

CRD 298: Regional Equity in Practice – Winter Quarter 2010

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2333 Hart Hall/ 754-8799

Friday: 9-12pm

Office Hours: Friday 1-3

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Entry Requirements

The course is required for students concluding their Masters of Science degree in Community Development, and it typically taken during the second year of work on that degree. It is not appropriate for students who have not already completed a substantial portion of the coursework required for that degree, or have similar community development related knowledge and experience. CRD 240 and graduate standing in an applied social science field (or permission of instructor) is required.

Introduction/ Purpose

The purpose of this course is to help Community Development students to develop the practical skills needed to work professionally in organizations that are involved in community development. The course provides an overview of community development planning, project management, and consultation skills. The class also provides a forum for students to improve skills in making formal presentations to community leaders.

The course will consider the most important issues in professional community development practice, including methods and ethics of initiating community projects, community assessments, community participation, community organizing, group facilitation, presentation skills, conflict management, contract negotiation, and fund development. Each of these topics will be discussed against a backdrop of community development theory and how theory is utilized in the practical settings of community organizations.

This course will engage students in developing and applying community development concepts, methods, and skills in a hands-on setting. The course is structured broadly as a studio, meaning that it is based on collaborative and project-based learning in a model of action-reflection *praxis* as opposed to lectures based on course readings.

Course Project

The key component of this class is the group project where students and the faculty work on a concrete project with community clients. The approach to the class project will be to act as if the class is operating as a consulting organization. Each week, we will devote some class time to project management and planning – similar to a class “staff meeting.” The class will also be a forum for presentations of tools and techniques that can support students in successfully completing the project.

Students will work in small groups/teams to plan strategies, gather information, and prepare written reports and presentations. Project work will be organized around the initial scope of work and work plan, which students will continue to develop as the class progresses. Students in

the seminar are responsible for coordinating group activities in order to accomplish project objectives and deliverables and to assist the community in accomplishing their goals.

The studio will work in partnership with the Sacramento Coalition on Regional Equity (<http://www.equitycoalition.org/>). As a client/ partner, CORE leadership will help inform the theme of the project, the design of the final products, and the dissemination strategy. The focus of the course project will be transportation equity, with a focus on the relationship between transportation and patterns of disparity in economic opportunity, housing affordability, health, environment and quality of life in the region.

In 2010, the Regional Equity in Practice studio will incorporate a Community Scholars component that will bring four community activists in to join in co-learning with the Community Development Masters students. The Community Scholars project action planning approach will provide real world experiential learning, foster a wide range of professional skills, enhance the institutional networks of both UC Davis students and Community Scholars, and contribute to the organizing of the Sacramento Coalition on Regional Equity. The Community Scholars program provides a space for the scholars to develop invaluable professional skills both in and out of the classroom. These skills will include: networking and outreach, project management, conflict resolution strategies, planning, and professional writing.

Because the collaboration with Sacramento Coalition on Regional Equity is intended as a multi-year project, the 2010 cohort of Community Scholars and Community Development graduate students will both build on the work of the 2009 cohort, and help lay the foundations for future endeavors by both UC Davis and the Coalition on Regional Equity. Thus, the 2010 seminar will be a vital time for creating networks with community members as well as identifying and highlighting community hopes and concerns about transportation and regional equity in Sacramento.

The course will meet on Fridays from 9-12 for a combination of faculty presentations, guest presentations, student presentations, discussions, and project planning. An additional 2 hours of course work per week (field visits, interviews, project work) are expected. Students are also expected to attend the Doing and Debating Development Seminar series from 12-1pm on Wednesdays, which will coordinate with the course's topics, professional skills, and project activities. In addition, students are invited to bring a brown bag lunch to break bread together after class on Fridays.

While some in-class time will be provided for groups to coordinate their efforts and reflect on their projects, student groups will need to meet outside of class and travel to field sites on other days, including evenings and weekends. The groups will also need to ensure their work is coordinated. During finals week, the class will make a formal presentation of their project findings to the Coalition on Regional Equity and potentially other entities. In addition, a public convening in April 9 (date tentative) will be held to showcase the student work in collaboration with the Community Scholars to a broader public audience.

