MC384: METROPOLITAN SOCIETY: Professor Louise Jezierski
James Madison College
Michigan State University
Office: 358 North Case Hall
Hours: Tuesdays 1:30-3:30 & by appointment
Spring 2016: Mon & Wed 5-6:30
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Course Objectives:

This upper division course explores the fundamental role of cities in advancing democracy, economic growth, and community development. In this course, we focus on the rise, decline and redevelopment of Detroit, as well as comparative cases of New York, Chicago and Los Angeles. This course explicitly advances issues in social relations, building upon MC280: Social Theory and MC281: Immigrants, Minorities, and American Pluralism. The course intends to provide participants with core knowledge of how class, racial, ethnic, gender, and immigration dynamics are played out in space and in community institutions within metropolitan areas in the U.S. It provides an overview of the history and theories of metropolitan development and urban policy in the United States. We begin with contemporary debates about urban decline and suburban sprawl. We also learn demographic and economic measurement techniques, primarily from U.S. census data that help understand and gauge urban change. Finally, we cover issues of urban politics and urban policy that shape urban and regional redevelopment. We make these theories and methodologies meaningful by exploring them empirically. While we are engaged in an in-depth study of Detroit, including a field trip to Detroit, we expect to learn about the city from many approaches.

Three key skills are to be gained in this course. The first challenge is to develop the ability to understand how different theories and analytical assumptions, i.e. paradigms, lead to different avenues of investigation. Secondly, students should gain an appreciation of how assumptions in different urban theories shape urban policy choices, as these theories are applied in everyday political decisions. Finally, students will build specific skills in urban and community analysis that are useful in a variety of organizational settings. The skills built in this class will give you a foundation to explore a specific case for further research that can be incorporated into a portfolio at graduation. You will be asked to learn and demonstrate demographic and economic census analysis, qualitative analysis using ethnography and, spatial-cultural analysis in the semester-long Detroit Folio Project of 8 required chapters detailed below.

If you are interested in an urban focus in SRP, this is one of two courses taught with explicit urban content; the other course is Global Cities and Urbanism: MC367 which is taught every other year. One other urban course “on the books” is MC347 a course geared more towards issues of urban economic development, though this won’t be taught in the near future. I would also recommend MC 348: Urban Education to round out this focus. In 384, the complementary focus is social and spatial dynamics of metropolitan communities, historical development of urban institutions, and urban planning. For an Urban Related Area focus, I would encourage students to pursue more urban coursework in Geography, Urban Planning, Political Science, Sociology, and Anthropology, especially training in GIS data analysis. I also recommend Sarah Rechow’s course on Urban Politics in the Political Science department. See me during office hours if you are interested. Some of you may consider earning a Master’s degree in Urban Planning, a Master’s in Public Administration, or work in community development organizations after college and MC384 will be a very good foundation.

Finally I also hope to impart a sense of how the history of our own urban communities matter. As we debate policy choices over community development and participate in local politics, we will be affecting far-reaching issues of prosperity, democracy, and justice. I want you to become better acquainted with two of our most important metropolitan areas here in Michigan, Detroit and Lansing, especially, since you live and work here.
Required Texts for purchase and on MSU Main Library Reserve:


Thomas. Sugrue: The Origins Of The Urban Crisis, F574.D49 N4835 2014
Princeton University Press, Updated New Preface edition (April 27, 2014) (or earlier version) 9780691162553 (paperback : alk. paper) 0691162557 (pa)

University of Minnesota Press 0816633363 (pb.)

P. Dreier, J. Mollenkopf, T. Swanstrom
Place Matters: Metropolitics for the Twenty First Century HV4045 .D74 2014

R.M. Silverman and K.L. Patterson
Qualitative Research Methods for Community Development HN49.C6 S55 2015

Additional readings are available on D2L or as embedded links on the syllabus.

Course Organization:

Learning in the course depends upon a cumulative sequence of issues that become more complex, so the last weeks are dependent upon mastery of issues presented in the following order.

