New York University
Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

P11.0019 Race, Class, and Gender in American Cities
Winter 2009

Prof. Rachelle Brunn
Class Meeting Times: January 5-16, Monday thru Friday. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Contact Information:
Email: rjb7@nyu.edu
Office Location: Room 3019 (3rd floor) The Puck Building, 295 Lafayette St.
Office Telephone: 212-998-7562
Office Hours: By appointment.

Course Description:
This new course examines the patterns of racial-ethnic, class, and gender inequality in American cities. From an urban-planning perspective, we will analyze conflicts surrounding the use of public space and the allocation of city resources. We will also look comparatively at the ways in which different cities address the needs of multiple and overlapping interests, in part via case studies of places and topics.

Required Reading:
A course reader of required articles is available at the NYU Professional Bookstore, 530 LaGuardia Place. Copies of the reader will be on reserve at Bobst Library, with a 2-hour reserve time.

In addition to the assigned reading, you will be required to keep up with current events in New York City by reading The New York Times.

Course Requirements:
1. Attendance, Punctuality, and Class Participation: 15%
2. One 3-5 page writing assignment: 25%
3. 48-hour Take-Home Midterm Exam: 30%
4. Cumulative In-Class Final Exam: 30%

Class Participation includes 8 mandatory Blackboard Discussion Board postings with questions, comments, and/or critiques of the readings for the day. The postings should be completed by 8:00am each morning.

Grading Policy:
Wagner’s grading scale is as follows: A/4.0, A-/3.7, B+/3.3, B/3.0, B-/2.7, C+/2.3, C/2.0, C-/1.7, and F/0.
**Blackboard:**
You must have access to the class Blackboard site at [http://classes.nyu.edu/](http://classes.nyu.edu/).

All announcements and class related documents will be posted here. If you have not activated your NYU net account or have forgotten your password, you can activate or change your password at [http://start.nyu.edu](http://start.nyu.edu). Your account must be activated to access Blackboard. Some class announcements will also be distributed via e-mail. Thus, it is important that you actively use your NYU e-mail account, or have appropriate forwarding set up on NYUHome [https://home.nyu.edu/](https://home.nyu.edu/).

**Attendance and Participation Policy:**
The quality of your class experience (and your grade) depends upon you being in class and actively contributing. As such, unexplained persistent absence/tardiness will result in your grade being penalized. If you are unable to attend I expect you to email me before the class explaining why so I can excuse your absence.

**Late Assignment Policy:**
Extensions will be granted only in case of emergency. Late submissions without extensions will be penalized ½ letter grade per day (B+ to B, e.g.).

**Students with Disabilities:**
Any students requiring accommodations should contact me to make proper arrangements. Please be prepared to share your documentation from the NYU disabilities office regarding appropriate accommodations.

**Statement of Academic Integrity:**
As members of the NYU Wagner community, we are all expected to adhere to high standards of intellectual and academic integrity. An example of how NYU describes academic integrity is available at [http://www.nyu.edu/cas/map/integrity.pdf](http://www.nyu.edu/cas/map/integrity.pdf). This is a good resource for issues of academic honesty.

All exams and writing assignments must be the sole work of the individual student. Violations of these standards will automatically result in all participating students failing the course and being remanded to the discipline committee for further action.
Course Outline:
Readings and written assignments should be completed BEFORE the class for which they are listed.

January 5, 2009 – Monday
Theoretical and Conceptual Perspectives of Race and Ethnicity


January 6, 2009 – Tuesday
Socioeconomic Status and Wealth


January 7, 2009 – Wednesday
Thinking about Gender


January 8, 2009 – Thursday

Race, Class, Gender and Hurricane Katrina


January 9, 2009 – Friday

48 Hour Take Home Midterm Examination to be given Out In Class

Film: When the Levees Broke - A Requiem In Four Acts. A Documentary by Spike Lee.

January 12, 2009 – Monday

Racial Residential Segregation


Chapter 4- The Construction of the Ghetto.


January 13, 2009 – Tuesday

Gentrification


January 14, 2009 – Wednesday
Writing Assignment Due

Race, Class, Gender and the Struggle for Employment


January 15, 2009 – Thursday
Race, Public Policy, and the City


January 16, 2009 – Friday
In-Class Final Examination