Urban History of the US Imagining the City
21:512:361:01
Mondays/Thursdays, 1:00pm-2:20pm
Conklin 342

Instructor Information:
• Mary Rizzo
• Associate Professor, History Department
• Office: 247A Conklin Hall
• Office Hours: 230-4pm, Mondays and by appointment
• Email: mary.rizzo@rutgers.edu

Teaching Assistant:
• Annie Anderson
• PhD Student, American Studies
• OFFICE HOURS
• Email: Annie.anderson@rutgers.edu

Course Description:
Most residents of the United States live in cities. How did the U.S. evolve from an agrarian nation to an urban one? In this class, we will explore urbanization in the U.S. from the late 18th century through the present. By examining the history of cities, we are also examining political history, social history, cultural history, and economic history. Our cities tell us a lot about our nation and ourselves.

We will look at a variety of primary sources, from short stories to newspaper articles to film, to understand how cities change over time. How did industrialization, deindustrialization, and neoliberalism shape cities? While examining these broad issues, we will stay attentive to the lived experiences of people. Cities are very different places, depending on your race, ethnicity, religion, class, gender, and sexuality. One of our key questions will be: who is the city for? Who has the power to decide?

I look forward to thinking through these issues with you.

Learning Objectives:
• Describe the historical shifts affecting cities over the course of the twentieth century, including industrialization, immigration/migration, deindustrialization, urban renewal and gentrification;
• Analyze a range of primary sources as historical documents;
• Analyze the historical arguments made in secondary sources;
• Synthesize readings and discussion into analytical writing;
• Explore connections between the past and present.

Academic Integrity:
Academic integrity is essential to the success of the University’s educational and research missions, and violations of academic integrity constitute serious offenses against the entire academic community. The entire Academic Integrity Policy can be found here: http://academicintegrity.rutgers.edu/

I strictly follow the University’s rules regarding plagiarism and other academic irregularities. Please consult me if you have any questions about what is and is not appropriate regarding the use of sources or citation.

Assignments:

Your grade will be based on several assignments that will challenge you to analyze primary sources, synthesize secondary scholarship, argue a thesis with evidence, and discuss the history of urban development in the U.S.

- Discussion Board Posts: Every week, you must respond to one reading on the Canvas discussion board. DUE: at 11am on the class day your chosen reading is for, 10%
- Primary Source Analysis: In this paper, you will analyze a primary source from class. DUE: October 3, 15%
- Midterm exam: In-class: October 24, 20%
- Connecting Past and Present: In this paper, you will historically contextualize an issue affecting cities today through our class readings and discussions. Paper Topic DUE: December 1, Final Paper DUE: December 12, 15%
- Final Exam will utilize a variety of question types, from multiple choice to short answer to short essays, to test your comprehension of course material. December 20, 20%
- Participation and Attendance: 20%

NOTE: surprise reading quizzes may be given

Grading Scale

- A = 90-100
- B+ = 85-89
- B = 80-84
- C+ = 75-79
- C = 70-74
- D = 59-69
- F = 0-58

Attendance and Participation

You will be expected to attend class having completed readings and assignments and be prepared to actively participate (which means you should bring the readings and your notes with you to class). If you cannot attend class, please let me know at least 24 hours before class (except in the case of emergencies when you should let me know as soon as possible). An excessive number of absences will negatively impact your final grade. The Division of Student Affairs can provide assistance for absences related to religious observance, emergency or unavoidable conflict (illness, personal or family emergency, etc.) Students should refer to the University’s Course Attendance policy (10.2.7), for complete expectations and responsibilities. The office can be contacted at: (973) 353-5063 or deanofstudents@newark.rutgers.edu.
Over the course of the semester, I will likely need to email you about class issues. **You are required to check your email regularly and to respond when necessary in a timely manner.** If you use a different email address than your Rutgers’ one, I suggest that you either forward email from your Rutgers account to your other address or you make sure that I have your correct email address.

