org>)
- Union Summer (<http://www.aflcio.org/unionsummer>);
- Center for Community Change (<http://www.communitychange.org>)
- Center for Popular Democracy (<http://populardemocracy.org>)
- Peace Action West (<http://peaceactionwest.org>)
- Industrial Areas Foundation (<http://www.industrialareasfoundation.org>)
- National Low Income Housing Coalition: (<http://www.nlihc.org>)
- National Priorities Project (<http://www.nationalpriorities.org>)
- Oxfam America: (<http://www.oxfamamerica.org>)
- Partnership for Working Families (<http://www.forworkingfamilies.org>)
- PICO National Network (<http://www.piconetwork.org>)
- Right to the City Alliance (<http://www.righttothecity.org>)
- Human Rights Campaign (<http://www.hrc.org>)
- United for a Fair Economy (<http://www.faireconomy.org>)
- United Students Against Sweatshops (<http://www.usas.org>))
- Generation Progress (<http://genprogress.org>)
- Public Citizen (<http://www.citizen.org>)
- Wellstone Action: <http://www.wellstone.org>
- MoveOn.Org: Democracy in Action (<http://www.moveon.org>)
- Jobs with Justice (<http://www.jwj.org>)

### 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 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.  
NYT = New York Times. LAT = Los Angeles Times).

### PART I

#### POLITICS AND POLICY ARE ABOUT VALUES AND CHOICES

##### Personal Values (Thursday, January 21)

"Looking for Housing" exercise

##### Social Choices (Tuesday, January 26)

Kozol, Savage Inequalities (entire book)

\*Bernstein, "Is Education the Cure for Poverty?" (American Prospect, April 2007)

##### Two Approaches to Public Policy: YOYO vs. WITT (Thursday, January 28)

Bernstein, All Together Now (entire book)

##### Debating YOYO vs WITT (Tuesday, February 2)

Watch this 5-minute video before class. This "rant" about mortgages, from February 19, 2009, is considered the beginning of the Tea Party movement

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jiCOB49vVVM>

Watch this 9-minute video before class. This segment about the minimum wage and fast food workers is from "The Daily Show," MSNBC, August 1, 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8wiudhAhaA>

##### Obamacare

\*Gladwell, "The Moral Hazard Myth" (New Yorker, August 9, 2005)

\*Strain, "End Obamacare, and People Could Die. That's Okay. We Make Such Trade-Offs All the Time." (Washington Post, January 23, 2015)

\*Hiltzik, "This Conservative Op-ed Confirms the Immorality of Repealing Obamacare" (LAT, January 26, 2015)

\*Goodnough, "Success of Kentucky's Health Plan Comes With New Obstacles" (NYT, December 29, 2014)

##### Minimum Wage

\*Hanauer, "The Pitchfork's Are Coming for Us Plutocrats" (Politico, July/August 2014)

\*Zorn, "Obama's Minimum Wage Hike: A Case Of Zombie Economics" (Forbes, Feb.20, 2013)

\*Reyes, "County Business Coalition Says L.A. Minimum-Wage Plan Would Hurt Poor" (LAT, January 14, 2015)

\*Thompson, "This is What a \$15 Minimum Wage Looks Like" (The Nation, January 7, 2016)

##### Housing Vouchers (students A through G)

\*Husock, "Let's End Housing Vouchers" (City Journal, August 2000)

\*Briggs and Dreier, "Memphis Murder Mystery" (Shelterforce, July 2008)

\*Blumgart, "Tickets Out of Poverty" (American Prospect, Winter 2016)

### **Flu Vaccinations** (students H through P)

- \*Christensen, "Opponents Vow to Overturn Vaccination Law at Santa Monica Rally" (LAT, July 3, 2015)
- \*Xia, Lin, and Poindexter, "Fewer California Parents Refuse to Vaccinate Children" (LAT, January 23, 2015)
- \*Ropeik, "Public Health: Not Vaccinated? Not Acceptable" (LAT, July 18, 2011)

### **The Drought and Water Use in California** (students Q through Z)

- \*Lurie, "California's Drought Is So Bad That Thousands Are Living Without Running Water" (Mother Jones, July 31, 2015)
- \*Nagourney, "California Imposes First Mandatory Water Restrictions to Deal With Drought" (NYT, April 1, 2015)
- \*Kuznia, "Rich Californians Balk at Limits" (Washington Post, June 13, 2015)
- \*Neate, "How One Man Plans to Make Billions Selling Mojave Desert Water" (Guardian, January 3, 2016)

### **How National Policy Shapes Cities (Thursday, February 4)**

Nivola, Laws of the Landscape (entire book)

## **PART II**

### **URBAN PLANNING AND LIVABLE CITIES**

#### **Federal Urban Policy (Tuesday, February 9)**

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 Cost of War page (<https://www.nationalpriorities.org/cost-of/war>), and look at the cost of the military budget and particular war. Then go to the Tradeoffs page (<https://www.nationalpriorities.org/interactive-data/trade-offs/?state=08&program=14>) 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, and what else could be done with the money spent on the military in your state, your city or town, and your Congressional district.

