FALL 2022

URBST 222: INTRODUCTION TO URBAN HOUSING/ URBST 723: DYNAMICS OF HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

Mondays & Wednesdays | 10:45-12 | Kiely 315

Adjunct Lecturer: Erin Lilli, M/MS.Arch | Email: elilli@gradcenter.cuny.edu
Office Hours: By appointment (in-person or via zoom)

Course Website: https://urbst222urbst723f22lilli.commons.gc.cuny.edu/

Note: This syllabus is a living document and subject to change (you'll be fairly notified)



Foreground: Hillman Housing buildings at 550 Grand Street (closest) and 530 Grand Street in Cooperative Village in the Lower East Side of Manhattan. Author: Joel Raskin, www.jrDigitalMedia.com (CC-BY-SA2.5)

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

With an emphasis on NYC, this class explores the situation of renters and owners in urban areas through a critical lens on race and capitalism. Using a variety of sources (e.g. texts, videos, podcasts), we will evaluate policies and seek to understand the impact of the housing market on neighborhood change. This class also considers what different levels of government are doing (and not doing) to assure that all residents have decent and safe housing—we'll look at public housing, rent regulation, mortgage finance, and other public and private programs that play a part in the development of housing in the city. This class also considers what housing options and programs are available in the city and how they differ from those in the rest of the country and abroad.

<u>How this course is organized:</u> This course has both undergraduate and graduate students—the graduate students will have different requirements for their assignments and mid-term exam, and additional readings with some emphasis on issues of homelessness. The general weekly format for this course consists of lectures, student-led discussions, in-class activities (some weeks), and reading responses.

<u>Each week</u> you will be responsible for the following as per the class schedule:

- o **Attending** lecture and partaking in any in-class activities
- o **Completing** course readings/watching videos etc. before class (note: the additional readings for graduate students are optional for undergraduates)
- o **Leading** or contributing to class discussions
- o Writing a reading response

Additionally, you will have a **midterm-exam** and a **final housing paper**.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- Gain a foundational understanding of how cities and communities approach the issue of housing and homelessness from a critical assessment of a variety of sources and perspectives.
- 2. Study historical and contemporary structures of racialized housing in the U.S.
- 3. Learn about the impacts of neoliberalism and housing financialization and alternative ways of housing.

III. REQUIRED TEXT

This is an Open Education Resource course, thus there are no required texts to purchase for this course—all readings and lectures will be available on the course website. Course readings that are not Open Access will be posted to Blackboard.

IV. GRADING

This course has a total of 100 points you can earn in the following ways:

Assignments/Exam	Due Date		% of Total
			Grade
Class Participation	Discussion Lead: Before the start of class on your	20pts	20%
	assigned day (see Course Schedule)		
	General class participation		
Weekly Reading	Tuesdays @ 10p (see Course Schedule for dates)	25pts	25%
Responses			
Mid-term Exam	Multiple Choice section: 10/26 (in-class)	25pts	25%
	Essay section: 10/27 @ 10p (take-home)		
Housing Paper	Topic: 10/12	30pts	30%
	Student Presentations: 12/7 & 12/12 (in-class)		
	Final Paper: 12/18 @11:59p		
TOTAL		100pts	100%

Acceptance of late work is up to the discretion of the instructor and may result in points lost.

V. ASSIGNMENTS & EXAM

All assignments are DUE by the date and time listed in the COURSE SCHEDULE which can also be found on the course website.

DISCUSSION LEAD requirements are due before the start of class on your assigned day.

Assignment details and rubrics are on the course website under ASSIGNMENTS menu.

Class Participation (20pts)

- Each student will be responsible for preparing and leading a class discussion. We will assign discussion leads at the start of the term.
- o Students are expected to contribute to discussions about readings/videos etc. even when not leading that week's discussion.
- o Students are expected to attend all lectures and partake in any in-class activities.
- o Class Participation details and rubric can be found on the course website under 'Assignments' menu.

