

**Indiana University School of Public and Environmental Affairs  
Spring 2017, V161: Urban Problems and Solutions - Section 10704  
Tuesday & Thursday from 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM  
SPEA Room 274**

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Office Hours: Available before or after class by appointment.

### **Course Description**

This course will consist of a broad overview of the history, development, and issues facing urban areas today. Issues will be placed in historical, current and future contexts.

### **Course Objectives**

The primary goal of the course is to provide information to student regarding the:

1. Evolution of cities
2. Structure of local governments
3. Major problems facing cities
4. Current efforts to solve these problems
5. Future of cities
6. How international forces impact cities

The secondary goal is to stimulate and encourage the student to become involved in the decision making process in their own communities.

### **Required Readings**

This course is built around readings from ***Urban America: Process and Problems*** by John M. Levy, and ***Camelot Fifth Edition*** by Woodworth, Gump and Forrester, the United States Constitution, Amendments, and lecture notes. The Levy and Woodworth texts will available in area book stores and the U.S. Constitution is available online.

### **Office Hours**

I am available to meet by appointment. You are welcome and encouraged to send me an email message to schedule a time to meet in order to discuss class issues.

### **In Case of Emergency**

If you have an emergency and need to speak with me immediately you should call Jennifer Mitchner in the IU SPEA office at 812-855-7980 and give her a message including your contact information and I will call you back as soon as possible. You may also contact the TA via email if applicable.

### **Requirements and Grading Criteria**

The course will include lectures, guest speakers, and interaction with public officials. Student interaction will play an important role in the success of the class, as well as your grade in the class.

### **Grading:**

The following items will account for you grade in this class:

**Attendance**

*Will begin taking attendance January 12<sup>th</sup>* 100 points 10%

**Class Participation**

50 points 5%

**Exam I: (February 2, 2017)**

100 points 10%

**City Council Paper**

*(Due March 9, 2017)* 100 points 10%

**Simulation Role Paper**

*(Due February 23, 2017)* 100 points 10%

**Playspent.org Assignment & Reflection:**

*(Due March 21, 2017)* 50 points 5%

**Exam II: (March 28, 2017)**

100 points 10%

**Camelot Simulation Journal Entries**

*(Due March 23, 2017)* 100 points 10%  
*Must complete 4 of the 5 possible journal assignments*

**City Issue Assignment & Presentations**

*(April 11 - 20, 2017)* 150 points 15%

**Extra Credit Interview Paper (Optional)**

*(Due April 25, 2017)* 25 points

**Final Exam: (Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2017 at 10:15 AM)** 150 points 15%

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**Total** 1,000 points 100%

Grading Scale for Class		
Points	Percentage	Grade
970-1,000	97.0 - 100	A+
930-969	93.0 - 96.9	A
900-929	90 - 92.9	A-
870-899	87 - 89.9	B+
830-869	83 - 86.9	B
800-829	80 - 82.9	B-
770-799	77 - 79.9	C+
730-769	73 - 76.9	C
700-729	70 - 72.9	C-
670-699	67 - 69.9	D+
630-669	63 - 66.9	D
600-629	60 - 62.9	D-
0-599	0 - 59.9	F

**Extra Credit**

Students can complete an extra credit paper during the semester for a maximum of 25 points. To be eligible for the points the student must conduct a personal interview with a city official or non-profit employee that deals directly with one or more of the substantive issues covered in class (i.e. budgets, economic development, poverty, crime, planning, zoning, etc.). A report regarding findings from the

interview must be completed and include how policies and theories discussed in class are applicable, as well as lessons learned. Papers should be (2) pages double-spaced. Margins must not exceed one inch and the font must be 11 or 12 point Times New Roman. Papers should be printed (double-sided) with the appropriate header and stapled. Margins must not exceed one inch and the font must be 11 or 12 point Times New Roman. **The paper must be uploaded to Canvas prior to class on the due date. Please note that the submission date/time of the assignment will be when it is submitted online. The assignment must include the appropriate header.**