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters

Chapter 4, "The Roads Not Taken: How Government Policies Promote Economic Segregation and Suburban Sprawl"

Chapter 5, "From FDR to Obama: A Brief History of Federal Urban Policy"

\*Warner, "Evolution and Transformation: The American Industrial Metropolis, 1840-1940" (in LeGates and Stout, eds., The City Reader, 2011)

\*Mohl, "Planned Destruction: The Interstates and Central City Housing" (In Baumann, et al., From Tenements to the Taylor Homes: In Search of an Urban Housing Policy in Twentieth-Century America, 2000)

\*Dreier and Rothstein, "Seismic Stimulus: The California Quake's Creative Destruction" (American Prospect, Summer 1994)

#### **What Makes Cities Livable? (Thursday, February 11)**

Watch the 85-minute film "Urbanized" before coming to class. It is available in the library. It may also be available on-line, but probably for a fee.

- \*Scruggs, “Encouraging Sustainable Urbanization, Pope Francis Lauds Habitat III” (Citiscopes, December 1, 2015)
- \*Glaeser, “Our Urban Species” (from Glaeser, The Triumph of the City, 2011)
- \*Lennard and Lennard, “Principles of True Urbanism” (2005)
- \*Dreier, “The United States in Comparative Perspective” (Contexts, August 2007)
- \*Vidal, “Air Pollution: A Dark Cloud of Filth Poisons the World’s Cities” (Guardian, January 16, 2016)
- \*Gladwell, “Starting Over: Many Katrina Victims Left New Orleans For Good. What Can We Learn From Them?” (The New Yorker, August 24, 2015)
- \*“Toronto and Detroit” (Economist, May 19, 1990)
- \*Greenhouse, “Why Paris Works” (NYT, July 19, 1992)
- \*Kuper, “Priced Out of Paris” (FT, June 14, 2013)
- \*Smeeding, “The Poverty Quagmire” (Washington Post, Dec. 21, 2003)
- \*Alderman and Greenhouse, “Living Wages, Rarity for U.S. Fast-Food Workers, Served Up in Denmark” (NYT, October 27, 2014)
- \*Francis, “It’s Better to be Poor in Norway Than in the US” (Christian Science Monitor, April 14, 2005)
- \*Khazan, “The Secret to Finland’s Success With Schools, Moms, Kids—and Everything” (Atlantic, July 11, 2013)
- \*Irwin, “A Big Safety Net and Strong Job Market Can Coexist. Just Ask Scandinavia” (NYT, December 17, 2014)
- \*Johansen, “Scandinavia Gets Serious on Global Warming” (Progressive, July 2007)

### **Urban Planning: The Built Environment (Tuesday, February 16)**

Watch this 14-minute film, “How to Make an Attractive City?” before coming to class:

<http://www.citylab.com/cityfixer/2015/02/what-makes-a-city-beautiful/386291>

Watch this one-hour film, “The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces,” before coming to class:

<https://vimeo.com/111488563>

- \*Lennard and Lennard, “The Genius of the European Square”
- \*Goodyear, “Why the Streets of Copenhagen and Amsterdam Look So Different From Ours” (CityLab, April 25, 2012)
- \*Rosenthal, “In German Suburb, Life Goes On Without Cars” (NYT, May 12, 2009)
- \*Jaffe, “Buses Are for Other People” (The Atlantic, January/February 2015)
- \*Jacobs, “The Uses of Sidewalks: Safety” and “The Uses of Sidewalks: Contacts” (from The Death and Life of Great American Cities)
- \*Bloomekatz, “Backlog of Broken Sidewalks” (LAT, Nov. 28, 2011)
- \*Speck, “Making Better Places: Ten City Design Resolutions” (Planetizen, January 10, 2005)
- \*Gish, “Challenging the Myth of an Unplanned Los Angeles” (in Sloan, ed., Planning Los Angeles, 2012)
- \*Avent, “One Path to Better Jobs: More Density in Cities” (NYT, September 3, 2011)
- \*Owen, “Green Manhattan” (The New Yorker, October 18, 2004)
- \*Lerner, “How Urban Planning Can Improve Public Health” (Pacific Standard, April 28, 2010)

### **Whose City? – Debate Over Gentrification (Thursday, February 18)**

Before coming to class, listen to these National Public Radio stories about the gentrification of LA’s Highland Park: <http://yorkandfig.com>

Watch this slide show, “50 Years of Gentrification: A Timeline” (The Next City):

<http://nextcity.org/gentrificationtimeline#intro>

\*Broverman, "Preservationists and Boyle Heights Activists Fighting Huge Wyvernwood Redevelopment" (LA Curbed, April 30, 2013) [Read the article and watch the 4-minute video about the Wyvernwood development]

<http://la.curbed.com/archives/2013/04/preservationists-and-boyle-heights-activists-fighting-huge-wyvernwood-redevelopment.php#more>

\*Medina, "Los Angeles Neighborhood Tries to Change, But Avoid the Pitfalls" (NYT, August 17, 2013) [Read the article and watch the 3-minute video]

[http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/18/us/los-angeles-neighborhood-tries-to-change-but-avoid-the-pitfalls.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit\\_th\\_20130818&r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/18/us/los-angeles-neighborhood-tries-to-change-but-avoid-the-pitfalls.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20130818&r=0)

\*Logan, "Highland Park Renters Feel the Squeeze of Gentrification" (LAT, December 21, 2014)

