



Fall 2016

College of Architecture | Graduate School of Architecture

Sam Fox School of Design & Visual Arts

Washington University in St. Louis

CITIZEN SPACE

430C: Special Topic:

The political underpinnings of cities and social spaces affected by government infrastructures

Th 1:00-4:00pm

Instructors: Michael Allen, Eve Blau, and Heather Woofter

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Description:

This seminar plans to examine the role of government influence on the formation and division of public spaces within St. Louis. The city has a longstanding history of government intervention and disinvestment leading to inequity and challenges in sponsoring economic growth while considering local citizenry potential. Course lectures and research projects will explore political infrastructures and ideologies that shape the urban fabric, including the large-scale government proposal of a National Geospatial Agency adjacent to the infamous Pruitt-Igoe site. This topic is both contemporary and historical and involves both large-scale urban projects (the National Geospatial Agency, Pruitt-Igoe,) and work programs (Tech Hire, WPA). Local activists desire to be a part of the North-Side discussion, and encourage strong residential presence in the upcoming plans, as well as local participation in ongoing development dialogue. The area is also home to substantial industry partners, who are invested because of longstanding ties and the availability of land. Their campuses are bound by intense security, and despite local ties, they have not fostered the strong connection between local residence and jobsite that had characterized earlier North-Side settlement patterns. It will also be important to situate the local discourse in St. Louis in the context of larger institutional structures at the level of the national government. We plan to conduct archival research in addition to conducting local fieldwork.

Requirements:

- Regular attendance and active participation in class discussions
- Maintain reading log throughout the semester
- Presentation on selected North St. Louis civic issues
- Fieldwork
- Final group project

Grading:

Participation 10%

The success of this class depends on participation in discussion and collaborative efforts in research topics. Please be prepared for each class to engage in critical dialogue by completing the readings and preparing questions and comments for discussion.

Research Journal 25%

Research shall include observations from readings (with sources noted), additional primary and secondary source research independent of assigned readings, field notes that are both graphic and written, as well as maps and other visual materials to support areas of study.

Presentation 15%

General topics of investigation shall have an initial written thesis statement that is presented to the class. Please reference schedule for review date of these topics.

Project Review 50%

Students will work independently and in partnership on topics of investigation. Projects will include written research papers, as well as supporting visual documentation created to support project focus.

As noted in General Information, all writing shall be consistent with University Policies. Writing must properly reference source materials. In addition, please reference *The Chicago Manual of Style* for editorial guidelines. The Writing Center (located at Eads Hall Room 111) is an excellent resource for writing and editorial assistance.

Attendance and punctuality is mandatory. Each absence beyond two will lower your grade by ½ letter except in the case of ill health or extenuating circumstances. Late work will be lowered by ½ letter grade for each week beyond deadline.

General Information:

Academic Integrity Policy:

All students are required to meet Academic Integrity Policy standards. Students should review these policies on the SFS website www.samfox.wustl.edu under the tabs: Community | Current Students | Tools + Resources | Policies. There is an Academic Integrity policy for graduate students of Architecture, Urban Design and Landscape Design, as well a policy for undergraduate students of Architecture. A brief excerpt from the Graduate Architecture Academic Integrity Policy:

Plagiarism consists of taking someone else's ideas, words, or other types of work product and presenting them as one's own. To avoid plagiarism, students are expected to be attentive to proper methods of documentation and acknowledgement. To avoid even the suspicion of plagiarism, a student must always:

- a. Enclose every quotation in quotation marks, and acknowledge its source.
- b. Cite the source of every summary, paraphrase, abstraction, or adaptation of material originally prepared by another person, and any factual data that is not considered common knowledge. Include the name of author, title of work, publication information, and page reference.
- c. Acknowledge material obtained from lectures, interviews, or other oral communication by citing the source (name of the speaker, the occasion, the place, and the date).
- d. Cite material from the Internet as if it were from a traditionally published source. Follow the citation style or requirements of the instructor for whom the work is produced.

Accommodations based upon sexual assault:

The University is committed to offering reasonable academic accommodations to students who are victims of sexual assault. Students are eligible for accommodation regardless of whether they seek criminal or disciplinary action. Depending on the specific nature of the allegation, such measures may include but are not limited to: implementation of a no-contact order, course/classroom assignment changes, and other academic support services and accommodations. If you need to request such accommodations, please direct your request to Kim Webb (kim_webb@wustl.edu), Director of the Office of Sexual Assault and Community Health Services. Ms. Webb is a confidential resource; however, requests for accommodations will be shared with the appropriate University administration and faculty. The University will maintain as confidential any accommodations or protective measures provided to an individual student so long as it does not impair the ability to provide such measures.

