Instructor
Matthew B. Ferguson, M.C.R.P.
E-mail: ruferg@echo.rutgers.edu
(Subject Line: American City)

Office Hours
Tuesday 6:00PM – 7:00PM & By Arrangement
Office Hours Location: Ruth Adams Bldg 017A

Required Texts
The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson (ISBN: 0375725601) - $15.00
Boardwalk Empire by Nelson Johnson (ISBN: 0937548499) - $20.00
Additional Readings on SAKAI site or provided by Instructor
Books are available at New Jersey Books, the Rutgers Bookstore & at all major online retailers.

Course Overview
The American City takes an interdisciplinary approach to the history, culture, problems and future of urban areas by investigating specific icons of American urbanism.

Learning Objectives
By the end of this course, students should be able to thoroughly read, comprehend and critically analyze primary and secondary sources. Students should also be able to synthesize this literary information from various sources or media and apply it to the analysis of contemporary issues or problems relating to urban culture and development.

Finally, students should have a preliminary understanding of the historical, social, and political impact of urban development on the formation of American identity, values and social policy. In addition to becoming more familiar with the body of literature and media focusing on American cities, students will be able to identify and analyze both the formation and representation of American values in our society.

Course Outline

Tuesday January 18 – Course Introduction & Syllabus Review
Tuesday January 25 – The American City
Introduction to Urbanism & Urban Planning Dictionary
Brief Cultural History of American Cities
**Field Exercise One Posted on SAKAI**

Tuesday February 1 – New York City
City of Dreadful Night/Jacob Riis Lecture
Movie Clip: Gangs of New York by Martin Scorsese

READING DUE: Excerpt from Jacob Riis’s
“How The Other Half Lives” on SAKAI
Tuesday February 8 – **New York City**
Historic Preservation Lecture
*Movie Clip: New York Documentary by Ric Burns*

**READING DUE: Historic Preservation Articles on SAKAI**

**Field Exercise One DUE IN CLASS & Uploaded to TurnItIn.Com By 11:30PM**

**Field Exercise Two Posted on SAKAI**

Tuesday February 15 – **New York City**
Harlem Renaissance Art Lecture
Social Protest Music: Blues to Hip-Hop

**READING DUE: Excerpt from Mary Schmidt Campbell’s “Harlem Renaissance: Art of Black America” and Harlem Renaissance Readings on SAKAI**

Tuesday February 22 – **New York City**
The Planning Years of New York City
*Movie Clip: New York Documentary by Ric Burns*

**READING DUE: Excerpt from Jane Jacob’s “The Death and Life of Great American Cities” on SAKAI**

Tuesday March 1 – **The Suburban Dream**
World War II & Federal Policy Lecture
Levittown, McMansions & Suburban Culture Lecture
*Movie Clips: Leave it to Beaver & Levittown*

**READING DUE: Excerpt from Crabgrass Frontier By Kenneth Jackson on SAKAI**

Tuesday March 8 – **New York City**
The Decline of New York Lecture
*Movie: Crooklyn by Spike Lee*

**Field Exercise Three Posted on SAKAI**

**Field Exercise Two DUE BY FRIDAY MARCH 11 to the FERGUSON’S AMERICAN STUDIES OFFICE MAILBOX & Uploaded to TurnItIn.Com By 5:00PM**

Tuesday March 15 – NO CLASS! HAPPY SPRING BREAK!

Tuesday March 22 – **Chicago**
The World’s Fair of 1893 & Birth of City Planning
*Movie Clip: EXPO: Magic of the White City*

**DEVIL IN THE WHITE CITY QUIZ IN CLASS!**

Tuesday March 29 – **The Industrial City**
The Rust Belt Cities: Rise & Decline
*Movie: Roger & Me by Michael Moore*

**READING DUE: Articles on SAKAI**
Tuesday April 5 – Los Angeles/The Congested City
Disinvestment & Degeneration of Cities Lecture
The Decline of the Rail Car Lecture
Movie Clip: Boys N The Hood

READING DUE: Excerpt from City of Quartz by Mike Davis on SAKAI

Tuesday April 12 – Atlantic City
Boardwalk Empire Lecture
By Guest Lecturer/Author: The Honorable Nelson Johnson

READING DUE: Boardwalk Empire by Nelson Johnson

BOARDWALK EMPIRE QUIZ IN CLASS at 7:15PM

Lecture Location: Trayes Hall (DCC) – 8:00PM
**Students must sign in prior to the lecture...so arrive early!**

Bring your friends and your book to get autographed!