\*Aron, "L.A.'s Culture War Over the Last True Skid Row in America" (LA Weekly, July 24, 2014)

\*Gudrais, "Disrupted Lives" (Harvard Magazine, January/February 2014)

\*Axel-Lute, "Who Is a Gentrifier, and What Should They Do?" (Rooflines, April 28, 2014)

\*Fellner, "What the Mermaid Taught Me" (Shelterforce, Fall 2008)

\*Tobar, "Viva Gentrification" (NYT, March 21, 2015)

\*Kasperkevic, "Study of Poverty-Ridden Neighborhoods Shows Gentrification is Not Ruining Enough of America" (The Guardian, December 10, 2014)

\*Shaw, "Gentrifying L.A. Without Displacing the Poor: Lessons From S.F.'s Tenderloin" (LAT, 2015)

\*Blumgart, "Affordable Housing's Forever Solution" (The Next City, August 10, 2015) :

\*Haas, "Inequality, Gentrification & the Right to the City" (PeaceWork, February 2009)

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

*Development Without Displacement: Resisting Gentrification in the Bay Area* (Causa Justa/Just Cause <http://cjjc.org/images/development-without-displacement.pdf> (Don't read this report for this course. I wanted you to have it available as an example of a great policy analysis that includes definitions, empirical data measuring gentrification, human stories, and policy recommendations. It is a good model for a senior comps project).

### **PART III**

#### **THREE MAJOR FACTORS SHAPING URBAN LIFE: INEQUALITY, RACISM, AND SUBURBANIZATION**

##### **Inequality and Poverty**

###### **The Magnitude of Inequality (Tuesday, February 23)**

Watch this 75-minute film before class -- "Heist: Who Stole the American Dream?"

<http://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/heist>

Watch this video before class: "Are the Rich Getting Too Much of the Economic Pie?" (4 minutes)

<http://www.theatlantic.com/video/archive/2013/08/are-the-rich-getting-too-much-of-the-economic-pie/278807>

Watch this video before class: "Wealth Inequality in America" (6 minutes)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QPKKQnijnsM>

Go to this website ("What Percent Are You?") and plug in your family's household income to discover where your family fits in the class system:

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2012/01/15/business/one-percent-map.html?ref=business>

Go to this website ("Family Budget Calculator") and plug in your family type, state, and location to discover how much a family in your area needs to make ends meet:

<http://www.epi.org/resources/budget>

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters

- Preface
- Chapter 1 – "Place Still Matters"
- Chapter 2 – "The Facts of Economic Segregation and Sprawl"

\*Mohan, "Though Far from Poor, A Family Struggles Daily" (LAT, May 18, 2004)

\**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

[http://calbudgetcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/131212\\_Making\\_Ends\\_Meet.pdf](http://calbudgetcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/131212_Making_Ends_Meet.pdf)

\*Grabar, "The Devious Paradox of American Inequality: How the Rich Get Richer By Staying Hidden" (Salon, January 4, 2016)

\*Cooper, "The Two Worlds of Los Angeles" (The Nation, August 21/28, 2000)

\*Thompson, "Meet the Wealth Gap" (The Nation, June 30, 2008)

\*Samuelson, "Indifferent to Inequality?" (Newsweek, May 7, 2001)

\*Frank, "Is There an Optimal Rich Poor Gap?" (Wall Street Journal, Nov. 8, 2010)

\*Obama, "Remarks by the President on Economic Mobility" (December 4, 2013)

\*Collins, "Do the Rich Rule America?" (NJ Today, September 25, 2015)

\*Reich, "And Now the Richest .01 Percent" (Huffington Post, November 18, 2014)

\*Wilkinson and Pickett, "The Spirit Level: Why Greater Equality Makes Societies Stronger" (Poverty & Race, May/June 2010)

### **The Magnitude of Poverty (Thursday, February 25)**

Watch this 83-minute film before class -- "The Pruitt-Igoe Myth: An Urban History"

\*"Poverty Thresholds - 2015" <https://aspe.hhs.gov/2015-poverty-guidelines#threshold>

\*"Number in Poverty and Poverty Rate: 1959 to 2013" (chart)

<https://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/incpovhlth/2013/figure4.pdf>

\*"Poverty Rates by Age: 1959 to 2014" (chart)

<https://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/incpovhlth/2014/figure4.pdf>

\*"People and Families in Poverty by Selected Characteristics: 2013 and 2014" (table)

<https://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty/data/incpovhlth/2014/table3.pdf>

\*Levinson, "Mis-measuring Poverty" (American Prospect, July 2012)

\*Colin and Bernstein, "Working and Poor" (Business Week, May 31, 2004)

\*Cooper, "A Majority of Low-Wage Workers Earn So Little They Must Rely on Public Assistance to Make Ends Meet" (Economic Policy Institute, February 9, 2016)

\*Lopez, "Buses are Their Route to a Better Future" (LAT, December 18, 2013)

\*DeParle, Gebeloff and Tavernise, "Older, Suburban and Struggling, 'Near Poor' Startle the Census" (NYT, Nov. 18, 2011)

\*Kaufman, "Time to Take on Concentrated Poverty and Education" (The Nation, February 1, 2013)