■ Weekly Reading Responses (6 @ 4pts each = 24pts + 1 freebie pt = 25pts)

- O You are required to do any 6 out of the 11 Weekly Reading Responses (you may not do more for extra credit and I will only grade the first 6).
- You will write short responses to of one or more of the course readings for that week—this may take the form of responding to a prompt I provide or an open reflection.
- o Graduate students will have slightly different requirements for the response.
- o Reading Response assignments and rubric can be found on the course website under 'Assignments' menu.

Mid-term Exam (25pts)

- o Students will complete a midterm exam that is a combination of:
 - In-class multiple choice questions AND
 - Take-home essay questions
- o Graduate students will have their own version of the exam

Housing Paper+ Presentation: (30 pts)

- o Students will complete a paper focusing on housing topic in a neighborhood/community of NYC.
- o Graduate students will have different requirements for the paper.
- o <u>Housing Paper + Presentation details and rubric can be found on the course</u> website under 'Assignments' menu starting on Week 5.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND POLICIES

<u>Email Policy:</u> I will be available by email (<u>elilli@gradcenter.cuny.edu</u>). Questions or issues concerning grades, assignments, or general course information should be submitted through email. In responding to emails, please allow me roughly 24 hours (not counting weekends) for a response. This time will allow me to have enough time to adequately address your issue – or for you to resolve it on your own.

When emailing, please put the class name followed by a short description of the issue in the subject line. For example: "URBST222: Paper Topic". This will create a reference that we can easily pull back up and, most importantly, it lets me know that the email is class related and, therefore, requires my complete attention.

I will correspond with you via email throughout the semester. IMPORTANT: Please make sure you are using an email you frequently check (ideally your QC email) and make sure that email is associated with Blackboard—I will send class announcements via Blackboard and post them to the course website. Please do not ignore my messages because they may contain important information about due dates or schedule changes. I welcome your emails—feel free to contact me at any time with questions, comments, or concerns about the course.

It is a good idea to get into the habit of corresponding in a courteous manner. Please be sure to do so in your emails. Writing a proper email with the proper salutation (Hello/Dear), subject/details, and especially grammar – is a skill. As with any skill, it takes work and practice to perfect. Use this opportunity to perfect your skill of email correspondence. It is also especially important if you are reaching out to community members for interviews. Feel free to refer to me as Erin or Ms. Lilli—whichever you are more comfortable with.

<u>Academic Dishonesty and Plagiarism:</u> Plagiarism is a serious academic offense. The work you do in this course is assumed to be your own. If you reproduce someone else's work—by using their exact words, rephrasing their words, summarizing their words, or borrowing their idea—you must fully cite your source. This means that you should not take the words or ideas of another person and submit them without acknowledging the original author(s).

According to the Queens College Academic Integrity Policy; "Plagiarism is the act of presenting another person's ideas, research or writings as your own". Below are some of the examples:

- Copying another person's actual words or images 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.
- Failing to acknowledge collaborators on homework and laboratory assignments.
- Internet plagiarism, including submitting downloaded term papers or parts of term papers, paraphrasing or copying information from the internet without citing the source, or "cutting & pasting" from various sources without proper attribution.

This is not a writing intensive class, but writing will be required. If in doubt about how or when to cite, or if you feel you might be plagiarizing, <u>please refer to Avoiding Plagiarism or simply ask me- I'm here to help</u>. If you find yourself even remotely tempted to purposefully plagiarize, remember that it is incredibly obvious when you use somebody else's words (seriously, a real human being, me, reads your papers and I can tell when it's not your voice I'm reading).

If I suspect you are plagiarizing your work, I will review the work with you so we can correct it. If problems persist and/or are egregious I may report the incident on the *Queens College Academic Integrity Violation Form*.

