

# UEP 0252-01: Cities in Space, Place, and Time

**Fall 2009**

Instructor: Barbara Parmenter

Tuesday/Thursday 4:30-6pm, Pearson Chemical Lab 104 (62 Talbot Ave)

The full syllabus, including course schedule and readings can be found at <https://wikis.uit.tufts.edu/confluence/x/F4KtAQ>

This course is required for all UEP MA students.

## Course Description

This course will introduce students to the history of US cities and metropolitan regions focusing specifically on the actions of planners and policy-makers and how these actions physically shaped communities and influenced the way we live and work. Students will also develop basic historical research and documentation skills. The focus will be on the US, but students are encouraged to bring in any experience they have with cities in other regions of the world. Because race, ethnicity, class, and immigration/migration issues have been so central to the evolution of our cities and towns, we will pay particular attention to these.

## Course Objectives

This course has both content knowledge skills components. These content knowledge and skills are important for professional practice in which planners and policy makers are frequently asked to document the historical context for proposed plans and decisions, and to quickly come up to speed on community issues, concerns, and past activities. In addition, to be a conscientious and visionary practitioner, professionals should always strive to have a deep and comprehensive historical understanding communities and issues within their complex spatial, cultural, demographic, environmental, and socio-economic contexts.

## Knowledge objectives

At the conclusion of this course, students will broadly understand the following:

- The growth of industrial and post-industrial cities, suburbs, and metropolitan regions
- The dynamic nature of increasingly global economic and technological changes that have shaped cities and metropolitan regions over the last two centuries
- The massive movements of people in response to these changes and how these migrations have in turn shaped communities
- The struggle for control of political and economic resources between competing groups and centers of power at the local and metropolitan levels

- How this struggle to control resources, and particularly land, housing, and jobs, shaped the development of cities and their metropolitan regions
- The nature of class, racial and ethnic conflicts underlying community competition over resources and how these shaped and were shaped by planning/policy responses
- The evolution of planning as a profession in the US and the major influences/turning points of this evolution
- The influence of past policy debates and practices on the contemporary metropolitan landscape and on current policy debates and methods

## **Skills objectives**

Upon conclusion of this course students will be able to:

- Locate, assemble, chart, and map US historical census data
- Explain what factors led to changes in population numbers, spatial distribution, and socio-economic composition (race, ethnicity, income, and occupation) within a given metropolitan region
- Locate and use historical maps and/or aerial photography to compare with current city/metropolitan development
- Access past government planning and policy documents in the student's field of interest, to be able to analyze these within their historical context
- Explain and document major trends, events, plans, and policies that led to changes in urban and metropolitan growth and decline and how these have impacted and been influenced by the different communities within these urban regions

**UEP Competencies – the specific course competencies met by UEP 252 can be accessed on the course web site (<https://wikis.uit.tufts.edu/confluence/x/F4KtAQ>)**

## **Course Grading**

The course grade will be based on the following:

- Analyzing an early plan\policy document (20 points)
- Review essay of a planning\urban\metropolitan history classic book (30 points)
- Concluding essay (20 points)
- Online journal discussion of readings and class discussion questions (20 points)
- Class participation (10 points)

## **Required Text**

Jon C. Teaford. 2006. *The Metropolitan Revolution: The Rise of Post-Urban America*. Columbia University Press

The Teaford book can be found at the Tufts Bookstore and is also on 8-hour/overnight reserve at Tisch Library.

**Policy on Academic Integrity:** Read Tufts University's policy on academic integrity for graduate and undergraduate students at: <http://uss.tufts.edu/dosa/publications/>.

**Please read this carefully!** You should pay particular attention to how to cite, quote, and paraphrase information, and understand copyright and fair use. If you have any questions, feel free to talk with the instructors.

**Style Guidelines:** All written work must be produced consistent with the style guidelines of one of the two major style guides used at UEP, *The Chicago Manual of Style* or the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Both provide clear guidance for citing and referencing other works. Such a skill is essential to avoid unintentional plagiarism. Students are strongly encouraged to purchase their own copy of either manual (the most recent editions are best, but not essential).