Course Objectives

1. Provide students with experiential learning opportunity on the themes of regional equity, with a particular focus on strategies related to achieving transportation equity.

2. Engage students in collaborative project-based learning to help develop a range of community development skills, including small group collaboration; intra-group conflict resolution; public speaking; professional/ grant writing; power mapping; and meeting facilitation.
3. Assist the Sacramento Coalition on Regional Equity to advocate on behalf of low-income and communities of color affected by unequal transportation patterns and policies in the Sacramento region.
4. Incorporate Community Scholars into course curriculum as way of providing a benefit of mutual learning and network development to area community activists and to UC Davis students.

Transportation Equity Project Objectives and Course Deliverables

Transportation is central to every resident's life, but currently not all resident's see benefit from massive investments in transportation.

In the U.S., the Federal Government spends more than \$70 billion a year on transportation funding, and the State of California spends another \$2 billion a year. The transportation and material moving industry accounts for 7.4% of all employment, the 5th largest employment sector, and 10% of total Gross Domestic Product. How transportation money is spent (or not spent), where that money is spent and on what kinds of modes of transport, who has access to transportation related jobs (including related construction jobs), and who participates in the transportation planning process are all critical concerns for regional equity, and have direct impacts on patterns of disparity in economic opportunity, housing affordability, health, environment and quality of life in the region.

The Sacramento Region faces a number of significant transportation related investments in coming years, including implementation of SB 375 (which aims to reduce vehicle miles traveled by promoting denser development), the proposed expansion of the Sacramento Light Rail system to include a line through Natomas to the Airport, and more longer term, the development of California's proposed high-speed rail systems that will eventually extend to Sacramento. It is important that CORE have strong representation in pushing for regional equity goals in all these processes.

The class will work towards developing a comprehensive analysis of transportation equity dynamics in the Sacramento Region. The overall final product from the course will include a detailed powerpoint presentation and accompanying summary report that will lay out a draft strategic plan for promoting greater transportation equity in the Sacramento Region.

Course Deliverables:

Specific components of this analysis and the final deliverables will be finalized as part of class-based project planning, but are likely to at least include the following:

- Review and analysis of best practice efforts around the country to promote equity in transportation planning and implementation¹

¹ This will build on the work of Transportation Equity Network, Center for Transit Oriented Development, Transform, Urban Habitat, and others.

- Analysis of equity aspects of transportation funding and decision making within the 6-county SACOG region, including affordability, links with housing affordability, displacement/gentrification, and jobs/housing fit
- Power analysis of decision-making processes in key transportation planning bodies in the region (including SACOG and regional transit bodies) and potential advocacy campaign opportunities. This includes:
 - Clearly defining and demonstrating problem areas, articulating social justice agenda, and opposing agenda
 - Identifying key battles/policy fights
 - Identifying and analyzing key decision makers
 - Identifying and analyzing organized opposition
 - Identifying and analyzing allies and potential allies
 - Identifying and analyzing unorganized constituencies
- Delivery of these final products in the form of:
 - CD-ROM of useful reference materials, with printed short summary guide to materials
 - Electronic power-mapping powerpoint, with detailed slide notes and Short summary report
 - 2 group oral presentations-one small presentation during finals week to CORE staff and key leadership, and a second public presentation at a community event in April

Specific Evaluation Components

20% oral presentations in class and in community settings. Grading is based on coming across as well-prepared; articulate/ engaging; matching speaking style to audience/ setting; development and effective use of AV. Course grade will also take into account improvement over the quarter.

30% active engagement in collaborative learning and project management. This will be based solely on evaluations provided by fellow classmates based on how well each member of the studio contributes a fair share of the work, offers their unique skills and experiences to the project, and supports other’s learning. Every student will be required to write a 1-2 page evaluation of *each* fellow member of the studio *and* of the instructor that addresses two things: a) particular strengths and positive contributions provided by each member; b) particular things they could change or work on to improve.

50% final project. This grade will be based on the student’s contribution to the final project deliverables from the studio.

