

Fall Semester 2009
Public Policy Urban Affairs (PPUA) G6201
OPEN CLASSROOM POLICY SERIES



The 21st Century City: Urban Opportunities and Challenges in a Global Context

Main Public Lecture:
Thursdays 6:00 – 8:00 pm
West Village F, Room 20

Seminar for Enrolled Graduate Students:
Thursdays 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Instructors: Prof. Barry Bluestone
Stearns Trustee Professor of Political Economy
Dean, School of Public Policy & Urban Affairs
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Prof. Paul Grogan
Visiting Professor
School of Public Policy & Urban Affairs
E-mail: psg@tbf.org

Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description:

This course offers a multidisciplinary approach to the wonders and challenges of urban life in the 21st century, focusing on the economic, social, and political dynamics of central cities and suburbs. The course begins by exploring the evolution of U.S. cities from the 18th to the 21st century. This is followed by an examination of the factors that determine the economic health of cities. A large part of the course is devoted to studying key urban policy issues from education and housing to urban crime and transportation. Professors Bluestone and Grogan provide the overview of the course; guest speakers provide insights into the critical challenges facing U.S. cities today and the range of approaches being taken to meet them. Greater Boston serves as the locus for many of the issues covered in class.

Faculty, staff, and students of Northeastern are invited to audit this course. In addition, the course will be open to members of the greater “Northeastern community” including residents of nearby neighborhoods and the Greater Boston community at large.

All those attending the course will be encouraged to read the assignments associated with each class discussion, but only those students who are taking the course for NU credit are required to do so.

<i>Prerequisites:</i>	B.A. in Political Science, Sociology, or Economics for those enrolled in the course. No prerequisites for those auditing the course.
<i>Key Book:</i>	Barry Bluestone, Mary Huff Stevenson, and Russell Williams, <i>The Urban Experience: Economics, Society and Public Policy</i> (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008)
<i>Other Reading Materials:</i>	Barry Bluestone and Mary Huff Stevenson, <i>The Boston Renaissance: Race, Space, and Economic Change in an American Metropolis</i> (New York: Russell Sage, 2000). Paul Grogan and Tony Proscio, <i>Comeback Cities: A Blueprint for Urban Neighborhood Revival</i> (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2000) Various journal articles and newspaper stories
<i>Software:</i>	<i>The Urban Experience Resource Kit CD</i> (Available with purchase of <i>The Urban Experience</i>) <i>The Boston Indicators Project</i> (Available on line at http://www.bostonindicators.org/IndicatorsProject)
<i>Course Requirements:</i>	For enrolled students: Research Paper

Student Evaluation Method

The 21st Century City course is taught in lecture format with a high degree of student and auditor participation. Student performance will be evaluated on the basis of a written research paper assignment.

Research Paper

Each student will be required to produce a 12-15 page term paper by the last week of class. This paper will involve a detailed study of a critical challenge facing U.S. cities in the 21st century. The specific topic for the term paper will be selected in consultation with the instructors in the course

Research Paper Due: December 3

LECTURE SCHEDULE

Date	Topic	Featured Lecturers
September		
10	What Makes a City a City <i>A Multidisciplinary Approach to Urban Issues</i> <i>How Metro Regions Rank</i> <i>Key Challenges facing Metro regions in the 21st Century</i> <i>Greater Boston in Transition: The Triple Revolution</i>	Bluestone & Grogan
The Rise of Urban America		
17	<i>Concepts of Urban Growth</i>	Bluestone & Grogan Mary Stevenson Russell Williams
24	<i>Urban Transformation from the 17th to 21st Century</i>	Bluestone & Grogan Mary Stevenson Russell Williams
October		
1	The Meaning of Urban Community <i>How does a City foster a Spirit of Community?</i> <i>What Stresses undermine Community?</i> <i>Neighborhood Cohesion, Segregation, and Integration</i>	Bluestone James Carroll Barry Shrage
8	Urban Transportation & Infrastructure <i>Urban Transportation</i> <i>Public Mega-Projects</i>	Bluestone Stephanie Pollack David Luberoff
15	Urban Housing Markets, Land Use, and Sustainability <i>The Supply and Demand for Housing</i> <i>New Housing Policies for Economic Development</i> <i>Urban Sprawl vs. Smart Growth</i>	Bluestone & Grogan Doug Foy Bonnie Heudorfer
22	Urban Economic Development <i>Public Policies to Create Competitive Advantage</i> <i>Role of Technology & Entrepreneurship</i>	Bluestone & Grogan Bob Culver Desh Deshpande Tim Ferguson
29	Urban Education <i>The Role of the Schools</i> <i>Public, Charters, and Pilot Schools</i>	Grogan & Bluestone Michael Goldstein
November		
5	Urban Safety and Neighborhood Security <i>The Role of Police in the Community</i> <i>Creating Defensible Space</i>	Grogan & Bluestone Ed Davis Robert Lewis, Jr.
12	Urban Public Finance <i>Financing Local Government</i> <i>State Revenue Sharing</i>	Bluestone Jay Ash Michael Widmer

