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Class: PUBP 710 Housing/Community Development Policy, section B02

Instructor: Danilo Pelletiere (202-662-1530, dpelleti@gmu.edu)

7:20 pm - 10:00 pm TR (Office hours 1 hour before class in room 290 and by appt.)

Arlington Campus 336

Jun 02, 2008 - Jul 24, 2008

Objective

This course is focused on the intersection of housing and community development. It will give students a fundamental grounding in the history, institutions, and theories that underlie the housing and community development policy in the United States as well as introduce them to some of the topics and controversies that are shaping the current policy debate in Washington. In this regard, the class will feature a number of guest lectures from researchers in the field of housing and community development. The focus is also largely on federal government policies and institutions, though the role and influence of state and local governments may be addressed throughout.

Required Texts

Schwartz, A.F. (2006). *Housing Policy in the United States: An Introduction*. 1st ed. London: Routledge

ISBN-10: 0415950317

ISBN-13: 978-0415950312

Requirements

This class will be run as much as a seminar as class size permits. Therefore class participation (and attendance) is an important requirement. Students are allowed two absences with advance notice without additional work being required. Class readings will be the basis for discussion. There will be a take home midterm exam and a final presentation and brief.

Grading

Class participation 50%

Midterm 20%

Presentation and brief 30%

Presentation and brief: The presentation and the brief are considered two parts of a single assignment. Students will choose a current issue in the area of housing and community development, identify a specific local problem related to that issue, and propose a policy solution that can be carried out or facilitated by local and state government (though it can rely on federal or other assistance). Along with the general quality of your presentation and the writing and grammar in your brief, your grade will be based on how well you define the problem and how likely the solution you propose appears to address the problem as you defined it. The presentation length will be determined based on class size and is intended to be used to get feedback from the instructor and the class on how well you have defined the problem and the appropriateness of your solution. The brief will be a 10 to 15 page (double spaced) and addressed to a hypothetical policy maker.

(The SPP policy on plagiarism and additional academic information provided below.)

Please note: I will only use the GMU e-mail addresses provided by the grading system for general class communications. Please be familiar with your GMU account and check it frequently.

Schedule of Classes**(Readings will be determined prior to the start of classes)**

Class 1 June 03	Introduction and housekeeping
Class 2 June 05	What is economic development? What is community development? What role does housing play? Why is the government involved?
Class 3 June 10	Neighborhood transitions: Theory, practice and measurement
Class 4 June 12	Affordable housing as policy
Class 5 June 17	A history of U.S. housing and community development policy
Class 6 June 19	Asset building and homeownership as a strategy for community development
Class 7 June 24	Spatial mismatch, segregation, and policy
Class 8 June 26	“Smart” Growth: How to link land use and transportation?
Class 9 July 1	Exam due by 10:30pm
Class 10 July 3	(No Class)
Class 11 July 8	The current crisis in housing: what went wrong? Where do we go from here?
Class 12 July 10	Student presentations
Class 13 July 15	Student presentations
Class 15 July 17	Wrap-up and questions on final brief
Briefs Due July 21	10:30pm

Additional Information

If you are a student with a disability and you need academic accommodations, please see me and contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) at 993-2474. All academic accommodations must be arranged through the DRC.

I will consider nominating the very best papers in this course for publication in *New Voices in Public Policy*. *New Voices* is a student- and faculty-reviewed journal that shares SPP's finest student work with the rest of the world. Please let me know if you would like your paper considered.

The SPP Policy on Plagiarism is as follows:

The profession of scholarship and the intellectual life of a university as well as the field of public policy inquiry depend fundamentally on a foundation of trust. Thus any act of plagiarism strikes at the heart of the meaning of the university and the purpose of the School of Public Policy. It constitutes a serious breach of professional ethics and it is unacceptable.

Plagiarism is the use of another's words or ideas presented as one's own. It includes, among other things, the use of specific words, ideas, or frameworks that are the product of another's work. Honesty and thoroughness in citing sources is essential to professional accountability and personal responsibility. Appropriate citation is necessary so that arguments, evidence, and claims can be critically examined.

Plagiarism is wrong because of the injustice it does to the person whose ideas are stolen. But it is also wrong because it constitutes lying to one's professional colleagues. From a prudential perspective, it is shortsighted and self-defeating, and it can ruin a professional career.

The faculty of the School of Public Policy takes plagiarism seriously and has adopted a zero tolerance policy. Any plagiarized assignment will receive an automatic grade of “F.” This may lead to failure for the course, resulting in dismissal from the University. This dismissal will be noted on the student's transcript. For foreign students who are on a university-sponsored visa (eg. F-1, J-1 or J-2), dismissal also results in the revocation of their visa.

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To help enforce the SPP policy on plagiarism, all written work submitted in partial fulfillment of course or degree requirements must be available in electronic form so that it can be compared with electronic databases, as well as submitted to commercial services to which the School subscribes. Faculty may at any time submit student's work without prior permission from the student. Individual instructors may require that written work be submitted in electronic as well as printed form. The SPP policy on plagiarism is supplementary to the George Mason University Honor Code; it is not intended to replace it or substitute for it.