

**COURSE SYLLABUS**  
**UP 6680: Neighborhood Decline & Revitalization**  
**Winter 2023**

**Instructor:** Nina Kelly (*first name pronounced NYE-nuh*)

**Course Time/Days:** Tuesdays, 5:30 – 8:00 PM

**Course Format:** Online synchronous via Zoom

**Instructor's Office Location:** 508 Manoogian Hall

**Instructor's Email Address:** [ninakelly@wayne.edu](mailto:ninakelly@wayne.edu)

**Instructor's Office Hours:** Mondays, 1:00-2:00pm (via Zoom) & Wednesdays, 2:30 – 3:30pm

**Communication & Correspondence**

Please DO NOT message me through Canvas, but rather, email me at [ninakelly@wayne.edu](mailto:ninakelly@wayne.edu) with your WSU email account. Please write UP 6680 in the subject line of all emails. I am committed to replying to your email during regular business hours within a 24-hour period, aside from weekends and holidays. I will only have conversations about grades 24 hours after they have been issued, during office hours.

**Course Description & Learning Outcomes**

This course examines why neighborhoods decline and how plans and policies can be specified and implemented for neighborhood improvement. Students will consider what neighborhoods are; what functions they play; why they can change in terms of income levels, racial composition, physical conditions, commerce, public services, and social interrelationships; and how the livability of neighborhoods changes in response. Students will evaluate a variety of policy options for responding to income stratification, racial segregation, and physical deterioration. A group project will challenge students to diagnose the origins and consequences of neighborhood change and develop effective prescriptions for revitalizing neighborhoods and forestalling their decline. Students who successfully complete this course will be equipped to:

- Discuss the influence of neighborhoods on individual and community wellbeing
- Understand and apply the basic housing submarket model to elucidate the causes and processes of neighborhood change
- Understand the forces that affect neighborhood vitality and produce patterns of spatial inequality, and analyze the various policy options for responding
- Locate and analyze data to diagnose the condition and trajectory of a particular neighborhood and prescribe appropriate policy prescriptions to improve it
- Work collaboratively to produce a professional planning report

**Course Materials**

All required readings will be posted on Canvas, in addition to some optional readings that may contribute to your understanding of the topic under discussion. You are expected to complete the assigned readings for every week prior to attending class.

**Technology, etc.**

This class meets weekly using **Zoom**. To participate, you will need a computer with reliable internet access and a camera, microphone, and speakers. For assistance with technology issues, contact the C&IT Helpdesk at 313-577-4357 or [helpdesk@wayne.edu](mailto:helpdesk@wayne.edu). Students who lack adequate hardware or reliable internet access should email the Dean of Students at [doso@wayne.edu](mailto:doso@wayne.edu) or call 313-577-1010 for assistance.

Students will be expected to use **Microsoft Office** applications (Word and PowerPoint, specifically) for coursework. PDF is acceptable only for the final project submittal.

Please use the American Psychological Association (**APA**) 7<sup>th</sup> Edition format for all citations/reference pages. Purdue University provides a quick reference guide: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>.

### **Important Websites/Resources**

- [Canvas](#): Call C&IT at (313) 577-HELP (4357) if you have problems accessing Canvas. Do *not* contact your instructor unless C&IT has not responded to your problem within 24 hours.
- [Academica](#)
- [Academic Success Center](#) (Undergraduate Library, Suite 1600)
- [Writing Research and Technology \(WRT\) Zone](#) (Undergraduate Library, Room 2310)

### **Attendance**

Attendance is essential to success in the class and will be factored into your participation grade. Students may be allowed one unexcused absence without penalty.

### **Assignments, Activities, and Grading**

The major project for the semester is a Neighborhood Plan, which will be completed in teams according to the steps below (see the Course Calendar and Canvas for details). One written take-home exam will also be assigned. As noted above, participation grades will be decided upon based on attendance as well as engagement during class discussions and online.