Tentative Schedule (to be changed as needed):

Date	Activity	Intended Outcome/ Details
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January 8	Introductions to each other, to the project, to transportation and its role in shaping regional equity and inequality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify course expectations and visions • Shared understanding of learning goals and methods • Introduction to Community Scholars program • Review of smartsite structure and resources • Introduction to power analysis and mapping • Introduction/Development of project management systems/mind-manager project development • Discussion of transportation and its role in shaping regional inequality and opportunity (PA: discussion of problems/conditions) • Presentation on Regionalism and Overview of (in)equity in Sacramento Region? • Divide readings for next week
January 15	10:00 am: Shamus Roller, Executive Director of Sacramento Housing Alliance, Coordinator of CORE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to CORE and discussion of their transportation equity goals. • Discussion of PA: Social Justice Agenda, Corporate/Right Wing Agenda, Key Battles/Policy Fights • Divide into Groups for Research on PA topics
January 22	9:00 am Patsy Eubanks-Owens, Youth and Transportation, Healthy Youth-Health Regions project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand youth perspectives on transportation issues • Group presentations on initial findings and research plan/time-line
January 29 Note: Location is community site with CORE	Peer training: Urban Habitat Transportation Equity and California State-wide Coalitions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learn about Bay Area experience/lessons • Learn about state-level policy opportunities and state-wide coalition development
February 5	Peer Training: Joanna Lee, SCOPE. Power analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop power-analysis—deepening understanding to-date, and developing plan of action for future work.
February 12	Project work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams present work to date and key questions • Collective discussion of implications and gaps to be filled

February 19	Tentative: Presentation on network visualization tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand network visualization tools
February 26	Project Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams present work to date and key questions • Collective discussion of implications and gaps to be filled
March 5	Draft Final Presentation DUE!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Dress rehearsal’ of final oral presentation deliverable • Collective feedback on content and style • Identification of key gaps to be filled in next two weeks
March 12		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflect on class project and experiences/ Draw connections between class experiences and professional aims • Reflect on Community Scholars program • Prepare for final presentations
March 19 (to be confirmed)	Presentation of Transportation Equity Analysis/ Celebration!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present class project to CORE staff and other key community leaders.
April 9 (to be confirmed)	Regional Equity/ Community Scholars Symposium—at community venue	Celebrate and showcase work of class and Community Scholars to broader public community

On-line Resources:

Regional Equity

- Alliance for Metropolitan Stability: <http://www.metrostability.org/index.php>
- Center on Policy Initiatives: <http://www.onlinecpi.org/>
- Coalition on Regional Equity (Sacramento): www.equitycoalition.org
- Good Jobs First: <http://www.goodjobsfirst.org/>
- Community Benefits blog: <http://communitybenefits.blogspot.com/>
- Field of schemes (critique of public subsidies for stadiums): <http://www.fieldofschemes.com>
- Institute for Wisconsin's Future: <http://www.wisconsinfuture.org/>
- Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy: <http://www.laane.org>
- No Land Grab: <http://nolandgrab.org/index.php>
- Partnership for Working Families: <http://www.communitybenefits.org>
- Policy Link: <http://www.policylink.org/>
- Strategic Actions for a Just Economy: <http://www.saje.net>
- UC Berkeley Center for Community Innovation: <http://communityinnovation.berkeley.edu/index.html>
- Urban Habitat (Richmond Equitable Development Initiative): <http://www.urbanhabitat.org/redi/091208-3>
- Poverty and Race Research Action Council: <http://www.prrac.org/index.php>

Transportation and Transportation Equity

- American Public Transportation Association:
 - Links to CA transit agencies: <http://www.apta.com/resources/links/unitedstates/Pages/CaliforniaTransitLinks.aspx>
 - Links to data: <http://www.apta.com/resources/statistics/Pages/default.aspx>
- Brookings Institution Metropolitan Infrastructure Initiative: <http://www.brookings.edu/metro/Infrastructure-Initiative.aspx>
- Center for Neighborhood Technology, Transportation & Community Development: <http://www.cnt.org/tcd/>
- Center for Transit Oriented Development: <http://www.reconnectingamerica.org/public/tod>
- Environmental Defense Fund, CA Transportation Expert: <http://www.edf.org/page.cfm?tagID=858>
- Gamaliel Foundation, Transportation issues: <http://www.gamaliel.org/Issues/IssueWork/Transportation.htm>
- Smart Growth America, Transportation Work: <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/transportation.html>
- Surface Transportation Policy Partnership: <http://www.transact.org/>
- TransForm (Bay Area Land Use and Transportation Coalition): <http://www.transformca.org/>
- Transportation Equity Network: <http://www.transportationequity.org/>
- Urban Habitat, Transportation Justice Initiative: <http://urbanhabitat.org/tj/home>
- Walk Sacramento: <http://www.walksacramento.org/>

