Divided Cities: A Global Sociology of Urban Inequality
Instructor: Chris Herring, Department of Sociology

Email: herringgsi@gmail.com
Office Hours: Thursday 2:30-3:30 & by appointment   Seminar Meetings
Office Location: Barrows 449   Th 4-6pm (54 Barrows)

Overview

A majority of the world's population has now become urban, ensuring that many of the most urgent, fascinating, and frustrating questions of our time have become urban questions. This course is concerned with the planetary intensification of urban inequality over the past four decades. Drawing on social scientific studies spanning the globe, this course will examine how market processes, politics, and community institutions drive and challenge spatial polarization and marginalization. After a historical overview of the emergence of the European, US, and Colonial metropolis under capitalism, students will grapple with various processes generating urban divisions such as gentrification and displacement, ethnic segregation and ghettoization, urban informality, environmental degradation, and housing provision. As we move across the course materials, we will collectively build a comparative sociology of urban inequality – discerning how class, caste, ethnicity, nationality and other fault lines of differences are carved into social and urban space in varying economic, political, and cultural contexts.

The course is organized into three parts. The first three meetings will examine the urban transformations under early 19th and 20th century capitalism of the US metropolis, European Capital, and Colonial City. Drawing on a series of classic sociological texts, this section will also introduce students to distinct and competing theoretical approaches to studying the city. The second part of the course considers Urban Restructuring in the late 20th century, examining how globalization, de-industrialization, de-colonialization, and neoliberalization reshaped the production and experience of urban space. Once firmly situated both temporally and spatially in the chronology of uneven capitalist development, the third part of the course, which comprises fully half of our meetings, turns to making sense of the contemporary divisions of urban society and their consequences.

Design & Grading

As a capstone seminar of the sociology department, the course is not only more focused than a traditional lecture course, both topically and methodologically, it is also explicitly designed to cultivate a wider set of critical thinking skills including (a) reading analytically and critically, (b) generating novel questions, (c) relating and adjudicating between ideas and thinkers, (d) writing and discussing ideas clearly and constructively. We will workshop these skills through our weekly meetings, presentations, reading responses, and a final paper that you will develop throughout the course. After the seminar, you should walk away with a grasp of the empirical realities, key concepts, and theoretical and policy debates of contemporary urban inequality

and to competently participate in graduate-level academic, policy, community-based, and professional research and practice addressing poverty.

Seminar Attendance and Participation (20%)
Seminars meet once a week and we will continuously be building comparisons and contrasts across the works covered. Therefore, attendance is absolutely crucial. You are allowed one unexcused, no-questions asked absences. *For each additional unexcused absence, your attendance/participation grade will decrease by a full letter grade.* You must email me as far in advance as possible if you expect to miss a class and have a valid reason for doing so or a doctor's note. To get full credit for the course, you must contribute actively to section discussions.

Weekly Writing Responses (20%)
Each week you will receive a short assignment (250-500 words) **due by Wednesday 11:59pm** on BCourses. The purpose of these assignments is to guide your reading and prepare for our weekly discussion. We will engage collectively with these responses during our seminar and they will serve as key resources for your final paper. I will provide feedback on alternating weeks. You are allowed one skip week and one late submission (but still must be submitted before class) without penalty.

Midterm Critical Book Review Essay (20%)
Unlike a traditional book review that summarizes a work and notes its merits and limits, a joint critical book review presents an argument about a sociological theme or topic by drawing comparisons and contrasts across two or more works. Papers will be 2,000 words in length and students will be encouraged to engage with topics and concepts that they think they may wish to use in their final research paper in application to a contemporary urban struggle.

Final Research Paper (40%)

Drawing from the global perspective covered in the course, students will be required to write a 12-15-page research paper on a contemporary urban struggle not covered directly in the course. Students will be responsible for investigating a place-specific topic such as gentrification in the Mission, evictions in West Oakland, police reform in the San Francisco's Bay View, affordable housing policy in the region, or the suburbanization of poverty in Antioch, etc. through secondary research. You will then be required to utilize the concepts and cases from the course to bring a new lens and analysis to the issue of urban inequality in a city of the student's choosing.

Required Texts: All course materials will be available as downloadable PDFs on bCourses (bcourses.berkeley.edu).

Week 1. Prelude: Urban Divisions and the Right to the City

Marcuse, Peter. 1993. "What's So New About Divided Cities?" *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 17, no. 3 (September): 355-365.

Harvey, David. 2007. "The Right to the City." *New Left Review*. 53: 23-40.