\*Joe Cortright and Dillon Mahmoudi, *Lost in Place* (City Observatory, December 2014) (Just read the Summary, Introduction, and Conclusion and skim the rest)

\*Egan, "Good Poor, Bad Poor" (NYT, December 22, 2013)

\*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, Jan. 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, Aug. 25,

2014

\*Christopher, "Family Friendly Europe" (American Prospect, April 2002)

### **The Consequences of Poverty and Inequality (Tuesday, March 1)**

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)

\*"A Chicago Divided by Killings" (NYT, January 2, 2013)

<http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2013/01/02/us/chicago-killings.html?ref=us>

\*Epstein, "Ghetto Miasma: Enough To Make You Sick?" (NYT, Oct. 12, 2003)

\*McClain, "Are Americans Finally Facing Up to the True Costs of Mass Incarceration?" (The Nation, September 16, 2015)

\*Little, "Not in Whose Backyard?" (NYT, Sept. 2, 2007)

\*Noble, "Study Shows a Big Asthma Risk for Children in Poor Neighborhoods" (NYT, July 27, 1999)

\*Dreier, "This Economy is a Real Killer" (Huffington Post, November 17, 2011)

\*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)

\*Lu, "Hunger a Growing Problem in Suburbs" (NYT, March 23, 2004)

\*Barboza, "Rampant Obesity, a Debilitating Reality for the Urban Poor" (NYT, Dec. 26, 2000)

\*Rothstein, "The Urban Poor Shall Inherit Poverty" (American Prospect, January/February 2014)

\*Brooks-Gunn and Duncan, "The Effects of Poverty on Children" (The Future of Children, Summer/Fall 1997, pages 55-68)

\*Ladd and Fiske, "Class Matters. Why Don't We Admit It?" (NYT, Dec. 12, 2011)

\*Finder, "As Test Scores Jump, Raleigh Credits Integration by Income" (NYT, Sept. 25, 2005)

### **What If Everyone Had a Job? Work and Welfare (Thursday, March 3)**

Watch this 2-minute video before class: "Food Stamps vs. Pay Checks"

<http://mrctv.org/videos/gingrichobama-best-food-stamp-president-american-history>

Watch this 7-minute video before class: "Evergreen Cooperatives"

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gt\\_ZHUDhKjs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gt_ZHUDhKjs) (7 minutes)

Watch this 3-minute video before class: "How Evergreen Cooperative is Changing Lives"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axX4RY265rA> (3 minutes)

Watch this 22-minute video before class: "Own The Change: Building Economic Democracy One Worker Co-op at a Time" – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8G1-SYMatNc>

\*Taub, "What If Everyone Had a Job?" (Shelterforce, Sept./Oct. 1996)

\*Anderson, "Off the Deep End: The Wall Street Bonus Pool and Low-Wage Workers" (Institute for Policy Studies, March 11, 2015)

\*Quigley, "Ten Examples of Welfare for the Rich and Corporations" (Huffington Post, January 14, 2014)

\*"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)

\*Jones, "After I Lived in Norway, America Felt Backward. Here's Why" (The Nation, January 28 2016)

\*Gornick and Meyers, "Support for Working Families" (American Prospect, January 2001)

\*Brooks, "Livin' the Danish Dream" (NYT, February 12, 2016)



- \*Markusen, "The High Road Wins" (American Prospect, Spring 2015)
- \*Wray, "The Job Guarantee: A Government Plan for Full Employment" (The Nation, June 8, 2011)
- \*Baker and Bernstein, "Full Employment and the Path to Shared Prosperity" (Dissent, Summer 2014)
- \*Alperovitz, "Socialism in America Is Closer Than You Think" (The Nation, February 11, 2016)

<b>Spring Break – March 7 - 11</b>
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### **Racism and Segregation**

#### **The Origins of Residential Segregation (Tuesday, March 15)**

Watch this 30-minute video before coming to class: "Crisis in Levittown"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1FNJXoHuxpg>

Watch this 9-minute video before coming to class: "Longford Street: Precious Places"

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zb7vFNKXIFo>

- \*Massey and Denton "The Construction of the Ghetto" (from American Apartheid, Chapter 2)
- \*Sugrue, "No Right More Elemental" (from Sweet Land of Liberty: The Forgotten Struggle for Civil Rights in the North, 2008, pages 200-250)