- Participation = 15%
- Census Tract Practice Analyses (Parts 1 & 2) = 5%
- Neighborhood Plan = 40%
  - Team Plan = 2%
  - Half Draft = 3%
  - Full Draft = 5%
  - Final Report = 20%
  - Final Presentation = 10%
- Exam = 40%

*Note: It is my goal to have all assignments graded as quickly as possible. However, grading may take up to 14 days.*

### **Deadlines**

Assignments are due on the dates noted in the Course Calendar and on Canvas. I recognize extraordinary circumstances sometimes mean more time is needed. Therefore, if you or your team need the deadline to move a day or two it is possible to do so if you reach out to me **no less than 72 hours** before the deadline to request and negotiate for an extension. In your email, you must do these things:

- State how much more time you need
- Explain why you need more time
- Explain what status your assignment is in at the time of the request
- Explain how the additional time will make it better. If your request is reasonable and your explanations are sound, we will move the deadline so you can turn in the best possible work.

If you do NOT follow these steps to negotiate for a new deadline, the points for assignments turned in after the deadline will automatically drop by one marking grade (e.g. from a "B+" to a "B"). A course grade of "Incomplete" will be granted only in exceptional circumstances and must be arranged, in writing, before the last class session.

## **Grading**

Keep in mind that to be awarded a graduate degree, students must achieve at least a B average overall. See the [Graduate Bulletin](#) for more information.

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Points</b>
A	94 100
A-	90 94
B+	87 90
B	83 87
B-	80 83
C+	77 80
C	73 77
C-	70 73
D	60 70
F	0 60

## **Withdrawal Requests**

Students withdrawing from a course after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of classes will receive a grade of WP, WF, or WN.

- WP: if you are passing the course (based on work due to date) at the time the withdrawal is requested.
- WF: if you are failing the course (based on work due to date) at the time the withdrawal is requested.
- WN: if no materials have been submitted, and so there is no basis for a grade

You must submit your withdrawal request online through Academica. Please check WSU's academic calendar for the last day a student may withdraw a) to receive tuition cancellation, b) without a grade appearing on a transcript, and c) with the instructor's approval. Additional information is available at <https://reg.wayne.edu/students/information#dropping>.

## **Other Class Policies**

- **Canvas/Email:** You are expected to access your Wayne State email and check Canvas daily at <http://canvas.wayne.edu> to verify your grades, check deadlines, and read announcements regarding information on upcoming assignments.
- **Zoom:** I expect students to keep their cameras on during class, as it helps build community in the online environment. You may turn off your camera temporarily as needed, of course.
- **Class Recordings:** Students need prior written permission from the instructor before recording any portion of this class. If permission is granted, the audio and/or video recording is to be used only for the student's personal instructional use. Such recordings are not intended for a wider public audience, such as postings to the internet or sharing with others.

## **Wayne State Policies & Resources**

**Rights and Responsibilities:** As a member of the academic community at Wayne State, you have rights, as well as responsibilities. As such, please also familiarize yourself with the Student Rights and Responsibilities, available at: <https://bog.wayne.edu/code/2-31-01>. Additionally, the Wayne State Non-Discrimination / Affirmative Action Policy can be found at <https://bog.wayne.edu/code/2-28-01>.

**Disabilities:** If you have a documented disability that requires accommodations, you will need to register with Student Disability Services (SDS) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The Student Disability Services (SDS) office is located at 1600 David Adamany Undergraduate Library in the Student Academic Success Services department. SDS telephone number is 313-577-1851 or 313-577-3365 (TDD only).

<http://studentdisability.wayne.edu/accommodations.php>

Once you have your accommodations in place, I will be glad to meet with you privately during my office hours to discuss your needs. Student Disability Services' mission is to assist the university in creating an accessible community where students with disabilities have an equal opportunity to fully participate in their educational experience at Wayne State University. Please be aware that a delay in getting SDS accommodation letters for the current semester may hinder the availability or facilitation of those accommodations in a timely manner. Therefore, it is in your best interest to get your accommodation letters as early in the semester as possible.

**Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty:** Materials that are clearly not the student's own work or which are not appropriately documented will be subjected to scrutiny. All acts of academic dishonesty including cheating and plagiarism will be treated as violations of appropriate student conduct and will be subject to disciplinary action. The Student Code of Conduct can be found at: <https://doso.wayne.edu/conduct/student>. For other information about academic misconduct - <https://doso.wayne.edu/conduct/academic-misconduct>.

