URSI 4/515 Urban Housing Policy
Fall, 2003

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Course Objectives

Over the last twenty years, there has been a devolution of housing policy from the federal
government as the lead actor to state and local governments and the private non-profit
sector. This shift creates challenges in terms of resources and opportunities for local
innovation. The aim of this course is to provide students with an understanding of the
issues, policies, and programs that will be involved in addressing urban housing needs in
the 21st Century. Specifically, the course will:

♦ Explore the evolution of housing policy and the rationale for public intervention in the housing market
at the federal, state, and local level.
♦ Explore the use of public-private partnerships with special focus on the role of not-for-profit housing
corporations.
♦ Examine the use of zoning, subdivision, financing, and housing design as tools to achieve affordable
and sustainable housing.
♦ Explore the components of neighborhood development policies and programs.
♦ Examine equity issues of race and poverty in housing policy and programming.
♦ Provide students with opportunities to develop communication skills in presenting written and oral
reports.

Course Assignments

The formal products and examinations of the course will include:
♦ One analytical memo. Using the professional memo style (instructor will provide handout on memo
format), students will analyze case studies of housing policy and program implementation and make a
presentation of their findings (40%).
♦ Two examinations: A mid-term and final exam will cover readings and class discussions. (50%)
♦ Class presentations and participation (10%)
♦ Research paper: All graduate students will write a 15+ double-spaced page research paper or field
project on a housing or neighborhood development topic. (Grad. Grade breakdown will be: Memos-
20%, Exams-30%, Research Paper-40%, Participation-10%)
See Course Schedule for Due Dates.

Accommodations

Every attempt will be made to accommodate qualified students with disabilities. If you
are a student with a documented disability, please see me as early in the semester as
possible to discuss the necessary accommodations, and or contact the Disability Services
office at 389-2825 (V) or 1-800-627-3529 (MRS/TTV).
### Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Readings/Assignment Due*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/27/03</td>
<td>Introductions: Students, Instructor, Course Content and Requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/3/03</td>
<td>Housing Needs: Demand and Supply</td>
<td>Nenno, Chs. 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/10/03</td>
<td>National Housing Policy-Public Housing, Sec. 8, Homelessness</td>
<td>Nenno, Chs. 5, 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/17/03</td>
<td>State &amp; Local Housing Policy</td>
<td>Nenno, Chs. 7, 8, 9</td>
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<td>9/24/03</td>
<td>Housing Design -Sustainable Housing, New Urbanism</td>
<td>Beatley, Chs. 3</td>
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<td>10/1/03</td>
<td>No Class – Conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8/03</td>
<td>Presentations of Analytical Memo</td>
<td>MEMO DUE</td>
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<td>10/15/03</td>
<td>Mid-Term Exam - In-class</td>
<td>MID-TERM EXAM</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/22/03</td>
<td>The Non-Profit Local Housing Movement</td>
<td>Goetz, Chs. 3 &amp; 5</td>
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<td>10/29/03</td>
<td>Neighborhood Planning and Neighborhood Revitalization</td>
<td>Morrish, pp. 17-53</td>
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<td>11/5/03</td>
<td>Field Trip - Mpls. Neighborhood Projects</td>
<td>Handouts</td>
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<td>11/12/03</td>
<td>Race and Housing - Exclusionary &amp; Inclusionary Zoning, Redlining</td>
<td>Keating, Chs. 7 &amp; 11</td>
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<td>11/19/03</td>
<td>Future Directions for Housing Policy</td>
<td>Nenno, Ch. 11</td>
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<td>11/26/03</td>
<td>Thanksgiving - No Class</td>
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<tr>
<td>12/3/03</td>
<td>Presentation of Grad. Research Papers</td>
<td>GRAD. RESEARCH PAPER DUE</td>
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<td>12/10/03</td>
<td>Exam #2</td>
<td>EXAM #2</td>
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*Required Textbooks (available at MSU Bookstore):* Mary Nenno. ENDING THE STALEMATE and Harvard-Kennedy School of Government Case Program. MODERATELY PRICED DWELLING UNITS IN MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

**Required Readings (available on Reserve at Univ. Library):** (1) Edward Goetz. SHELTER BURDEN, (2) Timothy Beatley, GREEN URBANISM, (5) William Morrish. PLANNING THE NEIGHBORHOOD, (7) Dennis Keating. THE SUBURBAN RACIAL DILEMMA

**Web-Based Housing Resources** – Some important housing web sites are:

- [www.huduser.org](http://www.huduser.org) HUD’s housing research web site
- [www.nahb.org](http://www.nahb.org) National Assoc. Of Homebuilders
- [www.nahc.org](http://www.nahc.org) National Multi-Housing Council
- [www.nhc.org](http://www.nhc.org) National Housing Conference (lenders organization)
- [www.realtor.org](http://www.realtor.org) National Assoc. Of Realtors
- [www.fanniemaefoundation.org](http://www.fanniemaefoundation.org) FannieMae (secondary mortgage market)
- [www.nlihc.org](http://www.nlihc.org) National Low Income Housing Coalition
- [www.mhfa.state.mn.us](http://www.mhfa.state.mn.us) Minnesota Housing Finance Agency
- [www.mhp.org](http://www.mhp.org) Minnesota Housing Partnership
- [www.mnhomelesscoalition.org](http://www.mnhomelesscoalition.org) Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless
- [www.commonbond.org](http://www.commonbond.org) CommonBond Communities (nonprofit provider of affordable housing)
- [www.fhfund.org](http://www.fhfund.org) Family Housing Fund (housing intermediary-McKnight Foundation)
- [www.gmhf.com](http://www.gmhf.com) Greater Minnesota Housing Fund
- [www.mphaonline.org](http://www.mphaonline.org) Minneapolis Public Housing Authority
- [www.mcda.org](http://www.mcda.org) Minneapolis Community Development Authority