#### **Prejudice and Discrimination (Thursday, March 17)**

- \*Two Tables: Public Opinion of Whites on School and Neighborhood Integration
- \*Wilson, "Real Median Household Incomes for all Racial Groups Remain Well Below Their 2007 Levels" (Economic Policy Institute, September 16, 2014)
- <http://www.epi.org/blog/real-median-household-incomes-racial-groups>
- \*Thernstrom and Thernstrom, "We Have Overcome" (New Republic, Oct. 13, 1997)
- \*Kristof, "Is Everyone A Little Bit Racist?" (NYT, August 27, 2014)
- \*Clawson and Trice, "Poverty as We Know It: Media Portrayals of the Poor" (Public Opinion Quarterly, Vol. 64, No. 1 (Spring, 2000)
- \*Rothstein, "The Making of Ferguson" (American Prospect, October 2014)
- \*Kotz, "Uncivil Rights" (Review of When Affirmative Action Was White, NYT, Aug. 28, 2005)
- \*"Study: It Helps To Have a White Name" (Associated Press, January 14, 2003)
- \*Dewan, "Discrimination in Housing Against Nonwhites Persists Quietly, U.S. Study Finds" (NYT, June 11, 2013)
- \*Bajaj and Fessenden, "What's Behind the Race Gap?" (NYT, Nov. 4, 2007)
- \*Peterson, "Racial Gap in Loans is High in State" (LAT, Sept. 29, 2005)
- \*Hernandez, "Payday Lenders Target Blacks and Latinos" (Colorlines, March, 26, 2009)
- \*Carter and Walsh, "Watch This Congressman Plagiarize A Lobbyist On Payday Loans" (Huffington Post, February 18, 2016) [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/david-scott-payday-loan\\_us\\_56c4e13fe4b08ffac1276db5](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/david-scott-payday-loan_us_56c4e13fe4b08ffac1276db5)
- \*Kristof, "Study Alleges Racial Bias in Auto Rates" (LAT, Dec. 20, 2005)
- \*Dreier, "Racism on Camera" (American Prospect, July 30, 2015)
- \*"Police Agencies Line Up to Learn About Unconscious Bias" (NYT, March 9, 2015)
- \*Cole, "Getting Past 'Tough on Crime'" (NY Review of Books, August 14, 2013)
- \*Kleine, "Rick Snyder Isn't the Only Michigan Leader Who Abandoned Flint" (Washington Post, February 1, 2016)
- \*Eligonjan, "A Question of Environmental Racism in Flint" (NYT, January 21, 2016)

## **The Many Faces of Racism (Tuesday, March 22)**

- \*"Figure 2-1 a: Distribution of Households Within One Hypothetical Metropolitan Area With High Segregation and One With Low Segregation" (U.S. Census Bureau, Residential and Ethnic Residential Segregation in the United States: 1980-2000, August 2002) (graph)
- \*Ellen, "Continuing Isolation: Segregation in America Today" (in Carr and Kutty, eds., Segregation, 2008)
- \*Cortright, "Want to Close the Black/White Income Gap? Work to Reduce Segregation" (City Observatory, April 16, 2015)
- \*Florida, "How Zoning Restrictions Make Segregation Worse" (CityLab, January 4, 2016)
- \*Badger, "Life in the Suburbs Means Something Very Different for Whites and Blacks" (Washington Post, December 10, 2014)
- \*Wilkerson, "One City's 30-Year Crusade for Integration" (NYT, Dec. 30, 1991)
- \*Connell, Smith and Watanabe, "Local Suburbs More Diverse" (LAT, December 9, 2008)
- \*Ramos, "Latino Middle Class Growing in Suburbia" (LAT, Nov. 30, 1997)
- \*Chowkwanyun and Segall, "The Rise of the Asian Majority Suburb" (Atlantic, August 24, 2012)
- \*Goldstein, "Shaking Up Suburbia" (American Prospect, August 2009)
- \*Hydra, "Addressing Social Segregation in Mixed-Income Communities: Living Next to Each Other Does Not Necessarily Mean Getting to Know Each Other" (Shelterforce, Nov. 17, 2015)

## **Banking, Homeownership, and Racism (Thursday, March 24)**

Watch this 75-minute film before class -- "Heist: Who Stole the American Dream?"

<http://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/heist>

Watch this 30-second video before class: "Countrywide TV ad"

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_embedded&v=Ei5OrV-CmHg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Ei5OrV-CmHg)

Watch this 9-minute video before class: "Mo' Money, Mo' Money, Mo' Money: How Greedy Corporations Destroy the American Dream" :

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tWEdtVnSWQg&feature=youtu.be>

Watch this 7-minute video before class: "Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) : Why Haven't The Wall Street Banks Been Prosecuted?" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3TkyCX3cGtK>

\*"Homeownership By Race/Ethnicity 1976-2012"

<http://www.pewsocialtrends.org/files/2013/08/SDT-racial-relations-08-2013-03-04.png>

\*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)

\*Dreier, "How the Bankers Destroyed the Dream" (American Prospect, May 2015)

\*Becker, Stolberg, and Labaton, "White House Philosophy Stoked Mortgage Bonfire" (NYT, December 21, 2008)

\*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)

\*Logan and Smith, "Blighted Homes Linger in L.A., Frustrating Neighbors" (LAT, June 10, 2014)

\*Lazare, "Foreclosure Crisis Fueled Dramatic Rise of Racial Segregation: Study" (CommonDreams, May 7, 2015)



- \*Dreier, "What Housing Recovery?" (NYT, May 8, 2014)
- \*Dreier, "To Rescue Local Economies, Cities Seize Underwater Mortgages Through Eminent Domain" (The Nation, July 12, 2013)
- Krugman, "Home - Not-so-Sweet Home" (NYT, June 23, 2008)
- \*Acharya, Richardson, Nieuwerburgh and White, "White Picket Fences? Not So Fast" (NYT, August 17, 2011)
- \*Marcuse, "The Housing Change We Need" (Shelterforce, November 2008)

### **Suburbanization, Sprawl, and the Environment**

#### **What's the Difference Between Suburbanization and Sprawl? (Tuesday, March 29)**

Watch these videos before class:

