



2014

Syllabus: Urban Policies

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**Urban Policies
Fall 2014**

**Environmental Design/Regional Planning 577
Tuesday/Thursday 10:00-11:15 Hasbrouck 130**

Dr. Ellen Pader

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Office hours: Monday 1:30-2:30, Thursday 1:00-2:00 and by appointment

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This class focuses on a significant and far-reaching federal policy, The Fair Housing Act (FHA), as a springboard to explore many facets of urban life and policy. The purpose of the FHA is to enable all people, regardless of race, religion, disability, national origin, sex, age or the presence of children under 18 in the family (plus other characteristics enacted by states and municipalities) the right to rent, buy and enjoy housing in any neighborhood they can afford.

We explore how US cities and towns became segregated as a context for exploring other social policies including, but not limited to, housing, education, health, immigration, zoning, transportation, environmental justice, food security, industrial development, voting and predatory lending. With this foundation, we complete a project with the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center (MFHC). MFHC will use our work to inform their fair housing program.

In addition, MFHC will train everyone to be a fair housing tester as a precursor to doing testing for them and helping with the analysis of those tests.

In the Spring 2014 semester, students from this class organized, and got approved, a new UMass Registered Student Organization (RSO), *Students for Fair Housing*. We will help carry on that work.

By the end of the term you will have a firm understanding of the implicit and explicit policies that created the ethnic and racial demographic distributions of the U.S., the importance of access to housing of choice, jobs, recreation, etc. and the profound implications of not having access. You will also have the satisfaction of knowing your class work will help inform the work of MFHC and provide you with valuable experience for your resume.

Course Evaluation

Attendance is required. Much of the work of the course happens in the classroom, based on the day's readings. *You must complete reading assignments before class.*

You will be assigned to a team for projects, much of the work of the team being done during class time. Each student's contribution is evaluated both by the professor and by peer review.

You are evaluated on the quality of your class participation, on-line discussions, several quizzes/small assignments, projects, peer review journal and a Community Service Learning (CSL) project.

What Will It Buy? 15% CSL Projects: 50%; Other assignments, quizzes, etc.: 30%;

Participation, journal, online discussions, in-class work: 20%

Journal

You will keep an on-line journal to reflect upon all aspects of your class work: readings, your research project, discussions, in-class and with friends, media reports, etc. Writing a reflective journal is a central part of this class to help you integrate the scholarly and community service components of the class. It also enables students to have one-on-one engagement with me.

University Policies

See Moodle

Moodle. UMass students have access to Moodle through their OIT account. All registered students can get an OIT account for the semester at the Lederele Low-Rise Building.

Readings

Loewen, James W. 2005. *Sundown Towns: A Hidden Dimension of American Racism*. New York: Touchstone. I recommend you purchase this book although it is available as a UMass ebook: <http://UMA.ebib.com/patron/FullRecord.aspx?p=796133>

If you do not check your UMass email account regularly, please set up forwarding to your usual account as I send important announcements through Moodle.

SYLLABUS

ST = *Sundown Towns* Articles are on Moodle.

All readings are due the beginning of class. Check Moodle often for updates.

You have smaller individual and group assignments throughout the semester that are *not* listed here.

PLEASE NOTE: The syllabus is liable to change if something happens locally or elsewhere related to class or to address unexpected needs of the project with the Massachusetts Fair Housing Center.

Check Moodle for dates that journals and other on-line writing are due.

The readings provide an understanding of many dimensions of housing and housing discrimination, their relation to social policy and the historical contexts of why access to housing of choice is so central to national policy generally. The readings provide the theoretical and historical background to successfully undertake our CSL project with MFHC, and knowledge to stimulate informed discussion among class members on other current and significant issues that are not explicitly included in the syllabus.

Week 1 Setting the Stage

Sept. 2 Concepts, approaches and requirements

Sept. 4 Newspaper articles and one short story. Be prepared to debate the issues they articulate.
 Oh, I. July, 21, 2014. Luxury New York Condo Will Have a 'Poor Door' for Lower-Income Residents. The Huffington Post.
 Bellafante, G. July 25, 2014. On the Upper West Side, a House Divided by Income. New York Times.
 Harmon, L. July 26, 2014. New York's 'Poor Door' Policy Reverts to Old Prejudices. Boston Globe.
 Wirzbicki, A. July 26, 2014. Allowing 'Poor Door' a Better Alternative. Boston Globe.
 Yeziarska, A. 1991 (1920). Soap and Water. In *How I Found America: Collected Stories of Anzia Yeziarska*, 71-77. NY: Persea Books.

Week 2 Why study the past to understand present conditions and policies?

Sept. 9 Eules Apartment Owners Ordered to Pay Fines in Fair Housing Act Suit Involving South Asians, Middle Easterners. Dallas Morning News, Jan. 10, 2014.
 The Challenge Of Being Poor At America's Richest Colleges, Forbes Magazine, 11/27/13
 Tegeler, P & S. Hankins. Spr 2012. Prescription for a New Neighborhood. Shelterforce
 Read and watch the video: Kennedy v. City of Zanesville (lest you think we're only reading about the past)

Sept.11 *Sundown Towns*. Note to Reader, Part 1: Introduction and pages 1-46
 Start exploring the URL for ST: <http://www.uvm.edu/~jloewen/sundowntowns.php>.
 Is your town listed?
 Smith, J. August 18, 2014. You Can't Understand Ferguson Without First Understanding These Three Things. New Republic online.