19	Working with Public Employee Unions <i>The Role of Public Employee Unions</i> <i>Negotiating with Public Unions</i> <i>A new "Grand Bargain"</i>	Bluestone & Grogan Robert McKersie Tom Glosnell Scott Lang
26	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY	
December		
3	The Plight of the Metro Area Newspaper <i>The Role of the City Newspaper</i> <i>New Media and the City</i>	Grogan & Bluestone Renee Loth Danny Okrent Adrian Walker Robert Kuttner
10	Urban Leadership and Civic Engagement <i>The Role of Public Leaders</i> <i>The Role of Business Leaders</i> <i>The Role of Anchor Institutions</i>	Grogan & Bluestone Mayor Tom Menino Paul Guzzi Joseph Aoun

READING SCHEDULE

Date	Topic
September	
10	What Makes a City a City <i>A Multidisciplinary Approach to Urban Issues</i> <i>How Metro Regions Rank</i> <i>Key Challenges facing Metro regions in the 21st Century</i> <i>Greater Boston in Transition: The Triple Revolution</i>
<i>Readings</i>	: <i>The Urban Experience</i> Ch. 1 "The Wonder and Paradox of Urban Life" Ch. 2 "How Metro Areas Rank" <i>The Boston Renaissance</i> Ch. 1 "Greater Boston in Transition" Ch. 2 "The Demographic Revolution" Ch. 3 "The Industrial Revolution" Ch. 4 "The Spatial Revolution" Ch. 5 "Who We Are: How Families are Faring in Greater Boston Today" <i>Comeback Cities</i> Part 1 "The Case for a Turnaround" Bruce Katz, "A Blueprint for National Prosperity," The Brookings Institution, May 23, 2007.

	The Rise of Urban America
17	<i>Concepts of Urban Growth</i>
24	<i>Urban Transformation from the 17th to 21st Century</i>
<i>Readings</i>	<p><i>The Urban Experience</i></p> <p>Ch. 3 “Urban America from the 17th to the Early 20th Century: The Dynamics of City Growth”</p> <p>Ch. 4 “Cities and Suburbs in the Late 20th Century: The Dynamics of Metropolitan Expansion”</p> <p>Ch. 5 “U.S. Metro Areas in the 21st Century: The New Dynamics of Urban Location”</p> <p>Ch. 6 “Urban Prosperity and the Role of Trade”</p> <p><i>Comeback Cities</i></p> <p>Part 2 “The Grassroots Revival”</p> <p>Ed Glaeser, “What About the Cities?” <i>The Boston Globe</i>, January 4, 2008.</p>
October	
1	<p>The Meaning of Urban Community</p> <p><i>How does a City foster a Spirit of Community?</i></p> <p><i>What Stresses undermine Community?</i> <i>Neighborhood Cohesion, Segregation, and Integration</i></p>
<i>Readings</i>	<p><i>The Urban Experience</i></p> <p>Ch. 15 “Urban Well-Being, Civility, and Civic Engagement”</p> <p>Barry Shrage, “The Fingerprints of God: The Community, The Federation, and Networks that Bind Us Together”</p>
8	<p>Urban Transportation & Infrastructure</p> <p><i>Urban Transportation</i></p> <p><i>Public Mega-Projects</i></p>
<i>Readings</i>	<p><i>The Urban Experience</i></p> <p>Ch. 10 “Urban Physical Infrastructure: Water, Sewer, And Waste; Parks and Libraries; Transportation”</p> <p>Stephanie Pollack, “Connecting with our Economic Future: A Transportation Investment Strategy for the Life Sciences Cluster” (Boston: A Better City & Center for Urban and Regional Policy, 2007)</p> <p>Stephanie Pollack, “On the Right Track: Meeting Greater Boston’s Transit and Land Use Challenges,” (Boston Foundation & CURP, May 2006)</p> <p>Alan Altshuler & David Luberoff, <i>MegaProjects: The Changing Politics of Urban Public Investment, 1950-2000</i> (Washington, D.C.: The Brookings Institution Press, 2003)</p> <p>David Luberoff, “Civic Leadership and the Big Dig,” (Rappaport Institute for Greater Boston and Taubman Center for State and Local Government, 2004)</p>