- "The Selling of Sprawl" (9 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZvN5kN5TCdY>
- "40 Years of Las Vegas Sprawl, as Seen From Space" (38 seconds) <http://www.citylab.com/housing/2012/03/40-years-las-vegas-sprawl-seen-space/1402/>

\*"Flee the City" (Cartoon)

\*Jackson, "The Drive-In Culture of Contemporary America" (from Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States, 1985)

\*Danielson, "Suburban Autonomy" (from The Politics of Exclusion, 1976)

\*Hayden, "Planning Suburban-Style Development" (from Building Suburbia, 2003)

\*Glaeser, "Why Has Sprawl Spread?" (in Glaeser, The Triumph of the City, 2011)

\*Brooks, "Patio Man and the Sprawl People" (The Weekly Standard, August 12-19, 2002)

\*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, "Welcome to Sales Tax Canyon" (from The Reluctant Metropolis, 1997)

\*Fulton and Shigley, "The Inland Empire Strikes Back" (Planning, February 2002)

\*Gold, 'Inland Empire Pays Price for Housing Crisis' (LAI, May 20, 2002)

Wilson, "Developers Are Putting Southland's Last Dairy Farmers Out to Pasture" (LAI, May 27, 2002)

\*Lyman, "Living Large, by Design, in Middle of Nowhere" (NYT, Aug. 15, 2005)

#### **Transportation and the Environment (Thursday, March 31)**

Watch these videos before class:

- "Taken for a Ride" (60 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p-l8GDklsN4>
- "High Speed Trains Around the World" (6 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FTn7d4KJqx8>
- "California's High Speed Rail: LA to SF in 3 Hours" (1 ½ minutes) <http://www.cnn.com/videos/us/2015/01/06/california-high-speed-rail-bullet-train-los-angeles-san-francisco-orig-cfb.cnn>

\*Dittmar, "Sprawl: The Automobile and Affording the American Dream" (in Schor and Taylor, eds., Sustainable Planet: Solutions for the Twenty-First Century, 2002)

\*Balake and Staley, "5 Myths About Suburbia and Our Car-Happy Culture," Washington Post, January 28, 2007

\*Billitteri, "Mass Transit Boom" (Urban Issues, 5th edition, 2011)

\*Roosevelt, "To Go Green, Live Closer to Work" (LAI, Sept 21, 2007)

- \*Goodyear, “Why the Streets of Copenhagen and Amsterdam Look So Different From Ours” (CityLab, April 25, 2012)
- \*Jamison, “Electric Cars, Clean Air: Garcetti Outlines Vision for a 'Sustainable' L.A.” (LAT, April 8, 2015)
- \*Shoup “The Free Market for Parking is Anything But Free” (StreetBlog.Org, Sept. 1, 2010)
- \*“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” (NYT, January 1, 2012)
- \*Jaffe, “Buses Are for Other People” (Atlantic, January/February 2015)

### **The Green Economy, Green Jobs, and Sustainability (Tuesday, April 5)**

Watch these videos before class:

- “How We Live” (7 ½ minutes) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elzV\\_r398dU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elzV_r398dU)
  - “Stephen Colbert interviews Noemi Klein” (5 ½ minutes) <http://thecolbertreport.cc.com/videos/k5a58t/naomi-klein>
  - “Barack Obama on Green Jobs” (1 ½ minutes) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-ar\\_GVkeys](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m-ar_GVkeys)
  - “Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports” (9 minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7odplbtiko>
  - “Victory in LA for Clean and Safe Ports” (5 ½ minutes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WicRWIN2uws>
  - “Don't Waste L.A.: No More Deaths in Waste Facilities” (3 minutes) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hFRg0EFpYLO>
  - “Out of the Shadows” (7 minutes) <http://www.laane.org/whats-new/2013/01/11/video-out-of-the-shadows/>
- \*Gardner, “LA Smog: The Battle Against Air Pollution” (Marketplace, July 14, 2014)
  - \*Barboza, “Cleaner Air is Linked to Stronger Lungs in Southern California Children” (LAT, March 4, 2015)
  - \*Vidal, “Air Pollution: A Dark Cloud of Filth Poisons the World's Cities” (The Guardian, January 16, 2016)
  - \*Kahn, “This is Why Scientists Have Hope For the Climate” (Climate Central, December 24, 2015)
  - \*Dreier, “Remembering Barry Commoner” (The Nation, October 1, 2012)
  - \*Fitzgerald, “Help Wanted – Green” (American Prospect, January 2005)
  - \*Axel-Lute, “Green Jobs with Roots” (Shelterforce, Summer 2010)
  - \*Johnson, “Mass Transit, Buy America, and the Economy” (National Journal, January 13, 2014)
  - \*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)
  - \*Garrison and Mai-Duc, “LA Council Approves New Trash Plan” (LAT, Nov. 15, 2012)
  - \*Owens-Wilson, Transforming Trash in Urban America (*Partnership for Working Families*, 2013 – just read pages 1 to 6)
  - \*Biron, “US Cities Joining Push to Dump Fossil Fuel Investments” (Truth-out, April 27, 2013)

### **Smart Growth and Regionalism (Thursday, April 7)**

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters  
Chapter 8 – “Regionalisms Old and New”

