AMERICAN URBAN HISTORY 1870 TO THE PRESENT

Texts:

Sam B. Warner, Jr., STREETCAR SUBURBS: THE PROCESS OF GROWTH IN BOSTON, 1870-1900
Jacob Riis, HOW THE OTHER HALF LIVES: STUDIES AMONG THE TENEMENTS OF NEW YORK
William Riordan, PLUNKITT OF TAMMANY HALL
Elliott Rudwick, RACE RIOT IN EAST ST. LOUIS JULY 2, 1917
Kenneth T. Jackson, THE KU KLUX KLAN IN THE CITY, 1915-1930
Edward Greer, BIG STEEL: BLACK POLITICS AND CORPORATE POWER IN GARY, INDIANA
Henry F. Bedford, TROUBLE DOWNTOWN: THE LOCAL CONTEXT OF TWENTIETH-CENTURY AMERICA

Course Meetings and Requirements:

We require students to attend two lectures and one discussion section per week.
There will be a mid-term and a final examination, both in essay format. The mid-term will be given on March 15 and will cover lectures and readings for sections I-III of the course.

Writing Assignment:

Students enrolled in the course for 3 credits will write one short (5-7 pages) essay-review based upon at least one book and two articles on a particular topic. Students enrolled in the course for 4 credits will write an essay-review (8-12 pages) based upon at least one book and 4 articles, or two books. Reading for these essay-reviews will be in addition to the required reading for the course. We will hand out in class a format for the essay-reviews as well as suggested readings arranged by topic.

Grades:

Grades in the course will be based upon performance on the examinations, the writing assignments, and participation in discussion sections. Improvement in performance over the course will find its reward; all students who improve the quality of their work will also improve the quality of their grade.

Students take note: the instructor lectures under various topical headings rather than following a strict chronological pattern. To aid your chronological knowledge, the instructor has provided two "timelines" that indicate major items of interest to
Urban History

us in this course.

Readings:

The specific order of reading assignments will be given in discussion sections. The first book to be discussed will be Warner's Streetcar Suburbs; we urge class members to begin reading that book soon.

LECTURE TOPICS

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<th>Lecture</th>
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<td>I. URBAN AMERICA: AN OVERVIEW</td>
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<td>1. The Problems of Urbanization</td>
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<td>2. The City in American Thought and Fiction</td>
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<td>II. THE PHYSICAL RISE OF THE MODERN CITY</td>
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<td>1. Steel Rails and the National Diffusion of Cities</td>
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<td>2. Cities in the New South and the Last West</td>
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<td>3. The Decline of the &quot;Walking City&quot;</td>
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<td>4. The Industrial Growth of American Cities</td>
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<td>III. SOCIAL GEOGRAPHY AND PATHOLOGY OF AMERICAN CITIES</td>
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<td>1. Work and Workers in Urban America</td>
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<td>2. The &quot;New&quot; Immigration to the Urban Villages</td>
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<td>5. Black Migration and Urbanization</td>
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<td>6. The Rise of the Black Ghetto</td>
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<td>7. The City as Sewer</td>
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<td>8. Engineering the Metropolis</td>
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<td>3. City Bosses and the Politics of Survival</td>
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<td>4. Oiling the Urban Machine</td>
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<td>5. Cities in the &quot;New Era&quot;</td>
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<td>V. THE CITY AND NATIONAL AFFAIRS</td>
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<td>1. Cities in the Fabric of State and National Government</td>
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</table>
2. The Politics of Demography: Urb, Suburb, and Exurb 21
3. Running Cities from the White House 26
4. The Federal Government and Urban Affairs 28

VI. THE PRESENT AND FUTURE OF URBAN AMERICA

1. The Tanning of the Nation: The Sunbelt Cities May 3
3. The Fiscal Crises of Urban America 10
### TABLE 1

POPULATION AND RANK OF TWENTY LARGEST U.S. CITIES, 1870-1970

(Population in thousands; listed in rank order for 1870; figure in parentheses gives rank as of 1970 for twenty largest cities)

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the heyday of the ethnic urban villages

the volume of "new" immigration exceeds that of "old"

the formation and growth of black ghettos

urban progressivism

the formation of growth of the political machines

growth of new cities in the far west
TIMELINE OF MAJOR EVENTS, #2

(PHYSICAL CONSTRUCTION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF CITIES)

Heyday of Public Parks Movement, Sanitation Reform, & Provision of Public Services (Water, Sewer, etc)

"Great White City" at Columbian Exposition

Burnham Chicago Plan

Euclid v. Ambler Case

"Greenbelt Cities"

New Deal and Fair Deal Welfare Legislation

"Great Depression"

Large-scale Black Migration

Federal Highway Act

Creation of HUD

Revenue Sharing

1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 1930 1940 1950 1960 1970

Tenement House Reform Movement

Automobile

City Beautiful Movement

City Efficient Movement

Regional Planning Assoc. of Amer. fnd.

Ebenezer Howard & the "Garden City" Concept


Black Migration
Suggested Topics and Readings for Essay-Reviews

Upon consultation with the instructor(s), students may choose one of the following topics, or any other appropriate one of their choice, for the essay-review. We urge you to begin work on this as early in the semester as possible.

