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2020

### Housing: The Right to the City

Susanna F. Schaller  
*CUNY City College*

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**Title: “Housing: The Right To The City,” Summer 2020**

**Course Number: IAS 31132**

Professor’s Name: Susanna Schaller, PhD, AICP

Contact information: [sschaller@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:sschaller@ccny.cuny.edu)

Office Hours Online: Blackboard Collaborate Ultra / Phone

Please email me to make an appointment. Make sure to put “Housing Class” in the subject line and sign your email with your full name.

Dates of Classes: Monday, June 1 – Wednesday, July 21, 2020 (ONLINE)

There are no set times to meet with me or the class. I will offer voluntary Class Discussion sessions during which we can meet in Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom. We will schedule these during the first week of classes. You can complete the readings and the work for the class as corresponds to your schedule; however, you must:

1. Post your assignments and your responses to your colleagues by the assigned dates.
2. Participate fully and respectfully in the class modules & forums & discussion boards by the dates assigned.

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This online course (“Housing: Right to the City”) explores the meanings we attach to the notion of housing, shelter, property and home. Departing from an engagement with the concept of “the right to the city” as theorized by Henri Lefebvre through the work of David Harvey and Marc Purcell, we will discuss the usefulness of the concept in working

toward a more just and equitable city, especially, as it relates to housing. We will study the history of public policies and private practices that have shaped the housing markets in the US in order to examine the inequities that were embedded in our urban landscapes. We will then relate these to the racially disparate impacts of crises as we have recently witnessed during the current COVID 19 pandemic.

This is an online course and requires continuous participation on Blackboard. The course is divided into six modules for which you and your colleagues will complete main assignments by Sunday and respond to your peers (with 150-200 words posts) by Wednesday. You will share the main assignments on Blackboard / Module Groups and submit the written text through SafeAssign. For most assignments, you will be responding to guided questions about the required readings / video / audio files to complete your assignments in a variety of formats. Make sure to carefully follow directions. Midway through the course, you will take a test related to urban policies that have shaped the segregated urban landscapes that persist today. For your last assignment, you will either 1) plan and produce a podcast (attached find directions), 2) a webinar conference panel discussion, or 3) an extended “expert” interview (this can be a housing activist, professor, policy maker, etc.). You can work alone or in teams. You should let me know by July 1<sup>st</sup> on which assignment type you want to work.

#### **TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

If you have with your CWE/CCNY Email or need assistance please contact Robert Hernandez at robert@ccny.cuny.edu . You can also find him at the computer lab or office located in 7-23B.

#### **CWE COUNSELOR/THERAPIST SUMMER HOURS**

CWE Therapist Janet LeMoal (LCSW) is continuing to provide teletherapy using CCNY Zoom ONLY. Please email at jlemoal@ccny.cuny.edu. Ms. LeMoal will correspond with you via email and schedule a time to meet via Zoom <https://ccny.zoom.us>

#### **CWE WRITING CENTER SUMMER HOURS**

Email your WORD document to cweWriting@gmail.com and we will work diligently, using comment tracks. <https://cweWritingcenter.wordpress.com>

### **REQUIRED READINGS (ZERO TEXTBOOK COST)**

You do not have to purchase any books for this class. The materials for this course are available online either through the CCNY library system, the Internet or are posted on Blackboard / Module Materials. Make sure to activate your CCNY ID to access the reading materials from home. The learning materials have been deliberately curated to accommodate multiple ways of learning. You will find I have chosen academic texts as well as audio / videos files to as part of each module.

1. All materials available through the CCNY system are identified as being on Blackboard (BB)
2. Materials freely available on the Internet are identified as (Link on BB)
3. Youtube video links are also identified as (Link on BB)

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

Although in an online course your writing is the most visible way that I can assess you, I have also built in other assignment formats to create a variety of ways through which you can demonstrate your understanding of the material.

If you complete the readings, assignments and engage discussion, you will be able to...

- Theoretically differentiate “home” and “housing” as concepts
- Clarify the question of how housing might be considered a “right”
- Discuss “The Right to the City” as theorized by Henri Lefebvre, David Harvey and Mark Purcell in relation to housing
- Exhibit an understanding of the history of US housing policy
- Cite some of the urban and, specifically, housing-related policies and practices implicated in producing the contemporary inequitable and segregated urban landscape that characterizes many US cities
- Relate the historical structural inequities embedded in our urban geographies to the racially disparate impacts documented during the COVID 19 pandemic

**ASSESSMENT OF ONLINE POSTING AND PARTICIPATION**

Assignments and Assessment (Earn a Total of 100 points)