PART I. The Rise of Capitalism and Urban Transformation

Week 2. Making the American City: Chicago and Atlanta Schools
Park, Robert and Ernest Burgess. 1925. Selections from *The City: Suggestions for the Investigation of Human Behavior in the Urban Environment*. Burgess, "The Growth of the City" (47-58). McKenzie, "The Ecological Approach to the Study of the Human Community" **(**73-79).

Zorbaugh, Harvey. 1929. Selections from *The Gold Coast and the Slum*. P 46-49; 63-68; 127-158.

DuBois, W.E.B. 1899. *The Philadelphia Negro*. Ch. 2 "The Negro Problem" (5-9). Ch. 9 "The Occupation of Negroes" (97-129). Ch.15 "The Causes of Crime and Poverty" (283-286) Ch. 16. "The Environment of the Negro" (287-299)

Week 3. Making the European and Colonial City: Metro-Marxism
Engels, Friedrich. 1845. "To the Working Class of England" (42-44), "The Industrial Proletariat" (55-57) "The Great Towns" (57-93) *The Condition of the Working Class in England*. New York: Penguin.

 Abu-Lughod, Janet. 1965. "Tale of Two Cities: The Origins of Modern Cairo." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 7(4): 429-57.

To Go Further
Harvey, David. 2003. Pp. 93-152 in *Paris, Capital of Modernity*. London: Routledge.

Engels, Friedrich. 1872. *The Housing Question.*

McGee, T. G. 1967. "The Emergence of the Colonial City." Pp. 53-75 in *The Southeast Asian City: A Social Geography of the Primate Cities of Southeast Asia*. New York: Praeger.

PART II. Neoliberalization and Urban Restructuring

Week 4. Economic Restructuring: Globalization and Deindustrialization

Sassen, Saskia. 2012. *Cities in a World Economy*. Ch1 "Place and Production in the Global Economy," Ch2 "The Urban Impact of Economic Globalization" (1-44) Ch6 "The New Inequalities Within Cities. "New York, Sage.

Harvey, David. 1985. "The Urbanization of Capital." Ch1 in *The Urban Experience*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press: 17-58.

Week 5. Political Restructuring: Neoliberalization and Suburbanization

Logan, John R. and Harvey L. Molotch. 1987. *Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place*. Chpt 3. "The City as Growth Machine," (50-98.FOCUS: 50-73.) Chpt. 5 "How Government Matters" (147-199).

Wacquant, Loïc. 2008. *Urban Outcasts: A Comparative Sociology of Advanced Marginality*. Selections from Chpt. 2 "From Communal Ghetto to Hyperghetto" (69-91)Malden, MA: Polity Press

Hoodline series on Urban Renewal in San Francisco's Fillmore: Part I and Part II

To go further
Harvey, David. 1989. "From Managerialism to Entrepreneurialism: The Transformation in Urban Governance in Late Capitalism." *Geografiska Annaler. Series B, Human Geography* 71 (1): 3–17.

Week 6. Urban Resistance I: US and Latin America

Q&A with Special Guest Bilal Ali Mafundi, Black Panther
Bloom, Joshua. 2013. *Black Against Empire: The History and Politics of the Black Panther Party*. Berkeley: University of California Press. (56-62; 138-152)

Castells, Manuel. 1983. *The City and The Grassroots*. "Introduction" and selections from "The Slum and the State." (xv-xvix, 175-210.)

Davis, Mike. 2006. *Planet of Slums*. New York: Verso. Selections from Ch 3 "Treasons of State" (51-60).

To Go Further
Logan, John R. and Harvey L. Molotch. 1987. *Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place*. Chpt. 6 "Overcoming Resistance to Value-free Development" (200-248) Berkeley: UC Press.

Abu-Lughod, Janet. 2007. *Race, Space, and Riots in Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. Chapter 1 Selections, "An Overview of Race Riots in Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles" (1-4)(10-12)(24-28). Chapter 7 "The Watts Riot of 1965: The Beginning or the End?"

Henri Lefebvre: "The right to the city" Pp. 147-59 in Lefebvre, *Writings of Cities*. Selected, translated and introduced by Eleonore Kofman and Elizabeth Lebas. Blackwell, 1996.

PART III. Contemporary Topics in Urban Inequality

Week 7. Hyperghettoization and Antighettoization in Chicago and Paris
Q&A with Special Guest Professor Loïc Wacquant
Wacquant, Loïc. 2008. *Urban Outcasts: A Comparative Sociology of Advanced Marginality*. Part II: Black Belt, Red Belt: Chapters 5, 6, & 7 (P135 -226). Malden, MA: Polity Press.

Week 8: Urban Informality: A World of Slums
Davis, Mike. 2006. *Planet of slums*. New York: Verso. Ch 1 "The Urban Climacteric," Ch 2 "The Prevalence of Slums," Ch 4 "Illusions of Self-Help." (1-49, 70-94)

To Go Further
Angotti, Tom. 2006. "Apocalyptic anti-urbanism: Mike Davis and His Planets of Slums." *International Journal of Urban and Reigonal Research*.