- \*Cooper, “Smart Growth” (from Urban Issues, 3rd edition, 2007)
- \*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)
- \*Dreier and Steckler, “Not Just for the Gentry” (American Prospect, January 2005)
- \*Sheehan, “What Will It Take to Halt Sprawl?” (WorldWatch, January/February 2002)
- \*Kirp, “Here Comes the Neighborhood” (NYT, October 20, 2013)
- \*Cole, “10 Ways to Prove You Love the Earth on Earth Day” (Truthdig, April 22, 2015)

## PART IV:

### URBAN POLITICS AND POWER

#### City Finances: Who Owns Cities? (Tuesday, April 12)

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters

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

- \**Fiscal Stress Faced by Local Governments* (Congressional Budget Office, December 2010)
- \*Swanstrom, “The Politics of Default” (Swanstrom, The Crisis of Growth Politics, 1985)
- \*Hiltzik, “The Boeving Vote and the Death of the Middle Class” (LAT, January 5, 2014)
- \*Klein, “Rick Snyder Isn’t the Only Michigan Leader Who Abandoned Flint” (Washington Post, February 1, 2016)
- \*Searcy and Bradsher, “Chinese Cash Floods U.S. Real Estate Market” (NYT, Nov. 28, 2015)
- \*\*“Wealthiest Persons in Los Angeles, 2015” (LA Almanac)
- \*Bruck, “The Man Who Owns L.A.” (New Yorker, January 16, 2012)
- \*Lopez, “City Paying High Price in Dispute Over Rentals” (LAT, December 13, 2006)
- \*Zahniser, Saillant, and Finnegan, “LA is Facing a Grim Future, Panel Says” (LAT, January 9, 2014)
- \*\*Editorial: Making Property Owners Responsible For Sidewalk Repairs Will Be Unpopular, But It’s the Right Thing to Do” (LAT, March 26, 2016)
- \*Organizational Chart – City of LA”
- \*City of Los Angeles, 2014-2015 Budget Summary (Skim this document to learn what functions is the city of LA responsible for, where the money comes from, and where the money goes): <http://cao.lacity.org/budget/summary/2014-15BudgetSummaryBooklet.pdf>

#### The Battle for Power: Who Rules Cities? (Thursday, April 14)

Before class, watch “The New Los Angeles” (56 minutes)

[http://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/the\\_new\\_los\\_angeles](http://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/the_new_los_angeles)

Dreier, Mollenkopf, and Swanstrom, Place Matters

Chapter 7 – “Urban Politics Matters: Progressive, Liberal and Conservative Cities”

- \*Davidson, “Why Mayors Can’t Combat Income Inequality” (NYT, December 1, 2013)
- \*Dreier, “Radicals in City Hall: An American Tradition” (Dissent, December 19, 2013)
- \*Dreier and Clavel, “What Kind of Mayor Was Bernie Sanders?” (The Nation, June 2, 2015)
- \*Klein, “New Haven Risen” (Dissent, Winter 2015)

- \*DePillis, "Meet the Lefty Club Behind a Blitz of New Laws in Cities Around the Country" (Washington Post, January 4, 2015)
- \*Dreier, "Ten Lessons for New York City From Los Angeles: What Bill de Blasio Can Learn from Antonio Villaraigosa" (The Nation, December 27, 2013)
- \*Dreier, "Who Are the Billionaires Trying to Defeat Steve Zimmer?" (Huffington Post, March 3, 2013)
- \*Helfand and Zahniser, "Fight Over LA Agency Official Reflects Gentrification Tensions" (LAT, December 19, 2007)
- \*Meyerson, "LA Story" (American Prospect, August/September 2013)
- \*Meyerson, "Dan Cantor's Machine" (American Prospect, January/February 2014)
- \*Connor and Smith, "Imagine: If Mayor de Blasio Really Were a Socialist" (Truthout, January 2, 2014)

### **Rebuild, Revitalize, or Escape Poor Neighborhoods? Community Development and Mobility (Tuesday, April 19)**

Watch this video before class:

- "Chavez Ravine"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hd7YJ1FVZK0> (23 minutes)

Watch these five short videos before class (total of 15 minutes):

- Fifth Avenue Committee <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbUTWrzcbqA> (3 minutes)
- ELACC <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfJx1iNqZU> (6 minutes)
- ELACC street vendor campaign: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZynAJu3BLI> (2 min)
- Mercado La Paloma: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2NPJF6PkxIM> (1 ½ minutes)
- SAJE/slum housing campaign: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=19iAsYHI3hQ> (2 min.)