Architectural History
   Lewis Mumford, *The Brown Decades: A Study of the Arts in America, 1865-1895*
   Vincent Scully, *American Architecture and Urbanism*

Building
   James Marston Fitch, *American Building: The Historical Forces that Shaped It* (2d ed.)
   Carl W. Condit, *American Building*

Landscape
   John B. Jackson, *American Space: The Centennial Years, 1865-1876*
   William H. Whyte, *The Last Landscape*

Urban scape
   Kevin Lynch, *Image of the City*
   Christopher Tunnard & Boris Pushkarev, *Man-Made America: Chaos or Control?*
   or,
   John A. Kouwenhoven, *The Columbia Historical Portrait of New York*
   Harold M. Mayer & Richard C. Wade, *Chicago: Growth of a Metropolis*

Inter-city Transportation
   Jean Gottman, *Megalopolis*
   George N. Hilton & John F. Due, *The Electric Interurban Railways in America*

Intraurban Transportation
   George M. Smerk, *Urban Mass Transportation: A Dozen Years of Federal Policy*

Metropolitan Growth
   Allan Pred, *The Spatial Dynamics of U.S. Urban-Industrial Growth, 1800-1914*

Urban Biography
   Robert M. Fogelson, *Fragmented Metropolis, Los Angeles 1850-1930*
   Bayard Still, *Milwaukee* (rev. ed.)
Urban History

Urban Finances

Roger E. Alcaly & David Mermelstein (eds.), The Fiscal Crisis of American Cities
Dick Netzer, Economics of the Property Tax, chs. IV, V
George F. Break, Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations in the United States, ch. V

Housing

Roy Lubove, The Progressives and the Slums
Thomas Lee Philpott, The Slum and the Ghetto: Neighborhood Deterioration and Middle-Class Reform, Chicago, 1880-1930

Landscape Architects and the City

Laura Wood Roper, FLO: A Biography of Frederick Law Olmsted
Norman T. Newton, Design on the Land: The Development of Landscape Architecture, chs. XXI-XXIV, XXVIII-XXIX, XXXI-XXXIV

Garden Cities

Ebenezer Howard, Garden Cities of Tomorrow (1898, U.S. edition 1965)
Clarence S. Stein, Toward New Towns for America

City Planning

Mel Scott, American City Planning since 1890, chs. 1-5
Roy Lubove, Community Planning in the 1920's

Urban Renewal

Jane Jacobs, The Death and Life of Great American Cities
Charles Abrams, The City is the Frontier, Part II

Urban Planners

Thomas S. Hines, Burnham of Chicago: Architect and Planner
Robert A. Caro, The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York

Urban Government

Ernest S. Griffith, A History of American City Government, 1870-1900
Kenneth Fox, Better City Government

Urban "Liberal" Politics

Frederic C. Howe, The City The Hope of Democracy
John D. Buenker, Urban Liberalism and Progressive Reform

Urban Political Machines

Seymour Mandelbaum, Boss Tweed's New York
Zane L. Miller, Boss Cox's Cincinnati
Urban History

Urban Political Machines (contd)

Theodore J. Loui, *At the Pleasure of the Mayor: Patronage & Power in New York City, 1898-1938*

Milton Rakove, *Don't Make No Waves, Don't Back No Losers: An Insider's Analysis of the Daley Machine*

Urban Reformers

Allen F. Davis, *Spearheads for Reform: The Social Settlements and the Progressive Movement, 1890-1914*

Melvin G. Holli, *Reform in Detroit: Hazen S. Pingree and Urban Politics*

Urban-Federal Government Relations


*Urban America and the Federal System (Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations Report M-47, October, 1969)*

Urban Elites

E. Digby Baltzell, *Philadelphia Gentlemen: The Making of a National Upper Class*


Urban Workingclasses

John Cumbler, *Working-Class Community in Industrial America*

Herbert G. Gutman, *Work, Culture & Society in Industrializing America, Parts I & III*

Workingclass Quarters

Robert A. Woods & Albert J. Kennedy, *The Zone of Emergence*

Herbert J. Gans, *The Levittowners*

Company Towns

Stanley Buder, *Pullman: An Experiment in Industrial Order and Community Planning*

Bennett M. Berger, *Working-Class Suburb: A Study of Auto Workers in Suburbia*

Religion in the City

Henry F. May, *Protestant Churches and Industrial America*

Will Herberg, *Protestant-Catholic-Jew*

Education in the City


Lawrence A. Cremin, *The Transformation of the School*
Urban History

Urban Crime

David R. Johnson, Policing the Urban Underworld: The Impact of Crime on the Development of the American Police, 1800-1887
Roger Laue, "Urbanization and Criminal Violence in the Nineteenth Century," Jour. of Social History, II (Dec., 1968)

Urban Violence

Elliott Rudwick, Race Riot in East St. Louis
Kenneth T. Jackson, The Ku Klux Klan in the City, 1915-1930

Police in the City

James F. Richardson, Urban Police in the United States
Roger Lane, Policing the City: Boston, 1822-1885

Immigrants in the Cities

Humbert Nelli, The Italians in Chicago, 1880-1930

Blacks in the Cities

Howard N. Rabinowitz, Race Relations in the Urban South, 1865-1890
St. Clair Drake & Horace Cayton, Black Metropolis

Florette Henri, Black Migration: Movement North 1900-1920
Karl and Alma Taeuber; Negroes in Cities: Residential Segregation and Neighborhood Change

Black Ghettos

Gilbert Osofsky, Harlem: The Making of a Ghetto
Kenneth L. Kusmer, A Ghetto Takes Shape: Black Cleveland, 1870-1930

Urban Slums

Gerald D. Suttles, The Social Order of the Slum
Harvey W. Zorbaugh, The Gold Coast and the Slum

Social Mobility in the Cities

Howard Chudacoff, Mobile Americans: Residential and Social Mobility in Omaha, 1880-1920
Thomas Kessner, The Golden Door: Italian and Jewish Immigrant Mobility in New York City, 1880-1915