

GLOBAL URBAN POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

*Columbia University School of International and Public Affairs
Spring Semester, 2012, Room 405 IAB, 1.5 credits
Thursdays, 4:10-6:00 pm, January 19 to March 1*

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This course will provide an overview of the key worldwide issues and trends, institutions and initiatives, with respect to global urban policy and development. Several sessions will address specific challenges and solutions, including urban/regional economies and metropolitan economic strategy; infrastructure, transportation, land-use, energy, and environment; poverty, informality, jobs, livelihoods, housing, and communities; and sustainable and inclusive economic development.

Group Project: (75 percent of final grade) Students will work together in teams assigned to provide policy guidance and strategic advice to key public and private policymakers in five major Brazilian cities -- Belo Horizonte, Porto Alegre, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, and Sao Paulo -- and one team will do the same for Beirut, Lebanon. Each team will determine and analyze major policy challenges facing their city/urban region, and propose policy solutions to address these challenges. The results will be presented by each team in a 10-15 minute PowerPoint presentation during the final class session, and each team also will complete a 10-page double-spaced memo to the city's chief executive, highlighting the background research and summarizing the key findings and policy recommendations (due at the final class session).

Class Participation: (25 percent of final grade) Students are encouraged to actively participate in class sessions by asking questions and engaging in conversation and debate, and to read the various assigned materials and come to class fully prepared to discuss them.

Office Hours: Thursdays, 3:00-4:00 pm and 6:00-7:00 pm, Room 1309 IAB.

Readings: Three books will be available in paperback at the Columbia University Bookstore (and on reserve at the SIPA Library). One book is assigned: Jeb Brugmann, *Welcome to the Urban Revolution: How Cities are Changing the World* (2009). Two books are recommended: Janice Perlman, *Favela: Four Decades of Living on the Edge in Rio de Janeiro* (2010); and Hugh Schwartz, *Urban Renewal, Municipal Revitalization: The Case of Curitiba, Brazil* (2004). Additional readings, both assigned and recommended, including articles from *Global Urban Development (GUD) Magazine*, will be available on Courseworks and on reserve at the SIPA Library. (Many of the readings also are available on the Global Urban Development website, www.globalurban.org.)

Class Schedule:

January 19: Global Urban Policy and Development – Issues and Trends

This class session will focus on the economic, social, demographic, cultural, technological, and environmental transformation of cities and urban regions in developing countries.

Assigned: Molly O’Meara Sheehan, “Where the Sidewalks End: How the Poor Combat Poverty Daily” (*GUD Magazine*, 2005); Jim Yardley, “In One Slum, Misery, Work, Politics, and Hope” (*New York Times*, December 28, 2011); *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, chapters 1-3, & 8.

January 26: Global Urban Policy and Development – Institutions and Initiatives

This class session will focus on the governance, policy, fiscal, and political challenges facing cities and urban regions in developing countries, including the role of global and international agencies, organizations, and networks.

Assigned: Sir Peter Hall, “Urban Land, Housing, and Transportation: The Global Challenge” (*GUD Magazine*, 2007); Marc Weiss and James Nixon, “The Global Future of Green Capitalism” (2011); *Welcome to the Urban Revolution*, chapters 10-13, & 15.

February 2: Urban/Regional Economies and Metropolitan Economic Strategy

Assigned: Marc Weiss, “Teamwork: Why Metropolitan Economic Strategy is the Key to Generating Sustainable Prosperity and Quality of Life for the World” (*GUD Magazine* 2005); Alicia Fazzano and Marc Weiss, *Curitiba Metropolitan Economic Strategy Report* (2004).

Recommended: *Urban Renewal, Municipal Revitalization*, chapters 1-8.

February 9: Infrastructure, Transportation, Land-Use, Energy, and Environment

Assigned: Ashoka and Hystra, *Access to Energy for the Base of the Pyramid* (2009); Herbert Girardet and Miguel Mendonca, *A Renewable World: Energy, Ecology, Equality* (2009), chapter 7; Walter Hook, “Urban Transportation and the Millennium Development Goals” (*GUD Magazine* 2006).

Recommended: Edward Glaeser, *Triumph of the City: How our Greatest Invention Makes us Richer, Smarter, Greener, Healthier, and Happier* (2011), chapter 4; John Kasarda and Greg Lindsay, *Aerotropolis: The Way We’ll Live Next* (2011), chapters 7, 9, 11; World Bank, *Cities and Climate Change: An Urgent Agenda* (2010).

February 16: Poverty, Informality, Jobs, Livelihoods, Housing, and Communities

Guest Speakers: Ivan De Pellegrin, Director of Planning, Programs, and Investment Attraction, and Moema Pereira Nunes, Deputy Director of Planning, Programs, and Investment Attraction, Rio Grande do Sul Development Agency (AGDI), Porto Alegre, Brazil.

Assigned: United Nations Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat), *State of the World's Cities 2010/2011: Bridging the Urban Divide*, "Overview and Key Findings"; Geoffrey Nwaka, "The Urban Informal Sector in Nigeria; Towards Economic Development, Environmental Health, and Social Harmony" (*GUD Magazine* 2005); Celine d'Cruz and David Satterthwaite, "The Role of Urban Grassroots Organizations and their National Federations in Reducing Poverty and Achieving the Millennium Development Goals" (*GUD Magazine* 2006).

Recommended: *Favela*, chapters 1-2, 7, 9, 11-12; Cities Alliance and the City of Sao Paulo, *Slum Upgrading Up Close: Experiences of Six Cities* (2008); Stephanie Schmidt and Valeria Budinich, "Housing the Poor by Engaging the Private and Citizen Sectors: Social Innovations and Hybrid Value Chains" (*GUD Magazine* 2008).

February 23: Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Development

Assigned: Slum/Shack Dwellers International, United Nations, and Global Urban Development, *Community Productivity Project Proposal* (revised 2010); James Nixon and Marc Weiss, *Sustainable Economic Development Strategies* (2011).

Recommended: Marja Kuiper and Kees van der Ree, "Growing out of Poverty: Urban Job Creation and the Millennium Development Goals" (*GUD Magazine* 2006); Sam Daley-Harris, "Building on Accomplishment: The Microcredit Summit Campaign's Future Challenges for Global Poverty Reduction and Economic Empowerment" (*GUD Magazine* 2006).

March 1: Team Presentations and Concluding Discussion

Due: Individual and Group Papers