**Late Assignments:**

I expect assignments to be completed on the day they are due. If there are circumstances that prevent you from doing so, please contact me as soon as possible. Knowing when to expect papers to be submitted allows me to manage my time and be responsive to you. Because we are working with external partners, it is particularly important that you communicate with me about any late assignments.

**Expectations, Cell Phones and Laptops:**

Through class discussion, students will interact with the materials, the instructor, and their peers. In the process, you will practice public speaking skills, and engage critically with the arguments and evidence of the texts. Students will also regularly practice their writing skills in essay exams and papers. In both the written assignments and the class discussions, students will develop their analytical skills by identifying the course readings' main theses, supporting arguments, evidence, assumptions, and rhetorical strategies.

Please set your cell phones to the "silent" notification mode during class sessions. Do not use your cell phone to call or text, etc. during class meetings. Laptops may be used for the sole purpose of taking notes. Please do not audio or video record class meetings or lectures. You are also expected to refrain from distracting and disruptive behaviors (i.e. "chatting" during lectures/discussions). Feel free to eat during class, but be respectful of other students and me (i.e. no foods that are loud to eat, etc.).

**Masks and Covid Concerns:**

Rutgers requires masks be worn over nose and mouth during class meetings. For more information on Rutgers Covid policies, visit https://coronavirus.rutgers.edu/.

**Disability Statement**

Rutgers University welcomes students with disabilities into all of the University’s educational programs. The Office of Disability Services (ODS) works with students with medical, physical, and/or mental conditions who encounter disabling barriers in order to determine reasonable and appropriate accommodations for access. Students who have completed the process with ODS and have approved accommodations are provided a Letter of Accommodation (LOA) specific to each course. To initiate accommodations for their course students must both provide the LOA to and have a conversation with the course instructor about the accommodations. More information can be found at ods.rutgers.edu. Contact ODS: (973) 353-5375 or ods@newark.rutgers.edu.

**Required Texts:**


All other required readings will be available through Canvas, which you can access at canvas.rutgers.edu. Additional materials, including films or other media, may be required as well.
Weekly Schedule:

**Week 1/Introduction**

September 8: Introduction

**Week 2/The City in Early America**

September 12: Competing Ideas on Cities in Early America


  Thomas Jefferson, “Query XIX,” *Notes on the State of Virginia*.

September 15: The Free and Unfree in 19th Century Cities


**Week 3/1893 World’s Fair: Battling over the 20th Century City**

September 19: 1893 Chicago World’s Fair – The White City


September 22: The Midway Plaisance

  Gilbert, 108-130.


**Week 4/Immigrants, Radicalism and Industry in the Progressive Era**

September 26: Jewish Immigrant Women Making It in NYC


September 29: Gendering Labor


**Week 5/Great Migration and Racializing Urban Space**

October 3: Great Migration to Newark

  Dr. Katie Singer, guest speaker

  Readings TBD

  Class will take place on Zoom.

  **DUE: Primary Source Analysis Paper on Canvas**

October 6: Risk, Race and Redlining

**Week 6/A Raisin in the Sun**

- October 10: What Happens to a Dream Deferred?
  - Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*, Act I
- October 13: What Happens to a Dream Deferred?
  - Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*, Act II

**Week 7: Does it Explode?**

- October 17: What Happens to a Dream Deferred?
  - Lorraine Hansberry, *A Raisin in the Sun*, Act III
- October 20: Midterm Review

**Week 8: Midterm and Urban Renewal**

- October 24: In-class Midterm
- October 27: Fighting Urban Renewal

**Week 9: The Newark Rebellion & Aftermath**

- October 31: The Newark Rebellion
  - In-class: *Revolution ‘67*
- November 3: Multiracial Political Organizing

*The remainder of the class will be decided once class is underway. Topics may include deindustrialization, neoliberalism, gentrification, crime and safety, and climate change. If there are topics you’d like to see us discuss, please let either of your instructors know.*

**Week 10:**

- November 7:
- November 10:

**Week 11:**

- November 14:
- November 17: Latino Muralism in Chicago
  - Dr. Jason Ruiz, guest speaker
  - Readings TBD
  - Class will take place on Zoom.