Roy, Ananya. 2011. "Slumdog Cities: Rethinking Subaltern Urbansim." *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*. 35 (2): 223-238.

Week 9: Gentrification and Displacement: Harlem, Delhi, and Beyond.
Theories of Gentrification
Lees, Loretta, Tom Slater, and Elvin Wyly. 2013. *Gentrification*. Routledge. Selections from Ch 2 "Producing Gentrification" and "Consumption Explanations" (43-55, 72-80, 89-124).

Case Studies

Freeman, Lance. 2011. *There Goes the Hood: Views of Gentrification from the Ground Up*. Temple University Press. Ch. 3 "There Goes the Hood" (59-94).

Ghertner, Asher. 2011. "Rule By Aesthetics: World Class City Making in Delhi." in *Worlding Cities: Asian Experiments and the Art of Being Global*. eds. Roy, Ananya, and Aihwa Ong. New York: John Wiley & Sons.

To Go Further
Davis, Mike. 2006. *Planet of slums*. New York: Verso. Ch 5: "Haussman in the Tropics."

San Francisco's Anti-Eviction Mapping Project.

Week 10: Camps in the City: US, UK, Italy, and Palestine.
Q&A with Chris Herring
Herring, Chris. "The new logics of homeless seclusion: homeless encampments in America's west coast cities." *City & Community* 13.4 (2014): 285-309.

Pasquetti, Silvia. 2015. "Negotiating Control." *City* 19 (5): 702–13.

Picker, Giovanni, Margaret Greenfields, and David Smith. 2015. "Colonial refractions: the 'Gypsy camp'as a spatio-racial political technology." *City* 19.5 (2015): 741-752.

To Go Further
Herring, Chris, and Manuel Lutz. 2015. "The Roots and Implications of the USA's Homeless Tent Cities." *City* 19 (5): 689–701.

Various articles in CITY special issue "City of Refuge" Vol 19 (5).

Sparks, Tony. 2017. "Citizens without Property: Informality and Political Agency in a Seattle, Washington Homeless Encampment." *Environment and Planning A* 49 (1): 86–103.

Week 11: Housing Classes in Cape Town and Atlanta
Q&A with special guest Zachary Levensonn
Vale, Lawerence J. 2013. *Purging the Poorest: Public Housing and the Design Politics of Twice-Cleared Communities* Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Ch 3 "Redeveloping Techwwod and Clark Howell: The Purges of Progress" (90-154).

Levenson, Zachary. 2017. "Precarious Welfare States: Urban Struggles over Housing Delivery in Post-Apartheid South Africa." *International Sociology* 32 (4): 474–492.

To Go Further

Vale, Lawerence J. 2013. *Purging the Poorest: Public Housing and the Design Politics of Twice-Cleared Communities* Chicago: University of Chicago Press. Ch 8 "Public Housing and the Margins of Empathy" (314-343).

Oliver-Smith, Anthony. 1990. "Post-Disaster Housing Reconstruction and Social Inequality: A Challenge to Policy and Practice." *Disasters* 14 (1): 7–19.

"Housing and the Right to the City." 2014. Special Issue of *International Journal of Housing Policy* 14 (3) Aalbers, Manuel B., and Kenneth Gibb.

Week 12: Securitization and Policing: Nairobi, Sao Paolo, Chicago
Final Paper Abstract and Outline Due.
Caldeira, Teresa P. R. 2000. "Fortified Enclaves: Building Up Walls and Creating a New Private Order." Pp. 256-96 in *City of Walls: Crime, Segregation, and Citizenship in São Paolo.* Berkeley: University of California Press.

Glück, Zoltán. 2017 "Security urbanism and the counterterror state in Kenya." *Anthropological Theory* 17.3: 297-321.

Wacquant, Loïc. 2001. "Deadly Symbiosis: When Ghetto and Prison Meet and Mesh." *Punishment & Society* 3-1: 95-133.

To Go Further
Various articles in *Anthropological Theory* "Producing States of Security" (17:3).

Graham, Stephen. 2011. *Cities under Siege: The New Military Urbanism*. Verso Books.

 Week 13: Urban Resistance II
Harvey, David. 2012. *Rebel Cities: From the Right to the City to the Urban Revolution*. (P115-155).

Florida, Richard. 2017. "How to Build 'Urbanism for All.'" CityLab.

Weinstein, Liza, and Xuefei Ren. 2009. "The Changing Right to the City: Urban Renewal and Housing Rights in Globalizing Shanghai and Mumbai." *City & Community* 8 (4): 407–432.