HI70: Housing in the Developing World
Time: Tu 1-3:50pm
Nancy H. Kwak
Office hours: Wed 2-4 by appointment

BRIEF INTRO:
The goal of this course is to introduce you to some of the major housing problems developing world cities face in the twentieth century. We will examine the relationship between current-day housing problems with historical programs, plans, and political/social/economic contexts. We will compare national experiences, and think about what principles of policymaking we might extract. Our point of view will change from week to week: sometimes we will look at these problems from the perspective of government officials, planners, and architects; other weeks, we will think about what it is like to actually live in these cities as upper-, middle-, and working-class residents. We will constantly keep in mind the questions of who profits and who loses when housing changes.

BOOKS:

REQUIREMENTS:
The reading load is VERY HEAVY. There is no way around that; please look at the syllabus and carefully consider before choosing this course. You will need to be prepared to discuss readings during class. Every class session will be devoted to very close discussion of the reading.

As compensation, there are NO EXAMS. Instead, you will write two essays.

Your essays will be argument papers in response to a week's topic of your choosing. The essay should be between 1,400-1,600 words (roughly 6-7 pages, double-spaced, 12 pt., Garamond or Times New Roman only, footnotes only.)

You are expected to lead at least one discussion and to actively participate in each class. When you lead class, you should begin with a 15-20 minute lecture and powerpoint presentation on relevant supplementary historical material based on at least two related secondary sources (one chapter of a book counts, as does a scholarly article.) After presenting, you must distribute discussion questions based upon that week's readings. I would suggest you make at least ten questions that are analytical in character rather than demanding simple regurgitation.

GRADES:
50% - Participation (4 per class + 10 presentation)
20% - Essay 1
30% - Essay 2
No midterm or final exam.

SCHEDULE:

3/31 Week 1: Housing crises today – intro. Defining the developing world
× Charles Abrams, “People and Slums,” in The Future of Housing (1946). online

4/7 Week 2: Race and housing inequality
Owen Crankshaw and Susan Parnell, “Johannesburg: race, inequality, and urbanization” pp. 348-370. [WCBW]
Amie J. Njoh, Planning in Contemporary Africa (Ashgate Publishing, Ltd., 2003) chs. 4-6. online
PAPER TOPIC: To what extent are race inequalities in housing opportunity due to colonial legacies? How might such inequalities be addressed?

4/14 Week 3: Development and development aid in the 1950s, 60s
Charles Abrams, Man’s Struggle for Shelter in an Urbanizing World pp. 213-260. online
PAPER TOPIC: What is the relationship between IMF/World Bank actions and development in poorer neighborhoods? How could
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Paper Topic</th>
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<td>4/21 Week 4: Urban renewal</td>
<td>Thomas Campanella, <em>Concrete Dragon</em> - all</td>
<td><strong>PAPER TOPIC:</strong> What does urban renewal renew? How can renewal be improved as a development technique?</td>
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<td>5/19 Week 8: Gendered spaces</td>
<td>Fadela Amara, <em>Breaking the Silence: French women’s voices from the ghetto</em> chs. 1-2, 4-5. online</td>
<td><strong>PAPER TOPIC:</strong> How can architecture shape gender (and vice versa)? Is it meaningful to distinguish between women’s experiences in the developed and developing world?</td>
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<td>5/26 Week 9: Greening housing</td>
<td>UN, <em>Sustainable Human Settlements Development in Latin America and the Caribbean</em> - all</td>
<td><strong>PAPER TOPIC:</strong> How can we reconcile development with sustainability? What innovative architectural ideas are being tested, and with what level of efficacy (in your opinion)?</td>
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<td>6/2 Week 10: Surviving globalization</td>
<td>Douglas Webster, “Bangkok: evolution and adaptation under stress,” pp. 82-118. [WCBW]</td>
<td><strong>PAPER TOPIC:</strong> What are some of the key issues facing disaster relief agencies in the 21st century? What happened after the tsunami, and what lessons can we draw?</td>
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