Accessibility:

It is important that this course be accessible to all students. In order to receive disability-related (physical, emotional, etc.) academic accommodations students must first be registered with The Office of Special Services for Students with Disabilities | Ph#: 718-997-5870 | Email: QC.SPSV@qc.cuny.edu

Students who have a documented disability or suspect they may have a disability are invited to set up an appointment with the Center for Student Accessibility Services. If you have already registered with The Office of Special Services for Students with Disabilities, please provide your instructor with the course accommodation form so we may discuss your specific accommodation(s).

Here are some other student services you may find helpful:

<u>Counseling Services</u> | Email: <u>CounselingServices@qc.cuny.edu</u> | Ph#: 718-997-5420 | Crisis

Text Line: Text CUNY to 741741

IT Services | Email: support@qc.cuny.edu | Ph#: 718-997-4444

Blackboard Help | or reach out to IT Services

QC Help Desk

QC Writing Center | Email: qc.writing.center@qc.cuny.edu | Kiely Hall 229

I will do my best to help as much as I can or connect you with the right person/people/department.

Communicating Challenges:

I understand life can be complicated and messy and extenuating circumstances arise. Please utilize the campus counseling services for help and/or communicate to me any concerns you have with your success in this class—as early as possible, be proactive!

If you find that you are struggling with the course material, <u>please contact me.</u> We can set up an office hour to work it out. Bottom line, I want you to do well in this class and have a positive, meaningful experience!

Course Website: The syllabus, course schedule, assignments, and announcements are located on the publicly available site: https://urbst222urbst723f22lilli.commons.gc.cuny.edu/. I will also post any class announcements to Blackboard as well. Course materials (i.e. readings, videos,

lectures) will be embedded as links in the Course Schedule (non-Open Access readings will be posted to BB).

Blackboard will ONLY be used to upload assignments/exam essay questions, post grades, send announcements, and post non-Open Access readings. It is YOUR responsibility to make sure you can access Blackboard and that it uses your correct email—one that you frequently check (see link for how to change/verify email on BB). Information on how to log on to Blackboard is available here via QC Helpdesk. Please direct your technical questions about Blackboard access to the IT Service (support@qc.cuny.edu or 718-997-4444). Any class announcements posted to Blackboard will be received by you through the email you have associated with Blackboard.

COURSE SCHEDULE STARTS ON NEXT PAGE...

VI. COURSE SCHEDULE (subject to change, but you will be informed in advance)

- All readings/videos/podcasts & lectures will be embedded as links in 'Course Schedule' on the course website
- Readings that are <u>NOT Open Access</u> will be noted as such and posted to Blackboard
- Readings marked (**G-only**) are additional readings for graduate students and are not required (i.e. optional) for undergraduates

DATE		TOPIC	COURSE MATERIAL & READINGS (All readings, videos & podcasts are to be read/watched/listened to prior to class for discussion Activities are done in class)	ASSIGNMENTS & DISCUSSION LEADERS
WEEK 1	29 August	Introduction	 Review Syllabus (please read carefully and bring any questions to our next class session) Review course website & Blackboard Assign Discussion Leads 	
	31 August	Housing Under Capitalism	Lecture: Housing in a Free Market In-Class Activity: Watch: • How the US made affordable homes illegal [stop @9:10m • America's Looming Housing Crisis [@3:30-12m] • L.A. Activists Demand Real Solutions to Housing Crisis as City Cracks Down on Homeless Encampments [stop @53:30] • TWO FIRES TELL THE TALE OF THE U.S. HOUSING CRISIS [@:42-9:42]	
WEEK 2	5 September NO CLASS 7 September	Housing Under Capitalism (cont.)	NO CLASS Read for Class Discussion: Madden, D. & P. Marcuse. (2016). In Defense of Housing. Verso. [Ch. 1: Against the Commodification of Housing AND (G-only)	Reading Response (RR) #1 DUE Tues 9/6 @ 10p Discussion Lead: Aron