PART 1: DEFINING AND MEASURING URBAN AND METROPOLITAN CHANGE

In the first four weeks, we will review urban theory from a variety of academic disciplines and resultant key concepts, such as urban growth and decline, segregation, and sprawl. The political, economic, and social issues of metropolitan change is framed by urban theory and by understanding what kinds of data are key to analysing urban and metropolitan growth and decline - especially U.S. Census definitions and measurements. Census data of population demographics, categories of occupation and industry, and the role of space are key foundations for the rest of the course. Applications of the approaches and methods will be demonstrated in the Detroit Folio Project Assignment. Our Government Documents Lab Date is February 10th held in the MSU Main Library – Basement Instruction Room.
PART 2: DETROIT CASE STUDY: THE RISE, DECLINE, and REDEVELOPMENT OF AN INDUSTRIAL, POST-FORDIST CITY

Here we focus in-depth on one case dear to our own Michigan hearts, but also as a heuristic model of urban decline – the tragic fortunes of Detroit. We rely on a wonderful classic text, an urban history written by Thomas Sugrue (originally a Detroiter), that asks the questions, how did Detroit grow? and why did it decline? What tragic consequences resulted from disinvestment, white flight, and rebellion? How has Detroit attempted redevelopment? We will round out our study of Detroit with a field trip, scheduled, for Saturday February 20th. You will have the opportunity to explore the consequences for Detroit’s metropolitan restructuring as we undertake the census data analysis throughout these weeks to examine the demographic and economic change of the city and its suburbs.

PART 3: COMPARATIVE URBAN DEVELOPMENT: METROPOLITAN CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

We study a comparative-historical analysis of three of our most important cities, New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles in a postindustrial, post-fordist, post-modern, neo-liberal, and/or global environment. Here I want you to learn more about these three different cities and the roles they play in both American culture and the economy. The text by Abu-Lughod provides us with a core text from which we can explore the question, why and how do some cities make the transition as from mercantile or industrial cities to post-industrial and global metropolis? We examine how restructuring cities requires economic, political, and social realignments. How have cities changed? And how well do they serve our needs today? We will ground our examination of these changes in a review of key urban theories and policies. You will do a final research paper on one of these cities (or another with my permission) to explore how federal urban policies have shaped the redevelopment options for these cities. We also study the restructuring of Los Angeles and the rebellion of 1992 in more depth as a comparison to the 1967 rebellion in Detroit.

PART 4: POLITICS, PLANNING, AND POLICY IN THE CONTEMPORARY METROPOLIS

After reading about post-industrial restructuring in Detroit, New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles, this next unit focuses on the evolution of planning ideals and federal policy initiatives, from the 1920s and 1930s to the present. We will study in-depth, how urban planning began as a scientific movement, to rationally “solve” problems through systems engineering. Urban Policy initiatives to remove industrial “blight” displaced people from their neighborhoods, businesses, and cultural institutions. A backlash from communities, expressed as citizen movements and/or urban rebellions reformed the top-down planning process to allow more grassroots input. The study of urban politics involves reviews of how governance decisions to design and implement community development and economic development are made. We review the main paradigms in this section. Finally, the latest efforts to forge public-private partnerships in cities today that balance both community and business concerns are discussed. This section will be concluded with a short quiz that covers urban political paradigms and the history of policy developments.

PART 5: METROPOLICIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

We end our readings and discussion with the latest attempts to recapture the commercial potential of the downtown and the goal of integrating suburban areas. We return to the case of Detroit to review and assess downtown redevelopment projects, such as stadia, theaters, casinos, and waterfront develop contribute to the “reimagining” of Detroit covering the politics of economic development and governance. We also consider regional governance, in the case of Louisville. This final component will also be incorporated into your final research projects.
Course Requirements:

1) READINGS. You are required to have course readings listed on the date completed for class. I will not hesitate to call on people to explicate texts required on that day. Some additional readings may be made available at a later date. All required readings are available in both the Main Library on Reserve and on D2L. I have listed some other recommended readings at the Main Library course reserves to broaden your knowledge and to provide you with a basic reading list for further individual research or to expand the debate for discussion. Check the MSU Library web page for course reserve content.

2) CLASS PARTICIPATION is required and evaluated and I will take attendance. Each student will be responsible for engaging in the discussion during class meetings and your participation will be incorporated as 10% of your final grade. The Detroit Tour: We will spend an entire day in Detroit in February 20th. I expect attendance from everyone so do check with work dates. If you absolutely cannot make it on this day, you can provide me with a written and documented excuse. The trip is paid for by the College.

3) THE DETROIT FOLIO PROJECT. This is a cumulative project that will require you to complete a population and economic profile of the Detroit metropolitan area and will culminate in a multi-faceted analysis of Detroit, its past, present, and future. This assignment will be broken up in to smaller assignments that you will complete throughout the semester. We will begin with a Government Documents Lab that will be held during class time on February 10th with Julia Frankosky, the Government Documents Reference Librarian. The lab will be held during our usual class time in the Basement Instruction Room in the Main Library. Please arrive by 4:55 pm on this day. Details for this assignment will be passed out separately. This resulting paper can be incorporated into a portfolio that may be useful for an internship, graduate school, or a job with an urban setting. A separate handout for each chapter will be provided, with directions, expectations, discussion questions, page limits and due dates listed.