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Due Date</i>	<i>Points</i>	<i>Posting Location</i>
<b>Introductions – (Monday, June 1st – Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>)</b>			
Syllabus Scavenger Hunt	June 7 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Syllabus
Introduce yourself	June 7 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Personal Profiles
Greet 2 Colleagues	June 10 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Personal Profiles
<b>Module 1 - What is Home? (Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>)</b>			
Visual Expression and Text (500 Words)	June 14 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	10	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 1 AND Blackboard/SafeAssignments
Comment on 2 Works	June 17 <sup>st</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 1
<b>Module 2 – The Right to the City (Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>)</b>			
Main Theory-oriented Written Post (750 words)	June 21 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	10	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 2 AND Blackboard/SafeAssignments
Respond to 2 Posts	June 24 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 2
<b>Module 3 – Racializing Land Use, Property Markets and Housing (Monday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>)</b>			
Test: Policies & Practices	June 28 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/SafeAssignments
<b>Module 4 – Post World War II: Re-Producing White Privilege (Monday, June 29<sup>nd</sup> – Wednesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>)</b>			
Exploring Neighborhood (Text of 750 words + Images, like maps)	July 5 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	10	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 4 AND Blackboard/SafeAssignments
Respond to 2 Posts	July 8 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 4
<b>Module 5 – Housing and Property Regimes (Monday, July 6<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>)</b>			
Main Post (“Fact Sheet” or “FAQ” post)	July 12 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	10	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 5 AND Blackboard/SafeAssignments
Respond to 2 Posts	July 15 <sup>th</sup> at midnight	5	Blackboard/Module Groups/Module 5
<b>Module 6 - Housing and the Pandemic (Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>)</b>			
Final Project: “The Right to the City and Housing”	Wednesday, July 22, 2020	20	Blackboard/ Blackboard Collaborate Ultra or Zoom

## Directions for Posting Written Assignments ...

Please, follow directions carefully. First, write the textual part of your assignments in a word document (.doc) so that you can spellcheck your work and so that I can track changes when I grade. I will take off points if there are multiple spelling and grammatical errors. Then, copy and paste your text into the appropriate discussion board forum. Finally, save the text as a document with your name and assignment clearly identified in the file name and upload it to Blackboard's SafeAssign. Follow these steps:

1) Find the appropriate Module Group discussion forum:

- For all but the Introduction / Personal Profile assignment, you will be in smaller groups
- Find your group and assignment
- Read the assignment carefully to make sure you understand and complete each element of the assignment
- You may want to take notes!

2) For all written parts of an assignment, write your answer in a word document:

- Make sure you have fully answered the assignment questions
- Spell check your work
- Have someone edit your work!
- Save your work as a word document (e.g. JuliaAlvarezModule1.doc)

3) Go back to the specific assignment's Blackboard discussion forum and click on it:

- Click "Create a Thread", then copy and paste your written post into the thread
- Upload whatever image (voice memo if applicable) you are also submitting.
- Then upload your word document to Blackboard / SafeAssignments

4) To comment and respond to your colleagues by the due date:

- Return to the assignment's Blackboard discussion forum
- Click on your colleagues' threads and read through what they have written
- Click the comment or reply button underneath a thread that you find interesting and comment
- Please, make sure as a group that no one is left out. So, if someone has already commented on the one to whom you wanted to respond, please find someone without comments

Make sure to carefully follow directions.



Midway through the course, you will take a test related to urban policies that have shaped the segregated urban landscapes that persist today. For your last assignment, you will either 1) plan and produce a podcast, 2) a webinar conference panel discussion for which you will role play the moderator and subject experts; or 3) an extended “expert” interview (this can be a housing activist, professor, policy maker, etc.). Key to a successful “event” is that you script out each person’s role (i.e. the questions & answers – DO NOT TRY TO WING IT). You should let me know by July 1<sup>st</sup> on which assignment type you want to work.

- Find out how to record a Zoom session for this assignment: Blackboard / Syllabus / Record & Share a Zoom Session
- Find out how to create a podcast: Blackboard / Syllabus / How to Produce a Podcast

#### Extra Credit for Live Online Discussions:

I will offer three (3) Blackboard Collaborate or Zoom Discussion Sessions. Please, fill out the Doodle poll for scheduling so we can which sessions might be most appropriate. I was thinking of the following: 1) What is home? 2) The Right to the City, 3) History of Housing & Structural Racism, and 4) Housing and Property Regimes. You can earn extra credit (5 points each) for active participation in these discussions. Depending on when the most students are available, I will choose 3 to correspond with our class schedule.

#### Lateness Policy

Assignments have specific due dates. The system is set not to accept assignments two days after the due date (if an assignment is due Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>, the assignment will close on Tuesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>). You will not receive credit once the assignment becomes invisible on Blackboard. Late assignments will lose 2 points. These deadlines help us adhere to our schedule. If you don’t submit on time, you may impact your colleagues’ ability to complete assignments. Please email me to explain extenuating circumstances.