Bias Reporting:

The University has a process through which students, faculty, staff and community members who have experienced or witnessed incidents of bias, prejudice or discrimination against a student can report their experiences to the University's Bias Report and Support System (BRSS) team. See: brss.wustl.edu

Mental Health:

Mental Health Services' professional staff members work with students to resolve personal and interpersonal difficulties, many of which can affect the academic experience. These include conflicts with or worry about friends or family, concerns about eating or drinking patterns, and feelings of anxiety and depression. See: shs.wustl.edu/MentalHealth

Tentative **SCHEDULE**

- 9/01 Introduction** HW, MA
- Viewing of: *Exodus* (2016) by Jun Bae
Viewing of: *The Pruitt Igoe Myth* (2011) directed by Chad Freidrichs
- 9/08 Lecture on National Geospatial Agency** HW, MA
Lecture on Historical Research Methodologies
- Keller Easterling, "Disposition" and "Stories" in *Extrastatecraft: The Power of Infrastructure Space*, 71-93 and 137-169
Colin Gordon, "Fighting Blight" and "City of Blight" in *Mapping Decline: St. Louis and the Fate of the American City*, 153-219
- 9/15 Lecture on Erasure and Planning Politics, Michael Allen** HW, MA
Work session on fieldwork standards: interviewing and documentation
- Mario Gooden, "(Black) Sexuality and Space: the Body and the Gaze" in *Dark Space*, 121-138
Lee Rainwater, "Negro Lower-Class Identity and Culture" and "Toward Equity" in *Behind Ghetto Wall: Black Families in a Federal Slum*, 361-425
- PROJECT ASSIGNMENTS**
- 9/22 Lecture on Research Between History + Theory + Practice: Postsocialism and Other Urban Conditions, Eve Blau** EB, HW
- Eve Blau, "'A Capital Without a Nation': Red Vienna and Spatial Politics between the World Wars" in Michael Minkenberg, editor, *Power and Architecture*. New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2014. pp. 178-207.
- "Grossstadt and Proletariat in 'Red Vienna', The Social Democratic City" in *Shaping the Great City: Modern Architecture in Central Europe, 1890-1937*. Prestel Verlag, 1999, pp. 205-214.
- Eve Blau, "City as Open Work," in *Project Zagreb: Transition as Condition, Strategy, Practice* (with Ivan Rupnik). Barcelona and New York: Actar, 2007. pp. 8-25.
- 10/06 Visit to the Missouri Historical Society and UMSL Historical Archives** HW, MA
Work session on archives to documentation
- 10/08 (SATURDAY) North St. Louis tour** HW, MA, BH
Tour existing and proposed NGA site, St. Louis Place and JeffVanderLou neighborhoods (Former Model Cities project area), including perimeter zones

10/13 Guest lecture on Mill Creek Valley and St. Louis public policy and urban design, Eric Mumford EM, MA
Lecture on Model Cities, Michael Allen

Clarence Lang, "Black Freedom at the Crossroads, 1962-64" and "Broken Bloc" in *Grassroots at the Gateway*, 127-154 and 217-244

Edward Goetz, "The Quiet Successes and Loud Failures of Public Housing" and "Dismantling Public Housing" in *New Deal Ruins: Race, Economic Justice, & Public Housing Policy*, 24-74

PROJECT THESIS STATEMENT REVIEW

10/20 Visit by St. Louis government officials, discussing the NGA project EB, HW, MA
Lecture on representation of urban relationships, Heather Woofter

Planning and Urban Design Agency. *Next NGA West Briefing Book*. 2015.

<https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/documents/nga-briefing-book.cfm>

Allen, Michael R. "Between Sunshine and Realism: Making Sense of the North ST. Louis NGA Proposal." *nextSTL* (December 9, 2014). <https://nextstl.com/2014/12/sunshine-realism-making-sense-north-st-louis-nga-proposal-sense-made/>

10/27 North St. Louis Fieldwork HW, MA
Project fieldwork

11/03 Lecture on Berlin Research: Theories and Methods, Eve Blau HW, MA, EB

PROJECT REVIEW

11/10 Work Session SB, HW, MA

11/17 Work Session HW, MA

12/01 Work Session HW, MA

12/08 FINAL REVIEW HW, MA, EB

Special Notes:

1. As this is a collaborative class, please note faculty designations:
EB Eve Blau, **HW** Heather Woofter, **MA** Michael Allen, **BH** Bob Hansman, **EM** Eric Mumford
2. North St. Louis tour will occur on a Saturday (October 8th) due to the inclusion of Bob Hansman in this class. Time to be determined during semester.

READING LIST

Required Reading (book excerpts):

Blau, Eve. *Shaping the Great City: Modern Architecture in Central Europe, 1890-1937*. Prestel Verlag, 1999.

Blau, Eve and Rupnick, Ivan. *Project Zagreb: Transition as Condition, Strategy, Practice*. Barcelona and New York: Actar, 2007.

Easterling, Keller. *Extrastatecraft: The Power of Infrastructure Space*. New York: Verso, 2014.

Goetz, Edward G. *New Deal Ruins: Race, Economic Justice and Public Housing Policy*. New York: Cornell University Press, 2013.

Gooden, Mario. *Dark Space*. New York: Columbia Books on Architecture and the City, 2016.

Gordon, Colin. *Mapping Decline: St. Louis and the Fate of the American City*. Philadelphia: University Press, 2008.

Lang, Clarence. *Grassroots at the Gateway: Class Politics & Black Freedom Struggle in St. Louis*. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2009.