**Week 12:**
November 21:

November 24 (rescheduled for Nov. 22) CLASS CANCELLED

**Week 13:**

November 28:

December 1:

**DUE: Connecting Past and Present Topic Paragraph on Canvas**

**Week 14: The Future of the City**

December 5:

December 8:

**Week 15/Final Review**

December 12: In-class review for final exam

**DUE: Connecting Past and Present Paper on Canvas**

FINAL EXAM December 20, 3-6pm
Accommodation and Support Statement:

Rutgers University Newark (RU-N) is committed to the creation of an inclusive and safe learning environment for all students. RU-N has identified the following resources to further the mission of access and support:

- **Temporary Conditions/Injuries:** The Division of Student Affairs can assist students who are experiencing a temporary condition or injury (broken or sprained limbs, concussions, or recovery from surgery). Students experiencing a temporary condition or injury should submit a request for assistance at: [https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu](https://temporaryconditions.rutgers.edu).

- **Pregnancy:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance is available to assist students with any concerns or potential accommodations related to pregnancy. Students may contact the office at (973) 353-1906 or [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu).

- **Gender or Sex-Based Discrimination or Harassment:** The Office of Title IX and ADA Compliance can assist students experiencing any form of gender or sex-based discrimination or harassment, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, or stalking. Students can report an incident to the office at: (973) 353-1906 or [TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:TitleIX@newark.rutgers.edu). Incidents may also be reported by using: [tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm](https://tinyurl.com/RUNReportingForm). For more information, students should refer to the University’s Title IX Policy and Grievance Procedures located at [https://uec.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/60-1-33-current-1.pdf](https://uec.rutgers.edu/wp-content/uploads/60-1-33-current-1.pdf).

- **Interpersonal Violence:** The Office for Violence Prevention and Victim Assistance (VPVA) can provide any student with confidential support. The office does not have a reporting obligation to Title IX. Students can contact the office by calling (973) 353-1918 or emailing [run vpva@rutgers.edu](mailto:run vpva@rutgers.edu). There is also a confidential text-based helpline available to students; students can text (973) 339-0734 for support. Students do not need to be a victim/survivor of violence; any student can receive services, information and support.

- **Crisis and Concerns:** The Campus Awareness Response and Education (CARE) Team works with students in crisis to develop a plan of support plan and address personal situations that might impact their academic performance. Connect with the CARE Team by using the following link: [tinyurl.com/RUNCARE](https://tinyurl.com/RUNCARE) or emailing careteam@rutgers.edu.

- **Stress, Worry, or Concerns about Well-Being:** The Counseling Center has confidential therapists available to support students. Students should reach out to the Counseling Center to schedule an appointment: [counseling@newark.rutgers.edu](mailto:counseling@newark.rutgers.edu) or (973) 353-5805. If students are not quite ready to make an appointment with a therapist but are interested in self-help, check out Sanvello for an easy, web-based approach to self-care and support. Visit [https://my.rutgers.edu/](https://my.rutgers.edu/), click on Sanvello: Wellness @ RUN, and log in with your netid to begin your journey toward wellness.

- **Emergencies:** Call 911 or contact Rutgers University Police Department (RUPD) at (973) 353-5111.

Learning Resources:
• Rutgers Learning Center (tutoring services):
  Tutoring available in a variety of math, science, technology, and business courses. Contact the Learning Center to determine whether tutoring is available for a specific course. Room 140, Bradley Hall (973) 353-5608
  learning.center@newark.rutgers.edu
  https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/learning-center

• Writing Center (tutoring and writing workshops) (973) 353-5847 nwc@rutgers.edu
  https://sasn.rutgers.edu/student-support/tutoring-academic-support/writing-center

Technology/Internet Resources for Students:
  o https://myrun.newark.rutgers.edu/covid-technology-resources
  o https://mytech.newark.rutgers.edu/tp