Tuesday April 19 – Atlantic City/The Cities of the Future
Gaming and Urban Redevelopment Lecture
Movie: American Dreaming: AC’s Casino Gamble

READING DUE: Articles on SAKAI

**Field Exercise Three DUE IN CLASS & Uploaded to TurnItIn.Com By 11:30PM**

Tuesday April 26 – The Sustainable City
Sustainability & The Urban Green Movement
Video Clips: Sprawling from Grace/The End of Suburbia

READING DUE: Articles on SAKAI

Tuesday May 3 - OPTIONAL REVIEW SESSION – Time & Location TBA
Tuesday May 10 - FINAL EXAM 8:00PM – 11:00PM – Location TBA

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<tr>
<th>Grading Components</th>
<th>Grading Cut-Offs</th>
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<tr>
<td>In Class Exercises</td>
<td>10 Points 90.0+ Points = A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Exercise One</td>
<td>10 Points 85.0+ Points = B+</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field Exercise Two</td>
<td>15 Points 80.0+ Points = B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Exercise Three</td>
<td>15 Points 75.0+ Points = C+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quizzes</td>
<td>20 Points 70.0+ Points = C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Exam</td>
<td>35 Points 60.0+ Points = D</td>
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59.9 Points or Below = F

Please Note: Due to a variety of extra credit opportunities and bonus points during the semester, grades are NOT rounded up!
Attendance
You are expected to attend all classes but attendance will not be recorded. You are responsible for all material and media presented in class, as well as all assigned readings. Your success in this class will be directly related to your attendance and participation in class.

When reviewing student grades from previous semesters, students who ACTIVELY attended class regularly did significantly better than those who did not.

If you must miss class for an extended period of time, please communicate with me ASAP so that we can figure out how to handle your particular situation. It is virtually impossible to assist a student dealing with a personal situation when he/she waits to communicate that information to me until the end of the semester.

In Class Exercises
At various points during our course, exercises will be conducted in class to connect students more directly to the material being presented. Only those students in attendance will receive credit for their participation and absent students will not be permitted to make-up these exercises for any reason. There are a few extra exercises built in to the course.

Field Exercises
These written exercises will require students to synthesize information being learned in class with real life examples and experiences. Field exercises will vary in length but minimum/maximum page requirements do not include any diagrams/pictures. All written assignments should be submitted IN CLASS on the dates listed in the syllabus. Late assignments will be penalized half a letter grade for each day late. Field Exercises will not be accepted more than 7 days after the original due date. All written assignments should be double-spaced with one-inch margins using 12 pt. Times New Roman font. Please include a standard single-spaced heading on the first page of each assignment and your last name in the header of each page. Proper spelling and grammar are a reflection of your commitment to the assignment and are therefore factored into your grade for the assignment.

TurnItIn.Com Account & Field Exercise Submission
In an effort to reduce plagiarism in assignments, the University subscribes to a plagiarism detection software program called TurnItIn.com. This software compares a submitted paper to the internet, millions of written sources and all papers previously submitted through the system. The website generates a report for the instructor to view that detects areas of plagiarism or suspected plagiarism.

For this course, all written assignments will need to be submitted in paper form during our class meeting and by 11:30PM that evening through TurnItIn.com. Failure to submit the paper to TurnItIn will result in an incomplete grade for the assignment. To submit papers through this site, you will need to create a free account and add the course.

To create an account, visit www.turnitin.com and click “Create Account” in the top right corner. Class ID: 3767235 Class Enrollment Password: ferguson
Note: If you already have an account from a previous course, you will simply need to add our course to your course list using the above information. Please create your account and add the course by Tuesday, January 25.
Quizzes
Quizzes will be conducted to test your comprehension of the two large works of literature assigned in class. The format will consist of multiple choice and short answer questions. Students who miss a quiz will be required to provide a “Dean’s Excuse” to prove the legitimacy of their absence and will be given an alternate quiz to complete. All Students must be able to produce a Rutgers ID when taking quizzes or exams.

Final Exam
The Final Exam will be a comprehensive review of the lectures, media and readings from our course. In addition to the “facts and figures”, students will be asked to synthesize the information from the course as a whole. The format will consist of True/False, Matching, Multiple Choice, Picture Identification, Short Answer and Essay. Students who miss the final exam will be required to provide a “Dean’s Excuse” to prove the legitimacy of their absence and will be given an alternate final to complete. All Students must be able to produce a Rutgers ID when taking quizzes or exams.

Extra Credit
There will be a few opportunities for students to earn extra credit during the semester including attending specified events on campus and an extra credit Field Assignment. These opportunities are 100% optional and are only intended to provide students with a way to boost their grade. More information on extra credit will be distributed in class.

Class Conduct
All students are expected to be on time to class. If for some reason, you need to arrive late or leave early, please do so with minimum disruption. Please place all cell phones on silent and refrain from text messaging. Since this course involves discussion, it is inevitable that differing opinions will be presented. The University as a whole supports the free and open exchange of ideas and this course will be no different. All students are expected to be respectful of any and all opinions shared in class.