**Schedule of Class Sessions**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Class Topic</u></b>
January 10 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Class objectives, policies, first assignment: Your expectations from class?</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Class Syllabus</i> <b><i>Declaration of Independence &amp; Constitution of the United States Part 1</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Constitutional Articles (Online)</i> <i>City Government: A Reflection of the Federal Government</i>
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Constitution of the United States Part 2</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Bill of Rights &amp; Constitutional Amendments (Online)</i> <i>Group Assignment: Synopsis and 2 minute presentations</i> <b>(Begin Taking Attendance)</b>
January 17 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>The American City</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Urban America</i> pages 1-52
January 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Government Part 1 &amp; Part 2</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Urban America</i> , pages 55-92
January 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Special Speaker</i></b>
January 26 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Planning the City Part 1</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Urban America</i> , pages 140-157 <b><i>Comprehensive Plan Review Groups Assigned - (Same Groups will be utilized for the City Issue Presentations)</i></b> <b>Review for Exam I: Covering Topics from January 10<sup>th</sup> – January 26<sup>th</sup>)</b>
January 31 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Planning the City Party 2</b> <b>Comprehensive Plan Groups In-Class Presentation</b>
February 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b><u>Exam I: Covering Topics from January 10<sup>th</sup> – January 26<sup>th</sup></u></b>
February 7 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Camelot Prep. Lecture – Question and Answer Session</i></b> Required Readings: <i>Woodworth</i> Section II Provide <i>Camelot Simulation Agenda</i> <b><u>Print, fill out, and submit Camelot Role Preference Forms</u></b>
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Finances Part 1</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Urban America</i> , pages 96-112, <i>IACT Budget Bulletin</i> – Prepare for Budget Exercise
February 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Finances Part 2: Creating a City Budget &amp; Class Discussion</i></b> Groups discuss plans for balancing the annual city budget.

- February 16<sup>th</sup>      ***Economy of the City: Economic Development Strategies***  
Reading Assignment: *Urban America*, pages 114 - 136
- February 21<sup>st</sup>      ***Issue of Immigration & Class Discussion***  
Reading Assignment: *Urban America* pages 201- 223  
Reading Assignment: Impact of Immigration on Rust Belt Cities (*Online*)
- February 23<sup>rd</sup>      ***Camelot – Day 1***  
Required Readings: Woodworth Section II  
**Camelot Simulation Role Paper Due**
- February 28<sup>th</sup>      ***Camelot – Day 2***  
Required Readings: Woodworth Section II
- March 2<sup>nd</sup>          ***Camelot – Day 3***  
Required Readings: Woodworth Section II
- March 7<sup>th</sup>          ***Camelot –Day 4***  
Required Readings: Woodworth Section II
- March 9<sup>th</sup>          ***Camelot –Day 5***  
Required Readings: Woodworth Section II  
**City Council Paper Due**
- March 12<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>      ***Spring Break***
- March 21<sup>st</sup>          ***Poverty – The Background and “Harvest of Shame”***  
Reading Assignment: *Urban America*, pages 224 – 236.  
CBS Reports (1960) “Harvest of Shame” on You Tube  
<http://www.cbsnews.com/news/harvest-of-shame-50-years-later/>  
(Review for Exam II: Covering Topics from February 2<sup>nd</sup> – March 9<sup>th</sup>)  
**Complete session of Playspent.org and Submit Reflection Paper Online**
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>          ***Poverty and Public Policy***  
Reading Assignment: *Urban America*, pages 159 - 198.  
**Camelot Journals Due**  
**City Groups Given Time in Class to Prepare for Presentation**
- March 28<sup>th</sup>          ***Exam II: Covering Topics from February 2<sup>nd</sup> – March 9<sup>th</sup>***
- March 30<sup>th</sup>          ***Housing in America and the 2007 “Housing “Bubble”***  
Reading Assignment: *Urban America*, pages 201 - 223  
***Class discussion of the aftermath of the Housing Bubble***  
**City Groups Given Time in Class to Prepare for Presentation**
- April 4<sup>th</sup>          ***Education, Workforce Development, and the City***  
Reading Assignment: *Urban America*, pages 271 - 290  
**City Groups Given Time in Class to Prepare for Presentation**

April 6 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>Crime and the Criminal Justice System</i></b> Reading Assignment: <i>Urban America</i> , pages 252 - 269 <b>City Groups Given Time in Class to Prepare for Presentation</b>
April 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Issue Assignment – In Class Presentations, Groups 1 – 4</i></b>
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Issue Assignment – In Class Presentations, Groups 5 – 8</i></b>
April 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Issue Assignment – In Class Presentations, Groups 9 – 12</i></b>
April 20 <sup>th</sup>	<b><i>City Issue Assignment – In Class Presentations, Groups 13 – 16</i></b>
April 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Final Exam Prep Week – Final Exam Review</b> <b><u>Extra Credit City Interview Paper Due</u></b>
April 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Final Exam Prep Week – No Class</b>
May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Final Exam: Cumulative Exam Covering All Course Materials</b> <b>Exam Time: 10:15 – 12:15 AM in SPEA Room 274</b>

### **Grading & Assignments:**

#### ***Attendance***

You are expected to attend class sessions. Typical lecture and discussion sessions will count for 2.75 points each (55 points). Classes when special speakers, Camelot Simulations, or the City Issue Assignment Presentations take place will count for 5 points each (45 points). The total attendance points that you can earn for the class is 100 points. In order to get full points for attendance you are expected to arrive on time and stay for the entire class. Per university guidelines, any student who will have a university-sanctioned absence for an extracurricular activity must see me in advance of the absence.

