11.S942 Equity & Inclusion: Local policy-driven strategies for economic development and the Just City

Instructor: Karilyn Crockett (kcrock@mit.edu)
Class: T/TR 11am - 12:30pm
Room: 10-401
Office Hours: Wednesdays 1-3pm; 9-517

Course Description & Objectives
This course explores equity as a key value, measure and framework for operationalizing local economic development plans and policies. The course examines theory as well as the implementation of local policy initiatives for equity in U.S. cities. Investigating a wide range of contemporary theory and practice in the field of urban economic development, students will propose new recommendations and executive strategies for cities currently pursuing pro-growth agendas. From contracting and municipal procurement to arts and culture-driven approaches, the course will provide students with 1) a working knowledge of local government approaches to more equitable economic development strategies; 2) a critical point of view on the merits and limitations of these strategies; 3) formal opportunities to present new views to public and political actors in the field.

Course Requirements
Coursework includes authoring a policy brief for a senior official in a mayoral administration, a short essay (500-600 words) written as an op-ed, one team-based presentation analyzing a preselected city case study, ten reading reflection posts (7 posts and 3 reaction posts). Student-led presentations (10-15 minutes) will precede several class discussions. Students will also design a public roundtable for local organizers and advocates pursuing economic equity agendas in greater Boston.

Grading
Short Essay (15%)
Class Presentations, discussions & reading posts (25%)
Case Analysis & Presentation (30%)
Final Paper 3-4pp policy brief [or 12-15pp research paper] (30%)

COURSE PLAN

WEEK 1: PLANNING AS THEORY & PRACTICE
Feb 4


**Optional**


**Feb 6**


**Optional**


**WEEK 2: URBANIZATION & GLOBALIZATION: LESSONS FROM THE RISE AND FALL OF THE INDUSTRIAL CITY**

**Feb 11**

Castells, M. et al., 2017. *Another Economy Is Possible: Culture And Economy In A Time Of Crisis*. Cambridge: Polity Press. Read Introduction (pp. 1-4) and Conclusion (pp. 205-214)


**Optional**

Feb 13
*Begin posting reading reflections*

https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.soc.27.1.23


Optional

WEEK 3: U.S. URBAN SOCIAL MOVEMENTS AND NEW SPACE CLAIMS

Feb 18: NO CLASS


Optional
Incite. 2017. The Revolution will not be Funded: Beyond the Non-profit Industrial Complex

Feb 20
**SHORT ESSAY DUE**
*Submit proposed case team rosters. Students without a team will be assigned one.*


*Optional*


**WEEK 4: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AT THE BARGAINING TABLE**

Feb 25

Guest Lecture: Jonathan Greeley, Director of Development Review, Boston Planning & Development Agency

*Team Case Proposals DUE*


Feb 27


*Optional*


**WEEK 5: EQUITY & INCLUSION PLANS**
March 3

Guest Lecture: Kenn Turner, Director of Diversity & Inclusion and Compliance, Massachusetts Port Authority


http://files.emeraldcities.org/media/news/Inclusive_procurement_final_03.05.18_3.pdf


City of Boston 2018 Executive Order Promoting Racial Equity

Optional

https://jobstomoveamerica.org/trump-administration-drops-local-hire-program-employed-hundreds-thousands-americans-communities/

City of Boston Economic Equity & Inclusion Agenda:
https://www.cityofboston.gov/pdfs/economicequityinclusionagenda.pdf

https://www.livingcities.org/blog/1208-five-cities-that-are-buying-into-equity

March 5
Guest Lecture: Cate Mingoya, Director of Capacity Building, Groundwork USA


Shearer, Chad and Alan Berube. 2017. “The Surprisingly Short list of US metro areas achieving inclusive economic growth”

WEEK 6: CASE ONE -- RACE & GENDER (BASED) APPROACHES TO EQUITY
March 10: Statement of Key Problematic: NYC & Chicago

Additional Team Reading Selections

NYC MWBE Supplier Diversity Program:


“Chicago Mayor wants to grow marijuana in city-owned coop”

https://blockclubchicago.org/2020/02/01/how-hot-is-cannabis-industry-thousands-crowd-into-citys-first-resource-fair-to-break-into-the-business/

“Civil Rights Attorney to lead new office of Equity and Racial Justice”
March 12: Team One Presentation

WEEK 7: CASE TWO -- RACE & GENDER (NEUTRAL) APPROACHES TO EQUITY

March 17: Statement of Key Problematic: Portland, Oregon & Kansas City, Missouri

Portland Disparity Study (2011)

https://prosperportland.us

Kansas City Disparity Study (2019)

Additional Team Reading Selections

https://www.jstor.org/stable/977126?seq=1#page_scan_tab_contents

City of Kansas City:
SBE/SLBE Certification

March 19: Team Two Presentation

[Spring Break]

WEEK 8: CASE THREE -- ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY PLANNING

March 31: Key Problematic: New Orleans & Oakland

Additional Team Reading Selections

http://www2.oaklandnet.com/government/o/PWA/s/0/2/OAK025280


http://www.acgov.org/board/bos_calendar/documents/DocsAgendaReg_5_30_18/GENERAL%20ADMINISTRATION/Regular%20Calendar/Oakland_disparity_study_Dr_Ramsey_5_30_18.pdf


Environmental Justice Networks:

- California Environmental Justice Alliance
  [https://caleja.org/about-us/](https://caleja.org/about-us/)
- Indigenous Environmental Network
  [http://www.ienearth.org](http://www.ienearth.org)
- GreenCity Force
  [https://www.greencityforce.org](https://www.greencityforce.org)
- Green New Deal
  [https://www.sunrisemovement.org/gnd-strategy](https://www.sunrisemovement.org/gnd-strategy)

*Optional*

Future of Environmental Justice:

**April 2: Team Three Presentation**

**WEEK 9: CULTURAL HERITAGE & PRESERVATION**

**April 7**

**Guest Lecture: Kathy Kottaridis, Executive Director, Historic Boston Incorporated**


April 9
Cultural Tourism


Weeksville Heritage Center
http://www.weeksvillesociety.org

WEEK 10: ARTS PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
April 14

https://classic.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/1204NEWENGINESOFGROWTH.PDF


Cambridge Central Square Cultural Arts District
https://www.cctvcambridge.org/CUCentralSquare

Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art

April 16
Guest Lecture: Jason Weeks, Executive Director, Cambridge Arts Council

https://www.cambridgema.gov/arts/publicart/percentforart

City of Boston Cultural Plan
http://plan.bostoncreates.org

City of Chicago Cultural Plan
WEEK 11: COMMERCIAL DEV & COMMERCIAL VALUES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

April 21

April 23
Guest Lecture: Justin Kang, Vice President of Economic Growth, Boston Chamber of Commerce; Executive Director, City Awake


WEEK 12: TOWARD CONTROL: SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AS DEVELOPMENT

April 28
Guest Lecture: Bing Broderick, Executive Director, Haley House


April 30


https://www.baristamagazine.com/10-minutes-keba-konte/

Optional
Chiapas Photography Project
https://chiapasphoto.org

WEEK 13
May 5 FINAL PAPER DUE
Prep & Walk Through of Public Roundtable
May 7 Public Roundtable

WEEK 14
May 12 Final Presentations