WEEK 3	12 September 14 September	Racialized Housing Policies PT. 1	■ Tenement Homes: The Outsized Legacy of New York's Notoriously Cramped Apartments by C. Nigro (2018). ■ Pluz, R. (2016). A History of Housing in New York City. Columbia Univ. Press. [Forward] In-Class Activity: ■ Watch: Professor Wolff On The Housing Crisis: In Capitalism, We Are All On Our Own Lecture: U.S. Housing Policy Pre- and Post War Read for Class Discussion: ■ Rothstein, T. (2017). The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America. Liveright. [Preface AND Ch. 1: If San Francisco, then Everywhere?] ■ (G-only) Wilder, C.S. (2000). A covenant with color: Race and social power in Brooklyn. Columbia Univ. Press. [Ch. 9: Vulnerable People, Undesirable Places: The New Deal and the Making of the Brooklyn Ghetto, 1920-1990] ■ (G-only) Dantzler, P., Korver-Glenn, E., & Howell, J. (2022). What Does Racial Capitalism Have to Do With Cities and Communities? City & Community, 153568412211039. Listen To for Class Discussion: ■ 'Hood History: The South Bronx, Bedford-	RR #2 DUE Tues 9/13 @ 10p Discussion Lead: Marcus
WEEK 4	19 September		Stuyvesant, and East New York in Historical Perspective [@16:35, Craig Wilder] Lecture: Continued Legacies of Housing Discrimination	RR #3 DUE Tues 9/20 @ 10p

	21 September	Racialized Housing Policies PT. 2	In-Class Activity: Listen to first ½ of Reveal Podcast: The red line: Racial disparities in lending [walking in the rain] Read for Class Discussion: Taylor, K-Y. Race for Profit: How Banks and the Real Estate Industry Undermined Black Homeownership. UNC Press (2019). [Introduction AND (G-only) Ch. 3: Forced Integration] Jacobin: How Real Estate Agents Keep Cities	Discussion Lead: Mary & Niharika
WEEK 5	26 September	Housing Policy	Segregated Listen to for Class Discussion: ■ Rest of Reveal Podcast: The red line: Racial disparities in lending NO CLASS	RR #4 DUE Tues 9/27 @
WEEKS	NO CLASS	Post-NYC	NO CLASS	10p
	28 September	Fiscal Crisis	Lecture: After the NYC Fiscal Crisis: Housing, Homelessness & Making Over NYC Read for Class Discussion: Reshaping New York: Virtual Tour Black Dispossession and the Making of Downtown Flushing by Tarry Hum The guist massive recogning of New York	Discussion Leads: Ruth & Katia
			 The quiet, massive rezoning of New York Housing New York: A Five-Borough, Ten-Year Plan [Executive Summary & Introduction AND (G-only) Ch. 4] 	

WEEK 6	3 October	Public Housing	 (G-only) <u>Backsliding Support and Backfiring Messaging: The Homelessness Conversation Needs a Reframe</u> In-Class Activity: Introduce Final Paper Assignment Lecture: Public Housing in the U.S. & NYC In-Class Activity: Watch: Why Do We Have Housing Projects?, PBS Origins 	
	5 October NO CLASS		NO CLASS	
WEEK 7	10 October NO CLASS	Public Housing (cont.)	NO CLASS	RR #5 DUE Tues 10/11 @ 10p
	MEET in Library RO225 12 October		Read for Class Discussion: Luis Ferre-Sadurni. "The Rise and Fall of New York Public Housing: An Oral History," The New York Times, July 9, 2018. Bloom, N. D. (2009). Public housing that worked: New York in the twentieth century. Univ. of Pennsylvania Press. [Introduction] Rotramel, A. (2021). Discarding homes: New York City public housing and single mother-led households (1963–2016). Women's History Review, 30(2), 320–338. (G-only) Goetz, E. (2011). Gentrification in Black and White: The Racial Impact of Public Housing Demolition in American Cities. Urban Studies, 48(8), 1581–1604.	Discussion Lead: Ann Jenica Housing Paper Topic DUE

