COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course explores the economic challenges facing low-income people and places, and strategies to revitalize neighborhoods, develop businesses, and increase earnings and wealth. Community economic development is situated within the context of traditional state and local economic development policy, and their underlying theoretical perspectives are compared. It explores community economic development goals, organizations, strategies, planning, and finance. It also analyzes the politics of economic inequality and economic development, and methods for holding public development processes and projects “accountable”, so that the benefits of development are shared.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

This course is held in a lecture/discussion format. All students are expected to keep up with the reading material and participate in class. You can contribute to the class by coming prepared to discuss the concepts and issues in the reading. You are also encouraged to share news articles and other information about regional or national economic development issues.

In addition to two short reflective essays on the reading materials, you will diagnose a CED problem and create a community economic development plan to address it. You will share your findings with the class.

Grades: 

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<th>Due Dates:</th>
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<td>Reading Reflections</td>
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<td>Selected dates</td>
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<td>CED Problem Analysis</td>
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<td>CED Problem Presentation</td>
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<td>CED Plan</td>
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Required Books:


COURSE ASSIGNMENTS

Reading Reflections:
On the first day of class you will sign up for two dates to write your reflective essays. These are not summaries of the readings, but your own thoughtful analysis and reflection on the weekly topic and readings. You can pose questions, offer critique, and/or make connections to contemporary community development issues. The essay should be 2-3 pages in length. If the essay is below a minimum standard of quality, you will be asked to revise it. The essays will inform our weekly discussion of the concepts and ideas covered in the reading material. You should add your essays to the Google drive folder for the class by 12 pm on Mondays.

Community Economic Development Plan (Parts 1 & 2):
The CED Plan consists of 1) a problem diagnosis and 2) a CED strategy to solve the problem. Use the Temali Handbook (and/or other readings as needed) to diagnose a problem and propose a solution. You may focus on place, people, or people-in-place (e.g. a low-income neighborhood or district, a group of people at the national scale, or a group of people in a particular place). The first part of the plan is a description and analysis of the problem (e.g. neighborhood disinvestment or youth unemployment). In our sixth week you will present your analysis to the class and turn in a 5-6 page paper. After diagnosing the problem you will devise a solution and share this will the class at the end of the term. The final paper includes an introduction, problem analysis, context in CED literature, and solution (10-12 pages).

SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

1. April 3
Introduction: The Historical Context of CED

2. April 10
Poverty: People and Place
Shulman. Chapters 1-4.

Kneebone & Berube. Chapters 1-3.

3. April 17
CED vs. Traditional Economic Development (TED)
Shulman. Chapters 5-6.

Green & Haines, Chapters 1-2.


Good Jobs First. Accountable Development (Beginner’s Guide)
http://www.goodjobsfirst.org/accountable-development


4. April 24
CED Organizations, Planning, and Development
Temali. Chapters 1-3.

Green & Haines. Chapters 4-5.
SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

5. May 1
CED Strategy: Physical Revitalization & Responsible Development Strategies
Temali. Chapter 4.

Kneebone & Berube, Chapters 4 & 5.

Green & Haines. Chapters 8 & 10.


6. May 8
CED Strategy: Business Development Strategies
Temali. Chapter 5.

Green & Haines. Chapter 9.

CED Problem Presentations

7. May 15
CED Strategy: Workforce Development Strategies
Temali. Chapters 6-7.

Green & Haines. Chapters 6-7.

8. May 22
CED Politics
Shulman, Chapters 7-8.

Green & Haines. Chapter 11.


9. May 29
Memorial Day – No Class

10. June 5
Re-Thinking CED
Kneebone & Berube, Chapters 6 & 7.

Green & Haines. Chapter 15.

11. June 12
CED Plan Presentations