Attendance is documented and recorded by the sign-in sheet that is circulated during each class. It is your sole responsibility to insure that you sign the attendance sheet. If you do not sign the attendance sheet you will not receive attendance points for that day or a zero (0). You may not sign the attendance sheet for anyone other than yourself. Signing in for someone that is not present is considered cheating. The completed attendance sheets will be retained and available for your review if you have any questions regarding the record of your presence at each class.

#### ***Class Participation***

The lecture material for each day is listed in the course syllabus. Students are responsible for reading the assigned materials and coming prepared to discuss them in class. There will be many opportunities for students to participate in class. This is an integral part of the classroom learning experience. In addition, students will have many opportunities to participate in the Camelot simulation. Participation in the simulation will provide opportunity to earn participation points as well. Students can earn up to 50 points for class participation.

#### ***Playspent.org Assignment & Reflection***

This assignment is intended to help students relate to those experiencing poverty. You must complete the online Playspent exercise considering and then consider and write about how you felt after completing the experience. Imagine having to make the presented choices. How would you feel if this was your reality? How did the assignment impact the way that you view those living in poverty? Your response should be approximately one half (1/2) page double-spaced. Margins must not exceed one inch and the font must be 11 or 12 point Times New Roman. Papers should include the appropriate header. The paper must be uploaded via Canvas on or before class on the due date.

### ***City Issue Assignment & Presentation***

For this assignment each students will be assigned to group. Each group should include a copy of their comprehensive plan review sheet, evaluate a real-life issues being faced by the assigned city, and complete a case study. This assignment should include independent and/or group research on the topic. Grading of the assignment will be based upon analysis of the issue, creativity to approaching the problems, use of the theories and approaches learned in class, clarity and quality of writing, and class presentation. **For this assignment students must attend class and present with their group on the date listed in the syllabus. This assignment is worth 150 points.** The instructor will evaluate each group presentation. Each student will evaluate their personal participation, as well as, the participation of all other group members as part of this assignment. The evaluation of the instructor combined with personal and peer evaluations will be utilized to determine individual grades earned for this assignment.

Components of the written assignment should include an introduction to the issue, overview/analysis, status report, completed case problems during which key questions should be asked and answered, and appendices that support the solution presented. Successful presentation should include a Power Point presentation for use in class and a 1-2 page handout for classmates to review (handouts should be completed and sent electronically to the class at least 24 hours in advance of your presentation. A detailed assignment sheet will be distributed in class and will be available online.

### ***City Council Paper***

For this assignment you **must attend or watch the tape of a City Council meeting**. City of Bloomington meetings are held the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 7:30 in Council Chambers. If you wish to attend a Bedford City Council meeting they take place on the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in City Hall located at 1102 16<sup>th</sup> Street.

Webcasts, agendas and minutes for Bloomington City Council meetings can be found at <http://bloomington.in.gov/documents/council> by looking under the Council Meeting Heading and clicking on the link to "VIEW LIVE AND ARCHIVED COUNCIL MEETINGS WITH CIVIC WEBCASTS" and "VIEW COUNCIL MINUTES". To view the meeting on line, you will either need to have RealPlayer installed on your computer or you can use one of the Macs in the campus computer labs. Your grade will be based on analysis of the issue, your creativity to approaching the problem, the clarity and quality of your writing. In addition, the use of references to the class text and lectures, as well as outside sources should be used. A rubric grading form for this assignment is available online and will be used for grading papers. While there is no page limit, I expect most papers to be approximately three (3) pages long double-spaced, not including the attached agenda. Margins must not exceed one inch and the font must be 11 or 12 point Times New Roman. **The paper must be uploaded via Canvas prior to class on the due date and a hard copy must also be submitted. Please note that the submission date/time of the assignment will be when it is submitted online. The assignment must include the appropriate header, be double-sided and stapled.**

### ***Exams***

This course will have two (2) exams and a final during the semester that will cover the material from the readings, lectures, class activities and class assignments. Some of the exam questions will come directly from the lecture and will not be found in any of the assigned materials; others will come from the material but not covered in class. The exams will be comprised of multiple choice questions. The final exam will be comprehensive in nature. You will have the entire class to complete each exam. **There will be no make-up exam unless there is an extreme circumstance that constitutes an excused absence.** If such a situation arises I need to be contacted via email prior to the exam. The student must document the situation. I will decide if the reason warrants missing an exam and will give a grade of zero if it does not. I reserve the right to ask different questions on any make-up exam. Student with a pre-approved Academic Modification should share a copy of the memorandum with the instructor at the beginning of the semester so that necessary arrangements can be made well in advance of assignment due dates and exams. Students who fail to take an exam will receive a grade of zero.