Week 3 Policy: The Fair Housing Act -- and its historical rationale

Sept. 16 The Fair Housing Act. Laws, etc.
 Massachusetts Fair Housing Center <http://www.massfairhousing.org>
 National Fair Housing Association <http://www.nationalfairhousing.org/index.php>
 National Fair Housing Advocate Online <http://www.fairhousing.com>
 Listen to "House Rules" on *This American Life* (link on Moodle)

Sept. 18 ST, Ch. 3, The Great Retreat, p. 47-89.
In-class team work on What Will It Buy? Part 2

Due: Part 1, What Will it Buy?

Week 4 Policy: An intellectual and emotional pursuit

Sept. 23 *Fair Housing Tester Training.*

Guest speaker, Tanya Jones-Murray, Testing Coordinator, MFHC

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT EVERYONE COME TO CLASS AND ARRIVE ON TIME

U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development. 2014. Evidence Matters: Expanding Opportunity Through Fair Housing Choice Spring/Summer 2014
Massachusetts Fair Housing Center, 2009. Fair Housing Advertising.

Sept. 25 Ch. 4 How Sundown Towns Were Created, 90-115.
Watch: What if Wal-Mart Paid its Employees More?
In-class team work on What Will It Buy? Part 2

Week 5 Social and Cognitive Dimensions of Policy

Sept. 30

Royce, E. nd. Toward a Structural Perspective on Poverty and Inequality

Mullainathan, S and Shafir, E. 2014. Freeing Up Intelligence. *Scientific American*, 57-63.

Harro, B. The Cycle of Socialization, 15-21 and Blumenfeld, W. and Raymond, D.

Prejudice and Discrimination, 21-30. In Adams, M, et. al. 2000. *Readings for Diversity and Social Justice*. NY: Routledge.

O'Grady, K. 2013. I understood gender discrimination once I added "Mr." to my resume and landed a job

Due: Online Tester Training Quiz

Oct. 2 Carpenter, S. 2008. Buried Prejudice. *Scientific American*, 32-39.
The Furman Center: The Dream Revisited: Implicit Bias & Segregation.
<http://furmancenter.org/research/iri/home>
In Class project time.

Week 6 Applying theory to practice: The class project

Oct. 7

ST, Ch. 5 Sundown Suburbs 116-136.

Due: What Will It Buy? Part 2

Oct. 9 *Guest Speaker, Meris Bergquist, Executive Director, Massachusetts Fair Housing Center*
Massachusetts Fair Housing Center <http://www.massfairhousing.org>

Vale, L. 2013. Public Housing in the United States: Neighborhood Renewal and the Poor. In Carmon and Fainstein, eds., *Policy, Planning and People: Promoting Justice in Urban Development*, Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 285-306.

Haberle, M. 2014. A Blueprint for Opportunity: A Look Back at HUD's Regional Housing Mobility Program. *Poverty & Race*, 23(3).

Week 7 Redlining, steering and other ordinances of despair

Oct. 14

No Class, Monday Schedule

Watch a classic movie related to the class:

Raisin in the Sun, Gentleman's Agreement or It's a Wonderful Life

Due: Response to movie Wednesday 10/15, by 8:00 p.m.

Oct. 16 Suarez, R. 1999. The American Factory, Brooklyn, NY. In *The Old Neighborhood: What We Lost in the Great Suburban Migration, 1966-1999*, 98-121. NY: The Free Press.
National Fair Housing Alliance. 2006. *Housing Segregation Background Report*. Brooklyn, New York.

Week 8 Moving

Oct. 21 ST Ch 6 and 7. Underlying Causes and Catalysts and Origin Myths, 137-191.

Oct. 23 Moving To Opportunity (MTO) in theory and practice
 Manzo, L. 2014. Exploring the Shadow Side: Place Attachment in the Context of Stigma, Displacement and Social Housing, 178-190. In *Place Attachment*, NY: Routledge.
 Axel-Lute, M. 2011. Can We Stay, Can We Go? A Discussion on Displacement, Mobility, and Concentration of Poverty. Rooflines, The *Shelterforce* blog online
 Fullilove, M. 2004. Be it Ever so Humble: When

Week 9 Effects and Enforcement

Oct. 28 ST, Ch 8-9, Hidden in Plain View and Enforcement, 192-279
 'The Negro Motorist Green Book': An Eye-Opening Look At 'Traveling While Black' In Postwar America

Oct. 30 ST, Ch. 10. Exceptions to the Sundown Rule, 280-298

Week 10 Housing Discrimination Today: Effects and Implications

Nov. 4 National Low Income Housing Coalition. July 18, 2014. 40 Years Ago: Exclusionary Zoning and CDBG, Then and Now.
 Westchester, NY, False Claims Case.

Nov. 6 ST, Ch. 11, The Effect of Sundown Towns on Whites, 299-341

Week 11 Added Injury – and Making Changes

Nov. 11 No Class, Veterans Day

Nov. 12 Wednesday (Tuesday schedule).
 ST, Ch. 12-13. Effects: On Blacks, on social system, 342-376
 Harro, B. The Cycle of Liberation, 463-469. In Adams, M, et. al. 2000. *Readings for Diversity and Social Justice*. NY: Routledge.

Nov. 13 In Class project time.

Week 12 Sundown Towns Today, Class Project

Nov. 18 ST, Ch. 14, Sundown Towns Today, 379-420

Nov. 20 In Class project time.

Week 13 Integration

Nov. 25 ST, Ch. 15, The Remedy: Integrated Neighborhoods and Towns, 421-452.

Nov. 27 No Class. Thanksgiving

Week 14 Wrapping Up: Looking Back and Ahead

Dec. 2 In Class project time.

Dec. 4 Last day of class

Monday Dec. 9 Due: Online Assessment and final journal