15	Urban Housing Markets, Land Use, and Sustainability <i>The Supply and Demand for Housing</i> <i>New Housing Policies for Economic Development</i> <i>Urban Sprawl vs. Smart Growth</i>
<i>Readings</i>	<i>The Urban Experience</i> Ch. 12 “Urban Housing Markets, Residential Location, and Housing Policy” <i>Comeback Cities</i> Ch. 8. “ The Fall (and Rise) of Public Housing Edward Carman, Barry Bluestone, and Eleanor White, “A Housing Strategy for Smart Growth and Economic Development” Barry Bluestone, Mary Huff Stevenson, and Russell Williams, “Are the High Fliers Pricing Themselves Out of the Market: The Determinants of Population and Employment Growth in U.S. Metropolitan Areas” Barry Bluestone, Chase Billingham, and Jessica Herrmann, “The Greater Boston Housing Report Card 2008-2009”
22	Urban Economic Development <i>Public Policies to Create Competitive Advantage</i> <i>Role of Technology & Entrepreneurship</i>
<i>Readings</i>	<i>The Urban Experience</i> Ch. 14 “Urban Economic Development Strategies” <i>Comeback Cities</i> Part 3 “Emerging Markets” David Soule, Joan Fitzgerald, & Barry Bluestone “Deal Breakers & Deal Makers” (Dukakis Center for Urban and Regional Policy) Richard Florida, “Where the Brains Are,” <i>The Atlantic Monthly</i> , October 2006.
29	Urban Education <i>The Role of the Schools</i> <i>Public, Charters, and Pilot Schools</i>
<i>Readings</i>	<i>The Urban Experience</i> Ch. 8 “Urban Public Education and Metro Prosperity” <i>Comeback Cities</i> Ch. 7 “The Schoolhouse Door Opens (a Crack)” Timothy Egan, “Vibrant Cities Find One Thing Missing: Children,” <i>New York Times</i> , March 24, 2005. Edward Glaeser, “The Skilled City”

November	
5	Urban Safety and Neighborhood Security <i>The Role of Police in the Community</i> <i>Creating Defensible Space</i>
<i>Readings</i>	<i>Comeback Cities</i> Ch. 7 “Taking Back the Streets”
12	Urban Public Finance <i>Financing Local Government</i> <i>State Revenue Sharing</i>
<i>Readings</i>	<i>The Urban Experience</i> Ch. 9 “The Urban Public Sector”
19	Working with Public Employee Unions <i>The Role of Public Employee Unions</i> <i>Negotiating with Public Unions</i> <i>A new “Grand Bargain”</i>
<i>Readings</i>	Barry Bluestone, “A Future for Public Sector Unions?” <i>The Boston Globe</i> , July 18, 2009 Barry Bluestone & Irving Bluestone, <i>Negotiating the Future: A Labor Perspective on American Business</i> (New York: Basic Books, 1992) Ch. 1 “A New Vision for American Enterprise” Ch. 8 “From Co-Managing the Workplace to Co-Managing the Enterprise” Ch. 9 “The Enterprise Compact”
26	THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
December	
3	The Plight of the Metro Area Newspaper <i>The Role of the City Newspaper</i> <i>New Media and the City</i>
<i>Readings</i>	TBD
10	Urban Leadership and Civic Engagement <i>The Role of Public Leaders</i> <i>The Role of Business Leaders</i> <i>The Role of Anchor Institutions</i>
<i>Readings</i>	TBD