Minkenberg, Michael, ed. *Power and Architecture*. New York and Oxford: Berghahn Books, 2014.

Rainwater, Lee. *Behind Ghetto Wall: Black Families in a Federal Slum*. Chicago: Aldine Publishing Co., 1970.

Required Reading (online materials):

Allen, Michael R. "Between Sunshine and Realism: Making Sense of the North ST. Louis NGA Proposal." *nextSTL* (December 9, 2014).

<https://nextstl.com/2014/12/sunshine-realism-making-sense-north-st-louis-nga-proposal-sense-made/>

Planning and Urban Design Agency. *Next NGA West Briefing Book*. 2015.

<https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/documents/nga-briefing-book.cfm>

Suggested Reading:

Blau, Eve. "The Common Ground of Urban Praxis," *HDM 37: Urbanism's Core*, Harvard Design Magazine Special Issue.

Blau, Eve. "Pedagogy and Politics: Making Place and Learning from Las Vegas at Yale in the Late Sixties," *Log 38*, Fall 2016. New York: Anyone Corporation. Forthcoming.

Blau, Eve. *The Architecture of Red Vienna, 1919-1934*. Boston: MIT Press, 1999.

Brenner, Neil, "Open City or the Right to the City?" *Topos*. n. 85, 2013.

Brenner, Neil, "Is 'Tactical Urbanism' an alternative to Neoliberal Urbanism?"

http://post.at.moma.org/content_items/587-is-tactical-urbanism-an-alternative-to-neoliberal-urbanism

- Bowden, Mark. "The Killing Machines: How to Think About Drones." *The Atlantic* (September 2013).
<http://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2013/09/the-killing-machines-how-to-think-about-drones/309434/>
- Bristol, Katharine G. "The Pruitt-Igoe Myth." *Journal of Architectural Education*. Vol. 44, Issue 3, 1991.
- City Plan Commission. *St. Louis Comprehensive Plan*. 1947.
- Fagerstrom, Ron. *Mill Creek Valley: A Soul of St. Louis* (Self-published, 2000). Excerpt.
- Harvey, David. "The Right to the City," *New Left Review* 53, September-October 2008.
<http://www.newleftreview.org/?view=2740>
- Jacobs, Jane. *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*. New York: Vintage Books, 1961.
- Johnson, Walter. *Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999.
- River of Dark Dreams: Slavery and Empire in the Cotton Kingdom (2013) Walter Johnson
- Lemmie, Valerie, Reardon, Kenneth M and Hydra, Derek. *Race, Politics and Urban Distress: An Engaging Conversation, in Distressed Cities Reader*, edited by Anja H. Bieri, Anne M. Khademian, Surrey, UK: Ashgate Publishing Inc., 2015.
- Martino-Taylor, Lisa. *The Manhattan-Rochester Coalition, research on the health effects of radioactive materials, and tests on vulnerable populations without consent in St. Louis, 1945-1970*. PhD Dissertation: University of Missouri Columbia, 2011.
- De Monchaux, Nicholas. *Local Code: 3659 Proposals about Data, Design, and the Nature of Cities*. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2016.
- Mumford, Eric, ed., *Modern Architecture in St. Louis, 1948-1973: Washington University and Postwar American Architecture*. St. Louis: Washington University School of Architecture, 2004.
- Schama, Simon. *The American Future: A History*. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2009.
- Sifton, John. "A Brief History of Drones." *The Nation* (February 7, 2012).
<https://www.thenation.com/article/brief-history-drones/>
- "Slum Surgery in St. Louis." *Architectural Forum* Vol. 94 (April 1951).
- Tranel, Mark. *St. Louis Plans: The Ideal and the Real St. Louis*. St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 1998.
- Von Hoffman, Alexander. "Why They Built Pruitt-Igoe." Bauman, John F., Roger Biles, and Kristin M. Szylvian, eds. *From Tenements to the Taylor Homes: In Search of an Urban Housing Policy in Twentieth-Century America*. Pennsylvania State University Press. 2000.
- Woods, Chris. *Sudden Justice: America's Secret Drone Wars*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2015.

St. Louis Region Federal Government Sites:

Military:

Jefferson Barracks VA Hospital 1 Jefferson Barracks Drive St. Louis MO 63125
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency 3200 South 2nd Street St. Louis MO
US Army Human Resources Command

Homeland Security:

Drug Enforcement Agency 317 S. 16th Street, St. Louis MO 63103
Federal Bureau of Investigations 2222 Market Street, St. Louis MO 63103
Federal Protective Services 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis MO 63103

Federal Agencies:

National Park Service
US Postal Service

Food and Drug Administration

15 Sunnen Drive, St. Louis MO 63143

The National Personnel Records Center

1 Archives Drive, St. Louis MO 63138

National Personnel Records Center Annex 1411 Boulder Boulevard, Valmeyer IL 62295

Federal Records Center 200 Space Center Drive, Lee's Summit, MO 64064-1182

US Army Corps of Engineers

3219 West 20th Street, Granite City IL 62040