You will need a ¾ inch binder or some project folder system. Printing will require special formatting. Please leave a 1 and ½ inch left margin (to accommodate binder holes or binding), and an extra page for comments. Each chapter will be due at different dates throughout the semester and will be from 2-5 pages long, culminating in a report of about 25 to 30 pages by the end of the semester. Maps and tables will also be required. Chapter 8 and the complete portfolio will be due on the our exam date, May 6th by 6 pm.

Chapters and Assignments for the Detroit Folio:

1. Framing the City: Theories of the City (10% about 4 pages) Feb.5
2. Methodologies: Statistical-Archival, Historical, Ethnographic, & Mapping the City (10% 3 pp + map) Feb 26
3. History of the Industrial City: Industrial and Demographic profiles (10% 3 pp.) March 4
4. Post-Industrial, Global City: Comparing Detroit to New York, Los Angeles, or Chicago (10% 5pp) March 25
5. Socio-economic Profile and Trends 1980-2015 (15% 5-6 pp). April 8
6. Racial and Ethnic Diversity and Division (10% 3-4 pp.) March 18
7. Political Analysis: Regimes and Regional Cooperation 10% (3 pp.) April 22
8. Remaking the City and Region: State Policy and Social Investment (15% 4-5 pp.) May 2

The 8th and final chapter will require that you assess the efforts at revitalization in Detroit and one other of the three cities we are also studying, taking into consideration the roles of urban policy and local politics for their restructuring since the 1980s.

Academic Integrity and Honesty. This course is governed to enhance fairness and personal integrity. The JMC Honor Code will be enforced in this course. Any evidence of cheating will be addressed with a failing grade for the course and will be reported to the Dean of the College with a reprimand to be included in your

Honors Option: Of course, you must earn a 3.5 overall. Additional work includes attendance of the Detroit Tour, as required. Chap 8 must incorporate a longer chapter that continues the restructuring/revitalization comparison of your Detroit and the other city you chose in Chap 5. A much longer historical analysis of both cities will be required. Also, the methods chapter must be written to discuss the role of observation and ethnography: how does the Detroit Tour make you see the city differently? Discuss strengths, pitfalls, and complementarities of methods.

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

PART 1. DEFINING AND MEASURING URBAN AND METROPOLITAN CHANGE

WEEK 1) INTRODUCTION TO THE COURSE

January 11: Introduction to Course Topics, Issues, Expectations, and Assignments

Review the Syllabus Please have the following readings completed before class


PPT: Detroit: Why Should We Care and How Can We Nurture its Growth? find on D2L


January 13: Defining Urbanization and Urbanism: Please print out one paragraph summary of each reading to turn in.

City Reader: (Chapter numbers are for 5th edition, but all are available in 6th edition too)

L. Mumford: “What is a City?” Ch 8
V. Gordon Childe “The Urban Revolution” Ch.2
L. Wirth, “Urbanism as a Way of Life” Ch 9
K. Davis “The Urbanization of the Human Population” Ch.1
E. Burgess: “The Growth of the City” Ch 17
A. Madanipour: “Social Exclusion and Space” Ch 20
WEEK 2) CONCEPTIONS AND DEFINITIONS OF THE CITY AND THE METROPOLIS

January 18:  MLK Day:  No Class, but attend some event as listed in separate handout (D2L)

January 20:  Defining Suburbia and Suburban Ways of Life

City Reader:
K. Jackson: “The Drive-in Culture of Contemporary America” Ch 6
R. Fishman: “Beyond Suburbia: The Rise of the Technoburb” Ch 7
R. Bruegmann: “The Causes of Sprawl” Ch 23, p.218
M. Orfield: “Metropolitics” Ch 30. P.338

WEEK 3) REDEFINING THE METROPOLIS IN A POSTMODERN AGE

January 25:  The City Metropolis of the Global Information Age

The City Reader (*Some of these are in 6th ed):
Le Corbusier: “A Contemporary City” Ch 33
Jane Jacobs: “The Uses of Sidewalks: Safety” Ch 10
M. Dear: “The Los Angeles School of Urbanism” Ch 19
S. Sassen: “The Impact of New Technologies & Globalization on Cities Ch 52
M. Castells: “Space of Flows, Space of Places..Urbanism in the Information Age

January 27:  American on Wheels and The Consequences of Sprawl

Video: “America on Wheels” part 2  in-class screening

D2L  Friedland and Palmer:
“Park Place and Main St: Business and the Urban Power Structure” (1986)
Place Matters: Chapter 2 pp. 29-58 and Chap 4 pp. 103-134