#### Grading Scale

A+ 98 – 100	A 93 – 97	A- 89 - 92
B+ 85 – 88	B 80 – 84	B- 76 - 79
C+ 72 – 75	C 67 – 71	C- 63 - 66
D+ 59 – 62	D 54 – 58	D- 50 – 53

## **REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS & SERVICES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

In compliance with CCNY policy and equal access laws, appropriate and reasonable accommodations are administered by the AccessAbility Center/Student Disability Services (AAC/SDS). Students who register with AAC/SDS, and are entitled to appropriate and reasonable accommodations, must obtain an accommodation letter from AAC/SDS to present to the Professor that states what their accommodations are. It is the student's responsibility to disclose their disability to AAC/SDS for the purposes of registering and receiving accommodations. The student is responsible for following procedures and policies associated with their accommodations. It is highly recommended that the registered student provide their instructor with the accommodation letter as early as possible in order to facilitate the implementation of their granted accommodations. If the student receives exam accommodations, it is strongly encouraged that they send a reminder email to the professor of the course and cc Debbie Edwards-Anderson, CWE's AAC/SDS liaison, at least one week prior to the exam date, so specific arrangements can be made.

- For more information, contact CWE's AAC/SDS liaison, Debbie Edwards-Anderson: 212-925-6625, ext. 235 or [edwa@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:edwa@ccny.cuny.edu). To contact AAC/SDS directly: 212-650-5913 (TTY/TTD: 212-650-6910) or email: [sds@ccny.cuny.edu](mailto:sds@ccny.cuny.edu).

## **ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICIES**

As stated in the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity:

Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research, or writings as your own. A student who plagiarizes may incur academic and disciplinary penalties, including failing grades, suspensions, and expulsion. A complete copy of the CUNY Policy on Academic Integrity may be found here: <http://www.ccny.cuny.edu/about/integrity.cfm>

The following are some examples of plagiarism:

- Copying another person's actual words without the use of quotation marks and footnotes attributing the words to their source;
- Presenting another person's ideas or theories in your own words without acknowledging the source;
- Using information that is not common knowledge without acknowledging the source;
- Failing to acknowledge collaborators on homework and laboratory assignments.

- Internet plagiarism includes submitting downloaded term papers or parts of term papers, paraphrasing or copying information from the internet without citing the source and “cutting and pasting” from various sources without proper attribution.

NETiquette Policy on Blackboard / Syllabus:

Please review the NETiquette Policy for discussion boards to make sure you are aware of appropriate communication strategies for an online class. Read this carefully to get a sense of how to formulate your responses to your colleagues as well. The policy is on Blackboard / Syllabus. By taking the course, you are automatically obliged to follow the NET-iquette Policy.

## **CALENDAR OF MODULES & READINGS**

### **INTRODUCTIONS (WEEK JUNE 1 – JUNE 10, 2020)**

READ: NET-iquette Policy – this is key so that we are all on the same page in terms of appropriate communication in an on-line learning environment. \*Blackboard / Syllabus.

### **MODULE 1 – CONCEPTUALIZING HOME (WHAT IS HOME?)**

(Monday, June 1 – Wednesday, June 17, 2020)

#### Readings:

1. Academic Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: Norris, Christine. 1990. “Stories of Paradise: What is Home When We Have Left It?” *Phenomenology + Pedagogy*, 8: 237–244. (BB)
2. Academic Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: Gorman-Murray, Andrew. 2007. “Reconfiguring Domestic Values: Meanings of Home for Gay Men and Lesbians.” *Housing, Theory and Society*, 24(3): 229–246. (BB)
3. Academic Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: Després, Carole. 1991. “The Meaning of Home: Literature Review and Directions for Future Research and Theoretical Development.” *Journal of Architectural and Planning Research*, 8(2), 96-115. (BB)
4. Video Link on BB: Metropolitan Museum: “Insider Insights: Zarina's Home is a Foreign Place” presented by Brinda Kumar, Assistant Curator, Modern and Contemporary Art, Premiered May 23, 2020. (Link on BB)

### **MODULE 2 - THE RIGHT TO THE CITY**

(Monday, June 15th – Wednesday, June 24th)

#### Readings and Audio & Video Files (Blackboard / Class Materials / Module 2):

1. Academic Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: Journal Article: Harvey, David. 2008. “The Right to the City.” *New Left Review*, 53: 23–40. (BB)
2. Academic Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: Purcell, Mark. (2013). “Possible Worlds: Henri Lefebvre and The Right to the City.” *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 36(1): 141–154. (BB)

3. YouTube Video on BB: David Harvey: The Right to the City and Urban Resistance @ Fortaleza (BB)
4. YouTube Video on BB: Mark Purcell on Rethinking What Democracy Means in Cities, October 6, 2106 (BB)
5. YouTube Video on BB: Mindy Thompson Fullilove: Urban Alchemy: Restoring Joy in America's Sorted-Out Cities, Jul 26, 2013 (BB)