**Religious Observances:** It is Wayne State's policy to respect the faith and religious obligations of students, faculty and staff. Students with exams or classes that conflict with their religious observances should notify me well in advance so that we can work out a mutually agreeable alternative.

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS):** It is quite common for college students to experience mental health challenges, such as stress, anxiety, and depression, that interfere with academic performance and negatively impact daily life. Help is available for any currently enrolled WSU student who is struggling with a mental health difficulty at WSU Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS; 313-577-3398). Other options, for students and non-students, include the Mental Health and Wellness Clinic at the College of Education. Services at all these clinics are free and confidential.

**Sexual Misconduct and Title IX:** Any member of the WSU Community that is impacted by sexual misconduct has the right to report to the University (i.e. Responsible Employee or Title IX Coordinator), to law enforcement (i.e. WSUPD or other jurisdiction), to both, or to neither. Every Warrior is encouraged to make the reporting decision that is right for them.

Most faculty and staff are considered "Responsible Employees" and are required to report information they receive about incidents of sexual misconduct (including sexual assault, intimate partner violence, sexual harassment, and stalking) to appropriate authorities when it involves WSU students, faculty, or staff. Free, confidential, and anonymous support is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to survivors, their friends, and their family through the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN). Call 1-800- 656-4673 or Chat online with a professional support specialist. Please visit TitleIX.wayne.edu to learn more about resources and support on campus and in the local community.

**Land Acknowledgement:** Wayne State University rests on Waawiyaataanong (Waa-we-yaa-tih-nong), also referred to as Detroit, the ancestral and contemporary homeland of the Three Fires Confederacy. These sovereign lands were granted by the Ojibwe (Oh-jib-way), Odawa (Oh-daa-waa), Potawatomi (Pow-tuh-waa-tuh-mee), and Wyandot nations, in 1807, through the Treaty of Detroit. Wayne State University affirms Indigenous sovereignty and honors all tribes with a connection to Detroit. With our Native neighbors, WSU can advance educational equity and promote a better future for the earth and all people.

***NOTE: This syllabus is subject to revision as deemed necessary by the instructor. Appropriate notice shall be given to the students. I reserve the right to add, delete, or alter any assignments.***

## Course Calendar

Week	Date	Topic	Assignments (readings due each week at the start of class)
1	January 10	What are neighborhoods?	
2	January 17	Finding and analyzing neighborhood data Neighborhood Plan project introduction	Experience survey due Saturday, Jan. 14 by 11:59PM
3	January 24	Neighborhood effects Neighborhood Plan team assignments *Guest speaker*	
4	January 31	The housing submarket model of neighborhood change	Post preferred Census tract for analysis to Discussion board by Monday, Jan. 30 at 11:59PM
5	February 7	Neighborhood downgrading and upgrading	Practice analysis Part 1 due Monday, Feb. 6 by 11:59PM
6	February 14	Economic & racial segregation	Practice analysis Part 2 due Monday, Feb. 13 by 11:59PM
7	February 21	Addressing gentrification	Team plans due Monday, Feb. 20 by 11:59PM
8	February 28	Regional considerations	
9	March 7	Neighborhood planning	Written exam (covering weeks 1-8) will be posted on Monday, Mar. 6 and is due Saturday, Mar. 11 by 11:59PM
10	March 14	<b>SPRING BREAK – NO CLASS</b>	Relax!
11	March 21	Communication and engagement	
12	March 28	Policies for neighborhoods	Half draft due Monday, Mar. 27 by 11:59PM
13	April 4	Topic TBD based on class prioritization	Full draft due Monday, Apr. 3 by 11:59 PM
14	April 11	Topic TBD based on class prioritization	Final report due Saturday, Apr. 14 by 11:59PM
15	April 18	Team presentations *Guest(s) in attendance*	PowerPoint presentation due by start of class (5:30PM) on Tuesday, Apr. 18
Finals Week	April 25	<b>Study day – no classes</b>	Team and self-assessments due Monday, Apr. 24 by 11:59PM

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