			■ (G-only) Sink, T. and B. Ceh. "Relocation	
			of urban poor in Chicago: HOPE VI policy	
			outcomes," <i>Geoforum</i> , 42, no. 1 (2011): 71-	
WEEK 8	17 October	NYC	82.	DD #6 DIJE Tree 10/19
WEEK	17 October	Affordable	Lecture: Zoning & Affordable Housing in NYC	RR #6 DUE Tues 10/18 @ 10p
	19 October	Housing Crisis	Read:	Discussion Leads:
	19 October	and (re)Zoning	 De Blasio's Housing Legacy In 9 Graphics 	Zachary & Mariyah
		and (re)Zoning	Lin et.al., (2021), "In Defense of Asian	Zachary & Warryan
			American Neighborhoods," Shelterforce.	
			Angotti, T. & Morse, S (Eds.). (2016). Zoned	
			Out! Race, Displacement, and City Planning in	
			New York City: Terreform [Ch. 3 Williamsburg:	
			Zoning out Latinos]	
			• (G-only) Full Report: Why Hasn't the "Most	
			Ambitious Affordable Housing Program"	
			Produced a More Affordable City? [p. 24	
			"Homelessness" to end]	
			 (G-only) Elmedni, B., "The Mirage of Housing 	
			Affordability: An Analysis of Affordable	
			Housing Plans in New York City," Sage Open	
			(2018) 1-13.	
WEEK 9	24 October	Mid-Term	REVIEW for mid-term exam	
	26 October	Exam	MID-TERM EXAM	Essay section of Mid-
			 Multiple Choice section (in-class) 	term DUE 10/27 @ 10p
***************************************	21.0		■ Essay section (take-home)	uploaded to Blackboard
WEEK 10	31 October	Housing	Lecture: Financialization of Housing	RR #7 DUE Tues 11/1 @
	2 N 1	Financialization	D 10 Cl D:	10p Discussion Leads: John
	2 November	& the Subprime	Read for Class Discussion:	
		Mortgage Crisis	Brenner, N., Marcuse, P., & Mayer, M. (Eds.).	& Anisa
		CHSIS	(2012). Cities for people, not for profit: Critical	
			urban theory and the right to the city. Routledge.	

			[Ch.13 :A Critical Approach to Solving the Housing Problem by Peter Marcuse] Graziani, T., Montano, J., Roy, A., & Stephens, P. (2020). Who Profits from Crisis? Housing Grabs in Time of Recovery. Retrieved from https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5pw706tf Gonly) Aalbers, M. B., "Financial geography II: Financial geographies of housing and real estate," Progress in Human Geography, 43, no. 2 (2019): 376–87. Gonly) Fields, D., "Unwilling Subjects of Financialization," International Journal of Urban and Regional Research, 41, no. 4 (2017): 588–603. Listen to for Class Discussion: The Financialization of Housing and Its Implications for Community Development, by Benjamin Teresa, Shelterforce	
WEEK 11	7 November 9 November	Global Perspectives on Housing Financialization	Lecture: Housing Financialization: global examples Read for Class Discussion: Gonick, S.L. (2021). Dispossession and Dissent: Immigrants and the Struggle for Housing in Madrid. Stanford Univ. Press. [Ch. 3: Homeownership's Urbanism] Rolnik, R. (2019). Urban Warfare: Housing under the Empire of Finance. Verso. [Ch. 1: The Global Financialization of Housing AND (Gonly) Ch. 3: Exporting the Model] (G-only) Let Them Eat Real Estate, buy Dan Darrah, Jacobin.	RR #8 DUE Tues 11/8 @ 10p Discussion Lead: Afia & Michael

