Global Urban Development, Planning, and Policy  
Fall 2008 Semester  
Sociology 252.12  
Thursdays, 4:10-6:00 pm, Room 410, Phillips Hall  

The George Washington University, Department of Sociology  
Visiting Professor: Dr. Marc A. Weiss, Chairman and CEO, Global Urban Development  

This course will focus on past, present, and future global trends and issues concerning urbanization, urban development, urban planning, and urban policy.  

In particular, we will examine three major current global challenges:  

Part 1) Urban Poverty and Public Health (primarily in developing countries).  
Part 2) Metropolitan Planning and Economic Development (worldwide).  
Part 3) Climate Change and the Urban Environment (worldwide).  

Assigned readings and class discussions will include case studies, stories, and examples drawn from Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, India, Kenya, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United States, and many other urban communities, cities, metropolitan regions, and nations.  

Assigned Readings:  

1. Lester R. Brown, Plan B 3.0: Mobilizing to Save Civilization, (Washington, DC: Earth Policy Institute, 2008).  

Note: All students registered for the course will be required to write a 20-page paper based on a semester-long research project. A draft of the paper is due in class on November 13; the final research paper is due in class on December 4.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

**September 4:** Welcome and Introductions; Overview of Course Themes: Urban Poverty and Public Health, Metropolitan Planning and Economic Development, Climate Change and the Urban Environment.

**September 11:** Urban Poverty and Public Health Challenges

Read: Sharma, *Rediscovering Dharavi*; Community Productivity Project; Yunus, Sheehan, and Nwaka articles in GUD Magazine (2005); d’Cruz/Satterthwaite and Garau/Sclar/Carolini articles in GUD Magazine (2006); Hall article in GUD Magazine (2007).

**September 18:** Urban Poverty and Public Health Solutions


**DUE: Research Paper Proposal (one-page memo)**

**September 25:** Urban Poverty and Public Health Solutions (continued)

Read: Schwartz, *Urban Renewal, Municipal Revitalization: The Case of Curitiba, Brazil*; Montezuma article in GUD Magazine (2005); Friedman, Hook, and Billand articles in GUD Magazine (2006); Yuen article in GUD Magazine (2007).

**October 2:** Metropolitan Planning and Economic Development


**October 9:** Metropolitan Economic Strategy

October 16: **Guest Lecturer:** Bruce Ferguson, former Senior Housing and Urban Economist, World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank.

October 23: **Urban Economic and Community Development**


October 30: **Urban Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Solutions**


November 6: **Urban Environmental Challenges and Sustainable Solutions**


November 13: **Climate Prosperity Strategy**

**Guest Lecturer:** Phillip Singerman, Senior Vice President, B&D Consulting, and former Assistant Secretary and Administrator, Economic Development Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce.

Read: Garmise, Singerman, and Weiss, *The Climate Prosperity Guidebook*.

**DUE: Research Paper Draft**

November 20: **Global Urban Grassroots Movements**


November 27: Thanksgiving Holiday (no class)

December 4: **Class Presentations**

**Due: Final Research Paper**

**Professor Weiss’ contact information and office hours:**

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