Dreier, Mollenkopf and Swanstrom, Place Matters, pp 143-45 ("Urban Renewal")

- \*Kreitner, "Will the Los Angeles River Become a Playground for the Rich?" (The Nation, March 10, 2016)
- \*Oppel, "Many Banks Making Money on Lending in Poor Areas" (NYT, Oct. 22, 1999)
- \*Serna, "Tenants Plus Land Trust Beat Gentrification" (Urban Habitat, Spring 2008)
- \*Chen, "Can Neighborhoods Be Revitalized Without Gentrifying Them?" (The Nation, April 11, 2016)
- \*Martin, "A Haven for Vendors" (LAT, Nov. 22, 1999)
- \*Pacenza, "East Harlem's Bottom Line" (Shelterforce, Sept/Oct 2002)
- \*Lazar, "Balancing Business and Mission" (Shelterforce, Sept/Oct 2002)
- \*Lander, "Community Development as Freedom?" (Shelterforce, Sept/Oct 2002)
- \*Hachadourian, "Berkeley Votes to Boost Co-op Economy In the Face of Gentrification" (YES!, February 24, 2016)
- \*Dreier and Moberg, "Moving From the Hood: the Mixed Success of Integrating Suburbia" (American Prospect, Winter 1996)
- \*Medina, "Subsidies and Suspicion" (NYT, August 11, 2011)
- \*Engdahl and Tegeler, "Regional Housing Mobility: A Report from Baltimore" (Poverty & Race, November/December 2009)
- \*Polikoff, "Housing Mobility: Why Is It So Controversial?" (Poverty & Race, July/August 2015)
- \*Goetz, "The Reality of Deconcentration" (Shelterforce, November/December 2004)

### **Is Housing a Right? What Can Cities Do to Address the Housing Crisis? (Thursday, April 21)**

- \*Salins, "Toward a Permanent Housing Problem" (*The Public Interest*, Fall 1986).
- \*Logan, "Housing Costs Are a Greater Burden in L.A. Than Elsewhere" (*LAT*, June 25, 2014)
- \*"LA: Out of Reach in 2015" (SCANPH)
- "Confronting California's Rent and Poverty Crisis"
- \*"What Do You Mean By Affordable?" (Livable Places)
- \*Ingraham, "1.6 Million Americans Don't Have Indoor Plumbing" (*Washington Post*, April 23, 2014)
- \*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, 1999)
- \*Renwick, "Fed-Up Tenants Take Over" (*LAT*, August 15, 1994)
- \*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)
- \*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)
- \*Hymon, "Activists Press Council for Affordable Housing Law" (*LAT*, June 5, 2005)
- \*"L.A. Has a Serious Housing Crisis and It's Time for City Officials to Do Something About It" (*LAT*, January 11, 2015)
- \*Dellinger, "Two Veteran Community Organizers Tackle LA's Burgeoning Rental Housing Crisis" (*The Tidings*, January 18, 2008)
- \*Brassaw, "Is it Time to Bring Back Rent Control in Seattle?" (*Seattle Magazine*, November 2014)

### **Inclusionary Zoning and Accountable Development (Tuesday, April 26)**

Watch these videos before class:

- Mayor Villaraigosa announces IZ - 2008:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qy7W1kieEf4> (2 minutes)
- Professor Douglas Massey describes his Mt. Laurel research:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NtarfYBVNfk>
- Gov. Chris Christie: Mt. Laurel Decision is an Abomination"  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWRSpKkoQnc>  
(begins at 1:50) [COAH is the Council On Affordable Housing]
- Gov. Christie speech opposing Mt. Laurel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBYk-sBs1ZQ>  
(2 minutes)
- \*Samara and Chang, "Gentrifying Downtown Miami" (*Urban Habitat*, Spring 2008)
- \*DiMassa, "Mega-projects Could Reshape L.A. Growth" (*LAT*, December 13, 2006)
- \*Evans, Kim and Regardie, "Downtown Development: A Rundown on 94 Projects"  
(*Downtown News*, January 22, 2015 -- just skim to get the big picture)
- \*Huang, "LA Mayor Answers Backlash to Mega-Developments' With Plan of His Own"  
(*KPCC*, April 13, 2016)
- \*Islas, "New 'Build Better LA' Ballot Initiative Would Require Affordable Housing and Local Hiring" (*Street Blog LA*, February 19, 2016)
- \*Ruiz and Smooke, "Developers Aren't Going to Solve the Housing Crisis in San Francisco" (*Truthout*, October 8, 2014)

- \*Dreier, "Town versus Gown in Los Angeles" (*New Labor Forum*, Jan/Feb 2013)
- \*Dreier, "Good Jobs, Healthy Cities" (*American Prospect*, October 2009)
- \*Garrison, "LA Council Votes to Restrict Superstores" (*LAT*, Aug. 11, 2004)
- \*Massey, "Lessons from Mount Laurel: The Benefits of Affordable Housing for All Concerned" (*Poverty & Race*, May/June 2012)
- \*Dreier, "Builders Clucking Like Chicken Little" (*LAT*, July 3, 2005)
- \*Galles, "How Affordable Housing Mandates Make Housing More Expensive" (*LAT*, January 18, 2016)
- \*"Editorial: How to Get More Affordable Housing in Los Angeles" (*LAT*, August 18, 2015)
- \*"The Landmark Housing Deal That Could Help Quell New York's Affordability Crisis" (*The Nation*, March 18, 2016)

**Cities in National Politics: Can a Suburban Nation Address the Urban Crisis? (Thursday, 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 "Metropolices for the 21st Century"  
 Chapter 10, "Crossing the City Line" (pages 320-331 only)
- \*Dreier, "The 21st Century So Far" (from *The 100 Greatest Americans of the 20th Century: A Social Justice Hall of Fame*, 2012)
  - \*Senator Mike Lee, "A Conservative Vision for the Next Generation" (October 21, 2014)
  - \*Senator Bernie Sanders, "My Vision for Democratic Socialism in America" (November 19, 2015)