Emergencies
In case of emergency, please check the University status page to see if the University is still operating. (http://campusstatus.rutgers.edu) If for some reason I need to cancel class, I will e-mail you all (from SAKAI) by 2:00PM on the day of class to let you know.

Academic Integrity
Academic freedom is a fundamental right in any institution of higher learning. Honesty and integrity are necessary preconditions of this freedom. Academic integrity requires that all academic work be wholly the product of an identified individual or individuals. Joint efforts are legitimate only when the assistance of others is explicitly acknowledged. Ethical conduct is the obligation of every member of the University community, and breaches of academic integrity constitute serious offenses.

Maintenance of the standards of academic honesty and the successful administration of this policy depend on the mutual cooperation of faculty and students. Dissemination of the Academic Integrity Policy to all faculty, staff, and students will ensure that all members of the community are informed about academic integrity.
Faculty cooperation is essential for successful application of the procedures defined by the Academic Integrity Policy. Faculty members can help promote academic integrity by making clear on their syllabi their expectations concerning homework assignments, collaborative student efforts, research papers, examinations, and the like. Efforts should be made to detect and to prevent cheating and plagiarism in all academic assignments. If faculty members have evidence of academic dishonesty, they are expected to report such evidence promptly.

Students must assume responsibility for maintaining honesty in all work submitted for credit and in any other work designated by the instructor of the course. Students are also expected to report incidents of academic dishonesty to the instructor or dean of the instructional unit.

This policy seeks to demonstrate the University's concern with academic dishonesty and to guarantee a fair procedure for resolving complaints of academic dishonesty.

**WHEN IN DOUBT...**

**ASK YOUR INSTRUCTOR!**

*Personal Note:*

*I’ve worked very hard to create assignments, tests and quizzes that are both interactive and challenging for you as a student. In addition to being insulting to me, when you cheat...you are cheating yourself out of a learning experience. Be forewarned that I will not hesitate to report you for any violation of academic integrity.*

**Violations of Academic Integrity**

The various ways in which academic honesty can be violated are discussed below. The comments and examples within each section provide explanations and illustrative material, but do not necessarily exhaust the scope of these violations.

**A. Cheating**

Cheating is the use of inappropriate and unacknowledged materials, information, or study aids in any academic exercise. The use of books, notes, calculators and conversation with others is restricted or forbidden in certain academic exercises. Their use in these cases constitutes cheating. Similarly, students must not request others (including commercial term paper companies) to conduct research or prepare any work for them, nor may they submit identical work or portions thereof for credit or honors more than once without prior approval of the instructor.

**B. Fabrication**

Fabrication is the falsification or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. "Invented" information may not be used in any laboratory experiment or other academic exercise without authorization from the instructor. It is improper, for example, to analyze one sample in an experiment and covertly "invent" data based on that single experiment for several more required analyses. The student must also acknowledge reliance upon the actual source from which cited information was obtained. A writer should not, for example, reproduce a quotation from a book review and indicate that the quotation was obtained from the book itself.
C. Facilitating Academic Dishonesty
Students who knowingly or negligently allow their work to be used by other students or who otherwise aid others in academic dishonesty are violating academic integrity. Such students are as guilty of intellectual dishonesty as the student who receives the material even though they may not themselves benefit academically from that dishonesty.

D. Plagiarism
Plagiarism is the representation of the words or ideas of another as one's own in any academic exercise. To avoid plagiarism, every direct quotation must be identified by quotation marks or by appropriate indentation and must be properly cited in the text or in a footnote. Acknowledgment is required when material from another source stored in print, electronic or other medium is paraphrased or summarized in whole or in part in one's own words. To acknowledge a paraphrase properly, one might state: "to paraphrase Plato's comment..." and conclude with a footnote identifying the exact reference. A footnote acknowledging only a directly quoted statement does not suffice to notify the reader of any preceding or succeeding paraphrased material. Information which is common knowledge such as names of leaders of prominent nations, basic scientific laws, etc, need not be footnoted; however, all facts or information obtained in reading or research that are not common knowledge among students in the course must be acknowledged.

In addition to materials specifically cited in the text, only materials that contribute to one's general understanding of the subject may be acknowledged in the bibliography. Plagiarism can, in some cases, be a subtle issue. Any questions about what constitutes plagiarism should be discussed with the faculty member.

E. Denying others access to information or material
It is a violation of academic integrity to deny others access to scholarly resources, or to deliberately impede the progress of another student or scholar. Examples of offenses of this type include: giving other students false or misleading information; making library material unavailable to others by stealing or defacing books or journals, or by deliberately misplacing or destroying reserve materials; or altering computer files that belong to another.

The Full Policy on Academic Integrity and additional information can be found on at the Office of Student Conduct Website (http://studentconduct.rutgers.edu)