### ***Simulation Role Paper***

Each student in the class will be assigned a role in the *Camelot* simulation. To ensure you understand your role and the positions that your role will take during the simulation, you must write a character profile. This paper will consist of a summary of your character's biography and your position on issues. Additionally, you should identify your character's allies and adversaries in the simulation and discuss your strategy for dealing with these other characters. I expect most papers will be approximately two (3) pages, double - spaced. Margins must not exceed one inch and the font must be 11 or 12 point Times New Roman. **The paper must be uploaded via Canvas prior to class on the due date. Please note that the submission date/time of the assignment will be when it is submitted online. The assignment must include the appropriate header.**

### ***Camelot Simulation***

Whereas science classes have a laboratory where students have the opportunity to apply what they learn in the class room, historically social science course have not had that type of hands on experience. With this in mind, the *Camelot* simulation will give you the opportunity to experience the urban policy process. All of the issues discussed in the simulation will impact your character. It is expected that you will think about your role's characteristics and based upon that and your own individual ideas voice your opinion. Your participation in the simulation will be graded and is one component of your participation grade.

### ***Camelot Simulation Journal***

To ensure that you are getting the most out of the simulation, you will be required to maintain a *Camelot* journal. This journal must document a summary of that days simulation, the actions you took in that day's simulation, the impact these actions had on the decisions/outcome, the reasons that you think decisions were made, and the reasons why you (not your character) agree or disagree with the decision. Additionally, grading will also be based upon the thoughtfulness, clarity and quality of the response. Although we are scheduled to have five (5) simulation sessions during the semester, you are only required to submit four (4) journal entries. I expect each journal entry to be approximately one page. Margins must not exceed one inch and font must be 11 or 12 point Times New Roman. **Journal entries should be included in one document and uploaded via Canvas prior to class on the due date and a hard copy must also be submitted. Please note that the submission date/time of the assignment will be when it is submitted online. The assignment must include the appropriate header, be double-sided and stapled.**

### ***Assignments***

Unless I have agreed well in advance to an alternative due date, I will reduce the assignment grade by a full letter grade (10%) for each class day that it is late. **Please note that the submission date/time of the assignment will be when it is submitted online.**

### **Policy Regarding Assignment Format, Submission, and Timeliness**

Each assignment must include identifying information in the top left hand corner. This should include first and last name, student identification number, assignment title, and date submitted. Assignments that do not include the appropriate identifying information will be deducted points. Below is an example of the appropriate format for the header of each assignment.

**Shawna Girgis**  
**Student ID: 211350**  
**Assignment Name**  
**March 3, 2017**

All papers must be submitted using Canvas. ***The City Council Paper must also be printed (double-sided), pages numbered and stapled before turning in a hard copy.*** In order for an assignment to be complete it must be submitted online. **Please note that the submission date/time of an assignment is when it is submitted online.**

Alternative due dates will be granted only in the event of an emergency. All communications regarding alternative due dates must be sent via Canvas messaging/email. I must get a message from you explaining the reason behind the request and you must receive a message from me confirming an extension. In the absence of both messages the assignment is due on the date listed in the syllabus. Late assignments will not be accepted without a penalty as described in the syllabus.

### **Academic Modifications**

If you have any IU approved academic modification that provides additional time for completing assignments or exams, allows for tests to be taken outside of the regular class time, or any other modification, please provide the required documentation as soon as the official memorandum has been issued. The Division of Student Affairs and/or the instructor need ample time to schedule tests administered in their office.

### **University Extracurricular Activities**

University athletic events, as well as other team activities are excused absences and every effort will be made to accommodate your schedule. While this is the case, it is the responsibility of each student to provide me with official documentation regarding dates that you will be away from class and for scheduling make-up exams in advance when necessary. In addition, assignment due dates remain the same and must be submitted in a timely manner online via Canvas as listed in the syllabus.

### **Academic Dishonesty**

SPEA faculty do not tolerate cheating, plagiarism, or any other form of academic dishonesty. If you have not done so, you should read the IUB Code of Students Rights, Responsibilities, and Conduct, which can be accessed at <http://dsa.indiana.edu/Code/> so you will be sure to understand what these terms mean and what penalties can be issued for academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty can result in a grade of F for the class (an F for academic dishonesty cannot be removed from the transcript). Significant violations of the Code can result in expulsion from the University.

### **Syllabus Disclaimer**

The instructor reserves the right to change the syllabus as needed throughout the course of the semester. Whenever a change is made, students will be notified as early as possible during class and/or via class messaging about the change(s).