

UST-2070: URBAN POLITICS

Cuyahoga Community College

Viewing: UST-2070 : Urban Politics

Board of Trustees:

2009-05-28

Academic Term:

Fall 2021

Subject Code

UST - Urban Studies

Course Number:

2070

Title:

Urban Politics

Catalog Description:

Analysis of the political process and the impact of public policies on urban problems, structures, and political behavior in American cities. Focus on central cities, suburbs, and metropolitan areas. Emphasis on efforts to make cities function more efficiently and to improve quality of life for inhabitants.

Credit Hour(s):

3

Lecture Hour(s):

3

Lab Hour(s):

0

Other Hour(s):

0

Requisites

Prerequisite and Corequisite

POL-1010 American National Government, or UST-1010
Introduction to Urban Studies.

Outcomes

Course Outcome(s):

Analyze, explain, and evaluate public policies for central cities, suburbs, and metropolitan regions as to their efficiency and effectiveness in delivering services and improving quality of life for the urban populations.

Objective(s):

1. Describe the complexity of the city as an environment of human, social, economic, cultural, and political forces.
2. Organize a presentation showing integration of theory and data to a case study of an urban issue(s) in a written assignment using word processing and graphics.
3. Apply different perspectives to the challenges and opportunities presented by a city's cultural, class, ethnic, and racial pluralism.
4. Analyze the major problems facing city government and leadership: poverty, unemployment, housing, crime, finances, education, racial tensions, transportation, and community renewal.
5. Reconstruct how city governments are organized, what functions they perform, and the role of politics in the decision-making process.
6. Construct arguments for ways in which city governments can be made more efficient and responsive in meeting the needs of the community.
7. List and describe the conventional channels of citizen influence in the decision-making process: public opinion, political parties, interest groups, the media, and elections.
8. Apply the concept of federalism relates to the city and to the city's contemporary issues.
9. Compare and contrast pluralist and elitist community power structures in different cities.

10. Analyze the pros, cons, and potential regional metropolitan government.

Methods of Evaluation:

1. Essay examinations
2. Objective tests
3. Projects and research papers
4. Oral presentations
5. Class participation or participation on discussion board
6. Interviews and/or field work

Course Content Outline:

1. The American city: how it came to be what it is
 - a. Industrial development: jobs, workers, factories, mill
 - b. Changes in political structures and behaviors: suburbs and the gilded age
2. The suburban phenomenon
 - a. Corridors of migration out of the city
 - b. Class divisions and racial segregation
 - c. Bedroom communities
 - d. Highway development
3. The inner city
 - a. Employment, business and government
 - b. Urban renewal, historic preservation, and renovation
 - c. Decline and change
4. City government case studies: Boston, Cleveland, Detroit, New York, and others
 - a. Functions and forms
 - b. Problems and challenges
 - c. Intergovernmental relations with citizen groups, educational institutions, financial groups, and transportation associations
 - d. Reforms in city government
5. Community power structures: politics of pluralism and elitism
 - a. Church, temple, mosque
 - b. Educational institutions and media groups
 - c. Neighborhood associations
 - d. Business groups and individuals and special interests
6. Metropolitan and regional government: impact of the politics on decision-making process
 - a. Structures
 - b. Rules and procedures
7. Crime in the urban setting
 - a. Statistical definitions and measurement
 - b. Correlations with the rise and decline
 - c. Media, public perceptions and impact
8. Poverty and social welfare policies
 - a. Perceptions of the poor: myth and reality
 - b. Welfare and results
9. Problems of race in the urban setting
 - a. Segregation: De Jure and De Facto policies and procedures producing ghettos, slums and enclaves
 - b. Attitudes of equality and opportunity
 - c. Use of fear and coercion
 - d. Internal colonialism and impact on nationalism on urban politics
10. Housing and community development: federalism and impact
 - a. Urban renewal and federal spending
 - b. Urban planning, public housing and Section 8 and federal guidelines
 - c. Gentrification
 - d. Tax abatement
11. Solutions and directions: impact of citizen action on public opinion, political parties, interest groups, media and elections

Resources

Ascher, Kate. *The Works: Anatomy of a City*. NY: Penguin, 2007.

Gratz, Roberta. *Cities Back from the Edge: New Life for Downtown*. NY: Wiley, 2000.

Linkon, Sherry and John Russo. *Steeltown USA: Work and Memory in Youngstown*. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2003.

Miller, David. *The Regional Governance of Metropolitan America*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2002.

Seligman, Amanda. *Block by Block: Neighborhoods and Public Policy on Chicago's West Side (Historical Studies of Urban America)*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005.

Resources Other

1. Barbour, Christine. *Keeping the Republic: Power and Citizenship in American Politics*.
2. Bellush, J. *Urban Renewal: People Politics and Planning*. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 2000.
3. Betto, David T., Peter Gordon, and Alexander Tabarrok, eds. *The Voluntary City: Choice, Community, and Civil Society*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2002.
4. Cochrane, Allan. *Understanding Urban Policy: A Critical Approach*. Malden MA: Blackwell, 2007.
5. Congressional Quarterly. *Urban Issues: Selections from the CQ Researcher*. Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly Press, 2007.
6. Frieden, Bernard. *Downtown, Inc.: How America Rebuilds Cities*. Cambridge: MIT Press, 1991.
7. Hanson, Royce. *Civic Culture and Urban Change: Governing Dallas*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 2003.
8. Harrigan, John J. *Political Change in the Metropolis*. 5th ed. NY: Harper/Collins, 1993.
9. Judd, Dennis R., and Todd Swanstrom. *City Politics: Private Power and Public Policy*. NY: Longman, 1998.
10. Kantor, Paul. *The Dependent City Revisited: The Political Economy of Urban Development and Social Policy*. Boulder, CO: Westview, 1995.
11. Neuwirth, Robert. *Shadow Cities: A Billion Squatters, A New Urban World*. London: Routledge, 2004.
12. Philips, Keven. *Wealth and Democracy: A Political History of the American Rich*. NY: Broadway Books, 2003.
13. Pritchett, Wendell E. *Brownsville, Brooklyn: Blacks, Jews, and the Changing Face of the Ghetto*. 2002.
14. Siegel, Fred and Harry Siegel. *Urban Society*. 13th ed. Dubuque, Ia: McGraw Hill, 2008.
15. Silver, Marc L., and Martin Melkonian. *Contested Terrain: Power, Politics, and Participation in Suburbia*. Greenwood, 1995.
16. Strom, Elizabeth and John Mollenkopf. *The Urban Politics Reader*. NY: Routledge, 2007.
17. Sumner, Greg. *Dwight McDonald and the Politics Circle*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1996.

Instructional Services

OAN Number:

Ohio Transfer 36 TMSBS

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