### **MODULE 3 – RACIALIZING LAND USE, PROPERTY MARKETS AND HOUSING**

(Monday, June 22nd – Wednesday, July 1st)

Readings and Audio & Video Files (Blackboard / Class Materials / Module 3):

1. Academic Peer-Reviewed Book: Freund, David. 2007. *Colored Property: State Policy and White Racial Politics in Suburban America*. University of Chicago Press. (CCNY Library Ebook: Selected Chapters 2 & 3 on BB)
2. YouTube Video on BB: Mindy Thompson Fullilove - Beyond Rootshock, Nov 13, 2014.
3. Audio File and Written Text of Magazine Article: Ta-Nehisi Coates. 2014. "The Case for Reparations." *The Atlantic*, June Issue. (Link on BB)
4. YouTube Video on BB: Richard Rothstein, "The Color of Law," June 8, 2017. (BB)
5. University of Richmond Redlining Maps: you can search for cities or Boroughs in the case of New York (Link on BB)

### **MODULE 4 – FROM URBAN RENEWAL TO FAIR HOUSING AND BEYOND**

(Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday, July 8<sup>h</sup>)

Readings and Audio & Video Files (Blackboard / Class Materials / Module 4):

1. Academic Book Chapters: Zipp, Samuel. 2010. "Culture and Cold War in the Making of Lincoln Center" AND "The Battle for Lincoln Square." *Manhattan Projects: The Rise and Fall of Urban Renewal in Cold War New York*. Oxford University Press. (CCNY Ebook: Selected Chapters on BB)
2. Academic Book Chapter: Rubinowitz, Leonard S. 2015. "The Chicago Freedom Movement and the Federal Fair Housing Act." In *The Chicago Freedom Movement: Martin Luther King Jr. and Civil Rights Activism in the North*, edited by Mary Lou Finley, Bernard LaFayette, James R. Ralph, and Pam Smith. Civil Rights and the Struggle for Black Equality in the Twentieth Century. Lexington, Kentucky: University Press of Kentucky. (CCNY Ebook: Chapter on BB)
3. Academic Book Chapter: Taylor, Keeanga-Yamahtta. 2019. "The Urban Crisis Is

- Over—Long Live the Urban Crisis!” *Race for Profit Book Subtitle: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership*. University of North Carolina Press. (Chapter on BB)
4. Radio Podcast: Felde, Kitty. “Chavez Ravine Residents Fought to Save Homes,” Los Angeles 89.3 KPCC, July 8, 2008. (Link on BB)
  5. Video Link on BB: Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act. “Key Note Speaker George Lipsitz,” May 2, 2018. (Link on BB)
  6. Audio File and Transcript: Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor, Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University, discusses her book *Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership*. (Link on BB)

## **MODULE 5 – HOUSING AND PROPERTY REGIMES**

(Monday, July 6th – Wednesday, July 15th)

Readings and Audio & Video Files (Blackboard / Class Materials / Module 5):

1. Research article: Huron, A. 2014. “Creating a Commons in the Capital: The Emergence of Limited-Equity Housing Cooperatives in Washington, D.C.” *Historical Society of Washington, D.C.*, 26(2), 57–67. (Based on Academic Book, article on BB)
2. Academic Peer-Reviewed Journal Article: Davis, John Emmeus. 2010. “More than Money: What is Shared in Shared Equity Homeownership?” *Journal of Affordable Housing*, 19(3 & 4): 259-277. (BB)
3. Online urban-focused publication: Anzilotti, Eillie. February 2016. “The Long, Complicated History of Affordable Housing in New York.” *CityLab*. (Link on BB)
4. Highly Recommended (but long) Law Review article: Harris, Rachel. 1993. “Whiteness as Property.” *Harvard Law Review*, 106(8): 1710–1791. (BB)

## **MODULE 6 – HOUSING POLICY FAILURES AND THE PANDEMIC**

(Monday, July 13th – Wednesday, July 22nd)

Readings and Audio & Video Files (Blackboard / Class Materials / Module 6):

1. Historical Context: Video: Disaster in the Context of Unmitigated Disaster | Mindy Thompson Fullilove, Apr 3, 2013. (Link on BB)
2. COVID 19 Analysis: Ray, Rashwan. 2020. “Why are Blacks dying at higher rates from COVID-19?” The Brookings Institution, Thursday, April 9, 2020. (Link on BB)
3. COVID 19 Analysis in NYC: Afridi, Lena and Chris Walters. 2020. “Land Use

Decisions Have Life and Death Consequences” published by ANHD on April 10, 2020. (Link on BB)

4. COVID 19 Analysis: Watkins, Matt. April 2020 Podcast: “The Inequities of COVID 19: A Focus on Public Housing.” (Link on BB)