Week 4)  Urban Sociology and Geography Paradigms

Feb 1:  City Reader:  Harvey Molotch: “The City as Growth Machine” Ch 26

Feb 3:  On D2L:  Jezierski : “Class Inequality and the City”
City Reader:  David Harvey: “The Right to the City”

# Chapter 1 Framing the City: Theories of the City due Friday Feb. 5 by 4 pm.
WEEK 5) CONCEPTUALIZING AND MEASURING METROPOLITAN CHANGE

February 8: Data Sources on Cities, Suburbia, and the Metropolis
Mapping Change: Qualitatively and Quantitatively

Qualitative Research Methods for Community Development: Review chapters

Origins of the Urban Crisis:
Study Appendices A – Index of Dissimilarity, and B – Occupational Structures

On D2L Urban Methodologies
Lepore “Richer and Poorer” New Yorker 3-16-15
How to make sense of data
Sergeant Friday Was Not A Fox - Krugman 2014
Wyly Things Pictures don't tell us Baltimore City 2010 (1)
Becker How We find Meaning in Photographs VisAnthroRev 2008
Vergara Images as a Tool of Discovery
Vergara Invincible Cities website: Intro
Ruined America the photographs of Vergara Gerry Coutler EuroArt 2007
Detroitography
Rhetoric of maps visual literacy Duke
Elijah Anderson Urban Ethnography
Reese Creative Class Measuring 2010 JUA
Vernacular Urbanism and Discourse
Buzz.CJS.2013

February 10: Mapping Changing Economies and Populations in the Census

*Begin Reading Origins of Urban Crisis, Sugrue: Introduction and Chapters 1-4, pp. 3-124

On Feb 10 go straight to the Main Library for the GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS LAB - Meet at Circulation Desk in the Main Library by 4:55 and we will head down together to the Basement Instruction Room. Government Documents Reference Librarian, Julia Frankosky, will be leading the lab. Participation in this lab is necessary to complete the census project assignment. Please see the course guide on the MSU Library website.

http://libguides.lib.msu.edu/mc384

PART 2: DETROIT CASE STUDY: THE RISE AND DECLINE OF AN INDUSTRIAL CITY

WEEK 5) THE RISE OF THE INDUSTRIAL CITY

February 15: Industrial Detroit

Origins of Urban Crisis, Sugrue: Introduction and Chapters 1-4, pp. 3-124
February 17: Industrialization and Growth

Video: America on Wheels Part 1 shown in class
On D2L:


Recommended Readings:
The Changing Face Of Inequality by Olivier Zunz about Detroit from 1880-1920

Saturday Feb. 20 DETROIT FIELD TRIP: Details will be provided.
9:00 am to 7:00 pm Lunch at Eastern Market,

WEEK 6) DEINDUSTRIALIZATION AND EXCLUSION

February 22: Deindustrialization and Racism

Origins of the Urban Crisis, Sugrue: Chapters 5-7, pp.125-208

George Galster’s video lecture on Detroit (46 minutes): http://vimeo.com/53107518

City Reader:
W.J. Wilson: “From Institutional to Jobless Ghettos” Ch 12

Recommended Reading: THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO by C. Vergara

February 24: Evolutions and Persistence of Racial Segregation: Suburban Exclusion

Origins of the Urban Crisis. Sugrue: Chapters 8 and 9, pp. 209-258

Video: contemporary suburban exclusion, NBC Dateline: “Why Can’t We Live Together?”

Detroit Divided, Farley, Danziger, and Holzer. Chapters 6 & 7, pp. 144-216

#Chapter 2: Urban Methodologies, February 26th due by 4 pm
WEEK 7) URBAN CRISIS

Feb. 29: Urban Rebellion as Reaction to Disinvestment

Origins of the Urban Crisis. Sugrue: Conclusion, pp. 259-272
City Reader: Davis: “Fortress LA”  Ch 21

Required Articles, On Reserve and on D2L:
Johnson, Jones, Farrell and Oliver: “The Los Angeles Rebellion: A Retrospective Review”

Recommended Reading

Vergara: The New American Ghetto
Mike Thompson’s Cartoon videos (www.freep.com) Detroit Apocalypse.

March 2: The Detroit Riot/Rebellion of 1967

Video: “Eyes on the Prize” by Henry Hampton, Episode 4 “A Nation Divided” on the northern urban civil rights movement and rebellion in Chicago and Detroit.