Community Development/ Design

- Asset Based Community Development Institute
<http://www.northwestern.edu/ipr/abcd.html> Provides excerpts from *Building Community from the Inside Out*, including an example of a capacity inventory, and ordering information for practical how-to workbooks for asset mapping.
- Center for Civic Partnerships <http://www.civicpartnerships.org/> Tools, tip sheets and publications for creating healthy communities are available on the website. Topics include food security, organizing, fundraising, event planning, etc.
- Civic Practices Network <http://www.cpn.org/index.html> Contains information on civic engagement including manuals, guides, course syllabi, case studies and research related to community engagement
- Comm-Org <http://comm-org.wisc.edu/> An on-line conference on Community Organizing and Development to link academics and activists, and theory and practice, toward the goal of improving community organizing and its related crafts. Offers resources including papers, syllabi, program examples and listserv.
- Community Design/Land Use Planning Toolbox
http://www.naccho.org/topics/hpd/land_use_planning/LUP_Toolbox.cfm Sponsored by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) this site offers numerous resources such as health impact assessments, walkability and bikability checklists, and information to enable effective collaboration among public health and planning department officials.
- Community Tool Box <http://ctb.ku.edu/> The Community Tool Box provides more than 6,000 pages of practical skill-building information on over 250 different topics related to community health and development. Topic sections include step-by-step instruction, examples, check-lists, and related resources.
- Community Youth Development Journal <http://www.cydjournal.org/> An online, peer-reviewed journal focused on youth development.
- CompassPoint <http://www.compasspoint.org/> Offers a wealth of resources related to working in and with nonprofit organizations, e.g., board development, strategic planning, volunteer coordination and the Nonprofit Genie (FAQs).
- Grassroots Fundraising Journal <http://www.grassrootsfundraising.org/>
- Practical tips and tools to help you raise money for your organization.
- The Local Government Commission <http://www.lgc.org> Provides information, research, and technical assistance on a wide variety of issues related to livable communities. Request their publication *Street Safe for Pedestrians*, which includes a walkability checklist.
- Minnesota Department of Health Community Engagement
<http://www.health.state.mn.us/communityeng/index.html> Includes models, strategies, and tools for engaging community in health improvement efforts with a focus on asset based approaches.
- NP Action <http://www.npaction.org/> Resources to support capacity building for nonprofit advocacy including how to organize and mobilize communities, advocacy toolkits and information on coalition building.
- PlaceMatters.com <http://www.placematters.us> Helps community leaders, public agencies, and land use planners understand and employ new tools and techniques for managing growth and other issues. Focused in three primary areas: Vision-Centered

Place-Based Planning, Civic Engagement, and Tools for Community Design and Decision Making.

- The Public Policy Institute <http://www.realclout.org/index.stm> Includes a toolbox for policy change and free download of the easy-to-read *Real Clout: A How-To Manual for Community Activists*.
- Smart Growth America <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/> A coalition of organizations dedicated to building livable communities. The site includes news, reports, research and free resources.

Facilitation/ Group-work

- The Citizen's Handbook (Vancouver) <http://www.vcn.bc.ca/citizens-handbook/>
- The Institute for Cultural Affairs <http://www.ica-usa.org/>
- Making the Path: A Guide to Collaboration for School Readiness
- <http://www.healthychild.ucla.edu/First5CAReadiness/materials/collaboration/CollaborationGuidebook.pdf>
- National Coalition for Deliberation and Dialogue <http://thataway.org/>
- Open Space Technology <http://www.openspaceworld.org/cgi/wiki.cgi>
- Popular Education Toolkit
<http://www.jeffctr.org/docs/Popular%20Education%20Tool%20Kit.pdf>
- The Right Question Project <http://www.rightquestion.org/>
- Study Circles Resource Center <http://www.studycircles.org/en/index.aspx>
- The World Café <http://www.theworldcafe.com/>