		In-Class Activity:	
		Break out groups to discuss your paper topics/	
		research questions with classmates	
14 November	Gentrification	Lecture: Theories of Gentrification	RR #9 DUE Tues 11/15
			@ 10p
16 November			Discussion Leads:
			Christian & Ping
21 November	Gentrification	Lecture: Gentrification: Displacement & Resistance	RR #10 DUE Tues 9/22
	(cont.)		@ 10p
23 November		Read for Class Discussion:	Discussion Leads:
		 Atkinson, R. (2000). The hidden costs of 	Thomas & Trevon
		gentrification: Displacement in central	
		l G	
	16 November 21 November	16 November 21 November Gentrification (cont.)	Break out groups to discuss your paper topics/ research questions with classmates Lecture: Theories of Gentrification

WEEK 14	28 November 30 November	Housing Precarity & Ontological Security	New York," International Journal of Urban and Regional Research. In-Class Activity: Rapid Research: Local Anti-gentrification Activism Lecture: Sense of Home & Homelessness Read for Class Discussion: Bendiner-Viani, G., & Saegert, S., "Making Housing Home: Speaking of Places," Places, 19, no. 2 (2007). Duong, B., 2022, "What Can Be Done When LIHTC Affordability Restrictions Expire?" Shelterforce. Fullilove, M. T. (2001). Root shock: The consequences of African American dispossession. Journal of Urban Health: Bulletin of the New York Academy of Medicine, 78(1), 72–80. https://doi.org/10.1093/jurban/78.1.72 G-only) Dupuis, A. & Thorns, D.C., "Home,	RR #11 DUE Tues 11/29 @ 10p Discussion Lead: Vibha & Edwin (Optional) Submit draft of paper for high-level feedback
			 (G-only) Dupuis, A. & Thorns, D.C., "Home, Home Ownership and the Search for Ontological Security," <i>The Editorial Board of The Sociological Review</i> (1998). (G-only) Hiscock, R., Kearns, A., MacIntyre, S., & Ellaway, A. (2001). Ontological Security and Psycho-Social Benefits from the Home: Qualitative Evidence on Issues of Tenure. <i>Housing, Theory and Society</i>, 18(1–2), 50–66. https://doi.org/10.1080/14036090120617 	
WEEK 15	5 December	Housing as a Right:	Read for Class Discussion: Rowe, M., Engelsman, U., & Southern, A.	Discussion Lead: Evan and Mamadou
			(2016). "Community Land Trusts - a radical or	

7	7 December	Movements & Alternatives Presentation	reformist response to The Housing Question today?". ACME: An International Journal for Critical Geographies, 15(3), 590–615. [Link] Díaz-Parra, I., & Mena, J. C. (2015). "Squatting, the 15-M Movement, and Struggles for Housing in the Context of the Spanish Social Crisis". Human Geography, 8(1), 40–53. https://doi.org/10.1177/194277861500800103 (G-only) Sazama, G. W. "Lessons from the History of Affordable Housing Cooperatives in the United States: A Case Study in American Affordable Housing Policy," American Journal of Economics and Sociology, 59, no. 4 (2000): 573–608. (G-only) Newman, K., & Goetz, E. (2016). "Reclaiming neighborhood from the inside out: Regionalism, globalization, and critical community development". Urban Geography, 37(5), 685–699. https://doi.org/10.1080/02723638.2015.1096116 In-Class Activity: Watch: Researcher proposes how to solve the U.S. affordable housing crisis [Link] Building a Housing Movement [Link]	Upload PDF of your
		Day		Presentation to Blackboard on the day you present

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WEEK 16	LAST DAY OF CLASS 12 December	Presentation Day	STUDENT PRESENTATIONS	Upload PDF of your Presentation to Blackboard on the day you present
	18 December	Final Due	FINAL HOUSING PAPER DUE	Final Housing Paper DUE @ 11:59p—upload Word Doc to Blackboard