City Reader. Wilson and Kelling, “Broken Windows” Ch 27
or access it at http://www.accesscommunity.org/images/h3_mid_top2.jpg

# Chapter 3 on the Rise and Decline of Industrial Detroit
due by Friday March 4 at 4 pm in my mailbox.
WEEK 8) NEW COMMUNITIES: ARABS AND LATINOS IN DETROIT

March 14: Historical, Ethnographic, and Contemporary Census Data Analysis

Schopmeyer: A Demographic Portrait of the Arab-American Community in Detroit 2011 University of Michigan Institute of Social Research
“The Detroit Arab American Study”, multiple authors, pdf available on D2L or at http://www.isr.umich.edu/news/arab-amer/final-report.pdf


March 16: Video: “Arab Detroit”

#Chapter 6: Racial and Ethnic Diversity and Division due Monday March 19

PART 3: COMPARING METROPOLITAN CHANGE IN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY

WEEK 9) COMPARATIVE STUDY ON THE DEVELOPMENT GLOBAL CITIES IN THE U.S.

March 21: Introduction to Comparative Global City Development: New York, Chicago, LA

NY, Chicago, LA, by Abu-Lughod: pp. 1-16

Video: Los Angeles, “The Making of A City”
March 23: The Image of the City: Capturing Contemporary Urbanism in Film


# Chapter 4 on Socio-Economic Trends due Friday, March 25 by 4 pm

WEEK 10) POSTINDUSTRIAL RESTRUCTURING: 1930 TO 1970

March 28: A New Deal in New York

NY, Chicago, LA, Abu-Lughod: Intro to Part III and Chapter 7, pp. 167-211

March 30: Fordist Chicago and Industrial LA

NY, Chicago, LA, Abu-Lughod:; Chapters 8 and 9, pp. 212 – 268

WEEK 11) RESTRUCTURING THE GLOBAL ECONOMY – GLOCALIZATION?

April 4: New York Region and Post-Industrial Chicago

NY, Chicago, LA, Abu-Lughod: Intro to Part IV, Chapters 10 and 11, pp. 285-357

D2L: The Economist: “Chicago – A Success Story” 3-18-06

April 6: The Los Angeles Region Transformed and A Look to the Future

NY, Chicago, LA, Abu-Lughod: Chapter 12, pp. 358–398 and Conclusions, pp. 399-426


Richard Florida. “The Creative Class” pp. 129-135 (4th ed only or D2L)

# Chapter 5 Post-Industrialism & The Global City:

Compare Detroit to New York, Los Angeles, or Chicago due Friday, April 8th

PART 4:

POLITICS, PLANNING, AND POLICY IN THE CONTEMPORARY METROPOLIS

WEEK 12) URBAN PLANNING, URBAN POLICY, and URBAN POLITICS

(and why these are different).

April 11: Urban Policy v. Urban Planning

Politics Matters: Chapters 5 pp.136-174 and Chap 7 pp. 192-236
April 13: Detroit’s Fiscal and Political Crisis: Bankruptcy and Emergency Manager

Place Matters: Chap. 6 “Motown” pp.175-191

On D2L:

“7 Things to know about Michigan’s Emergency Manager Law” Michigan Radio
Scorsone: FAQs Why Emergency Manager Law was Passed (2013)
Peter Eisinger: “Reimagining Detroit” City and Community, vol. 2, no.2, pp. 85-99

WEEK 13) REDEVELOPING AND REORGANIZING THE POLITICAL-ECONOMY OF THE POSTINDUSTRIAL METROPOLIS

April 18: Community Development – Local Response

Video: “Holding Ground” Community Organizing and Planning in Roxbury in Boston
John Forester: “Planning in the Face of Conflict” pp. 375-387; 387-399
Paul Davidoff: “Advocacy and Pluralism in Planning” pp. 388-398; 400-410

April 20: Kyle Mays: Guest Lecture: Indigenous Detroit: Or, How Indigeneity Was Central to the Development of Modern Detroit
Readings to be announced

Chapter 7 is due on Friday, April 22 by 4 pm

PART 5: METROPOLICIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

WEEK 14) Building the Future? Reorganizing the Center

April 25: Metropolicy, Regional Governance, and Transforming Suburbs

Place Matters: Chap 4: 103-134 and Chap 8: Regionalism pp 237 -

April 27: Regional and City Planning in Detroit and SE Michigan

On D2L:
Savitch and Vogel: “Suburbs Without a City: Power and City-County Consolidation” Regional Politics: SEMCOG and Governance of SE Michigan/ New Economic Initiative
Clark: Can Urban Planning Rescue Detroit?

Turn in complete folio with Chapter 8 on Monday May 2 (final exam date) by 6 pm.

Final Exam: Monday, May 2 2016 5:45pm - 7:45pm in 342 Case Hall