

PSC 241/241W, AAS 242/242W, EHUM 241/241W, HIS 378/378W, and PSC 530

Fall 2021

Tuesday afternoons, 12:30-3:15

Urban Change and City Politics

Professor Gerald Gamm

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[Zoom](#) office hours: Monday afternoons, 2:00–3:00

In-person office hours: Thursday mornings, 10:00–11:00

All books are available for purchase in the campus bookstore. [Rush Rhees Library has purchased electronic copies of each book](#), where possible, but some are

Credit hours. This course follows the College credit hour policy for four-credit courses. This course meets once weekly for three hours. For the fourth credit hour, students will write papers on a regular basis through the semester. This course also includes substantial reading assignments and

Aug. 31 Introduction: Race and the American City

Walt Whitman, "[Mannahatta.](#)"

Ta-Nehisi Coates, "[The Case for Reparations.](#)" *The Atlantic*, June 2014, 54-71.

Sept. 7 No class Rosh Hashanah

Sept. 14 Cities in the Wilderness

Henry Adams, [History of the United States of America during the First Administration of Thomas Jefferson, 1801-1805](#) (1889), vol. 1, chap. 1.

William Cronon, [Fables of the City: The Past, the Present, and the Future of the Urban Form](#) (New York: Norton, 1991), 1-147.

Sept. 21 Industry and the Rural Hinterland

William Cronon, [The Great River: The Mississippi and the Making of an American](#), 207-309.

Andrew Needham and Allen Dieterich-Ward, "[Beyond the Metropolis: Metropolitan Growth and Regional Transformation in Postwar America.](#)" *Journal of Urban History* 35 (2009), 943-69.

Dan Egan, "[A Battle Between a Great City and a Great Lake.](#)" *New York Times*, 7 July 2021. [Text version](#)

Sept. 28 Suburbs

Kenneth T. Jackson, *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985), 1-189, 231-282.

Editorial Board, "[How Lower-Income Americans Get Cheated on Property Taxes.](#)" *New York Times*, 3 Apr. 2021. [Text version](#)

Oct. 5 Housing

Kenneth T. Jackson, *Crabgrass Frontier*, 190-230.

Thomas J. Sugrue, *The Origins of the Urban Crisis: Race and Inequality in Postwar Detroit* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1996), 1-88, 181-88, 209-58.

Erin Einhorn and Olivia Lewis, "[Built To Keep Black from White.](#)" *NBC News*, 19 July 2021.

Ryan D. Enos, "[What the Demolition of Public Housing Teaches Us about the Impact of Racial Threat on Political Behavior.](#)" *American Journal of Political Science* 60 (2016), 123-42.

Oct. 12 No class Fall Break

J. Eric Oliver, with Shang E. Ha and Zachary Callen, “Size, Scope, and Bias: What Differentiates Local Electoral Politics?” chap. 1 in [*Local Elections and the Politics of Small-Scale Democracy*](#) (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2012).

Nov. 23 Power

Robert A. Dahl, *Who Governs? Democracy and Power in an American City* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1961), 1-165, 223-28, 305-325.

Nov. 30 Class

Brian F. Schaffner, Jesse H. Rhodes, and Raymond J. La Raja, *Hometown Inequality: Race, Class, and Representation in American Local Politics* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020).

Jesse Yoder, “[Does Property Ownership Lead to Participation in Local Politics? Evidence from Property Records and Meeting Minutes.](#)” *American Political Science Review* 114 (2020), 1213-29.

Dec. 7 Incarceration

James Forman, Jr., *Locking up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America* (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2017).