

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIOLOGY 617
FALL SEMESTER 2011**

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Office Hours: Tuesday/Thursday 10-12

Required Texts:

(1) *Asset Building and Community Development, 3rd Edition*, Gary Paul Green and Anna Haines. Newbury, CA: Sage Publications (2011).

(2) *Streets of Hope*. Peter Medoff and Holly Sklar. Boston, MA: South End Press (1994).

(3) *Making a Place for Community: Local Democracy in a Global Era*. Thad Williamson, David Imbroscio, and Gar Alperovitz. New York: Routledge (2002).

These books are available at the University Bookstore. All the additional required readings are available on the class website through Learn@UW.

Course Objectives:

The primary objective of the course is to introduce students to the theory and practice of community development. This course is an introduction to the subject matter, so I do not anticipate that students will have the skills to become a practitioner after taking this class. We do expect that students will have a basic understanding of community development theories, processes, and approaches.

At its core, community development builds on assets that increase the capacity of residents to improve their quality of life. Assets include several different forms of capital: physical, human, social, financial, political, cultural, and environmental. The course is organized around how communities can use these assets to produce community-controlled development. Much of the course is devoted to the principles of community development in advanced societies, but many of the concepts and theories apply to developing countries as well.

Course Requirements:

Grades will be based on two take-home exams, five reading reflections, and a project/term paper. Each exam will consist of short answer and essay questions and will be worth 30% of the final grade, for a total of 60%. The exams will cover lectures, readings, video, and class discussion. The final exam is not comprehensive—it will only include the material from the last half of the course. Late exams will be penalized by a letter grade. Grades on exams will be based on the following scale:

A	=94 +
AB	=89-93
B	=83-88
BC	=77-82
C	=70-76
D	=60-69

In the reading reflections, you should: a) demonstrate you are engaged with the reading by discussing the main arguments or conclusions of the reading and b) relate the readings to the lectures, films, or discussion in class. Each reading reflection will be worth 10 points and collectively will constitute 20% of your final grade. Reflection papers are due on Fridays by 4:30 in the dropbox in Learn@UW. Reflection papers should be no longer than three pages. I will not accept late reading reflections. Response papers are due: 9/16; 9/30; 10/28; 11/11; and 12/9.

The class project/paper is worth 20% of the final grade. Undergraduates will examine a local labor, credit, or housing market. This analysis should consider the supply of and demand for these forms of community capital, as well as the institutions involved in these markets. Data for this analysis will be drawn primarily from websites and published data sources. You should not have to collect any additional information on your own. The project is due on **November 17**. The project should be no longer than 7-10 pages. Data sources should be documented. A brief overview of how to document sources and avoid plagiarism can be found at: http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/Acknowledging_Sources.pdf.

Graduate students will be writing a term paper on a community development topic. I would prefer that this project involve a study of a specific community organization or a case study of a community development program or project. This project will be due by **December 15**. Please meet with me individually to discuss your topic by September 30.

Week 1. Conceptual Map of Community Development

Lecture 1: Key Concepts in Community Development

Exercise on community visioning

Required Reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 1 in *Asset building and community development*.

Medoff and Sklar, Ch. 1 & 2 in *Streets of hope*.

Lemann, N. (1994). The myth of community development. *New York Times*, January 9, Pp. 27-31, 50, 54, 60.

Week 2. The Promise and Limits of Community Development

Lecture 2: Models of Community Development

Film: *Ours to Decide*

Required Reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 2 in *Asset building and community development*.

Medoff and Sklar, Ch. 3 & 4 in *Streets of hope*.

Week 3. Asset-Based Community Development

Lecture 3: Asset mapping and needs assessment

Exercise on asset mapping

Required Reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 3 in *Asset building and community development*.

Medoff and Sklar, Ch. 5 & 6 in *Streets of hope*.

Case Study: Kretzmann and Puntenney

Week 4. Neighborhood Organizing

Lecture 4: Neighborhood organizing

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 4 in *Asset building and community development*.

Medoff and Sklar, Ch. 7, 8 & 9 in *Streets of hope*.

Kirkpatrick, L.O. (2007). The two logics of community development. *Politics and Society*, 35(2), 329-359.

Week 5. Community Development Organizations

Lecture 5: Community-Controlled Development

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 5 in *Asset building and community development*.

Stoecker, R. (1997). The CDC model of urban redevelopment: A critique and an alternative. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 19(1), 1-22.

Case Study: Harvey and Beaulieu

Week 6. Social Capital

Lecture 6: Social Capital

Exercise: Measuring Social Networks

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 7 in *Asset building and community development*.

DeFilippis, J. (2001). The myth of social capital in community development. *Housing Policy Debate*, 12, 781-806.

Williamson et al. Part I

Week 7. Human Capital

Lecture 7: Workforce Development

Exercise: Analyzing a local labor market

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 6 in *Asset building and community development*.

Williamson et al. Part II

Wheeler and Thomas: Engaging Youth in Community Development

EXAM #1 Due October 25

Week 8. Physical Capital

Lecture 8: Affordable Housing

Exercise: Analyzing a housing market

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 8 in *Asset building and community development*

Williamson et al. Part III.

Curley, A. (2010). Neighborhood institutions, facilities, and public space. *Citiescapes* 12(1), 33-63.

Week 9. Financial Capital

Lecture 9: Community Development Financial Institutions

Exercise: Analyzing local lending patterns

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 9 in *Asset building and community development*

Williamson et al. Part IV.

Case Study: Dewees and Sarkazy-Banoczy

Week 10. Environmental Capital

Lecture 10: Natural Amenities & Development

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 10 in *Asset building and community development*.

Brulle, R. and Pellow, D. (2006). Environmental Justice. *Annual Review of Public Health* 27:103-24.

Case Study: Green

Week 11. Political Capital

Lecture 11: Community Power Structure and the Growth Machine

Film: *Downside Up*

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 11 in *Asset building and community development*.

Project Due: Labor, Housing or Financial Market Analysis (November 17)

Week 12. Cultural Capital

Lecture 12: Creative Communities

Required Reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 12 in *Asset building and community development*.

Florida, R. (2003). Cities and the creative class. *City & Community*, 2(1), 3-19.

Jamie Peck. (2005). Struggling with the creative class. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 29, 740-770.

Week 13. Green Economy and Localism

Lecture 13: Green Collar Jobs

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 14 in *Asset building and community development*.

Apollo Alliance (2008). *Green-collar jobs in American cities*.

Week 14. Local Food Systems

Lecture 14: Local Food and Energy Systems

Required reading:

Green and Haines, Chapters 13 in *Asset building and community development*

Hinrichs, C. (2000). Embeddedness and local food systems. *Journal of Rural Studies* 16, 295-303.

Week 15. The Future of Community Development

A panel of community development practitioners discuss current issues and debates.

Required Reading:

Green and Haines, Chapter 15 in *Asset building and community development*.

Graduate Student papers Due December 15

EXAM #2 Due December 15