

# **Comparative Urban Governance and Politics: The Case of Migration**

## **Prof. Jill Simone Gross, Hunter College of the City University of New York**

### **Course Description**

This class will examine urban governance and politics in comparative perspective. Drawing from examples of cities globally we will consider not only how one compares, but further what lessons comparison offers for building understandings of urbanization and urban governance processes more broadly. The course will be divided into two parts. The first part of the semester is designed to build a shared understanding (or vocabulary) of urban governance in different parts of the world (Global North and South). It will begin with explorations of urban governance institutions and urbanization processes comparatively, focusing on both theoretical and empirical dimensions and methodologies. With this as our background, we will then interrogate current trends impacting urban governance and urbanization globally, such as populism (left and right), urban restructuring, decentering and scalar dynamics. In the second part of this course we will take our theoretical understandings of urban governance institutions, urbanization processes, and urban political trends and apply them to the case of international migration and cities. Throughout the course, there will be an ongoing focus on the geopolitical tensions that exist between city and state, and the implications for urban governance.

### **Course Requirements**

Students will be expected to complete readings prior to class, and be prepared to actively participate in class discussions of the readings and related current events. Assessment will be based on a short writing assignment (essay), details to be provided during the first class session.

### **Course Schedule and Readings**

#### **Part 1: Situating the Urban: Institutions, Processes and Politics**

- 1. Introduction and Course Overview (February 1<sup>st</sup>)**
- 2. Urban governance in comparative perspective: Processes and Tactics (February 8<sup>th</sup>)**

Robinson, J. (2016). Thinking cities through elsewhere: Comparative tactics for a more global urban studies. *Progress in Human Geography*, 40(1), 3-29.

Schmid, C., Karaman, O., Hanakata, N. C., Kallenberger, P., Kockelkorn, A., Sawyer, L., ... & Wong, K. P. (2018). Towards a new vocabulary of urbanisation processes: A comparative approach. *Urban Studies*, 55(1), 19-52.

### **3. Urban governance in comparative perspective: Institutions (February 15<sup>th</sup>)**

Sellers, J. M., & Jefferey, M. (2016). Urban Governance and Institutions in the Developed and Developing Worlds: Toward a Comparative Historical Perspective. *Hrvatska i komparativna javna uprava: časopis za teoriju i praksu javne uprave*, 16(3), 459-478.

### **4. Shifting city-state relations (decentering and scale) – Geopolitics and the City: Globalization and Separatism (February 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

Jonas, A. E., & Wilson, D. (2018). The nation-state and the city: introduction to a debate. *Urban Geography*, 1-3.

Moisio, S. (2018). Urbanizing the nation-state? Notes on the geopolitical growth of cities and city-regions. *Urban Geography*, 1-4.

Pincetl, S. (2018). The shape of Fraught–urban–rural–the nation-state: tensions and dynamics. *Urban Geography*, 1-4.

Mamadouh, V. (2018). The city, the (Member) state, and the European Union. *Urban Geography*, 1-5.

### **5. Shifting city-state relations: Populism and the City (March 8<sup>th</sup>)**

Rossi, U. (2018). The populist eruption and the urban question. *Urban Geography*, 1-6.

Katz, B. & Noring, L. (2017) "The 5 Kinds of Cities We'll See in the Populist Era," Citylab. <https://www.citylab.com/equity/2017/01/the-five-kinds-of-cities-well-see-in-the-populist-era/512840/>

Cunningham, F. (2016). Urban Philosophy and Right-wing Populism, 1-9. <http://summit.sfu.ca/item/16774>

## **Part 2: The governance of migration and cities: Institutions, Processes and Geopolitics**

### **6. Immigrant Integration Policy and Urban Contexts (Institutions & Processes) (March 15<sup>th</sup>)**

De Graauw, E., & Vermeulen, F. (2016). Cities and the politics of immigrant integration: a comparison of Berlin, Amsterdam, New York City, and San Francisco. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 42(6), 989-1012.

Katz, B. and Noring, L. (2016). "In Europe Integrating Refugees Falls to Cities," Brookings Institute, Metropolitan Revolution. <https://www.brookings.edu/blog/metropolitan-revolution/2016/06/13/in-europe-integrating-refugees-falls-to-cities/>

100 Resilient Cities (2016) Global Migration: Resilient Cities at the Forefront. Read pages: 14-36. <https://medium.com/resilient-cities-at-the-forefront>

#### Supplementary

Eurocities (March 2016). Refugee Reception and Integration in Cities.

<https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/sites/futurium/files/eurocities-refugees-report.pdf>

### **7. Cities as a locus of struggle: urban citizenship and right to the city (March 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

Blokland, T., Hentschel, C., Holm, A., Lebuhn, H., & Margalit, T. (2015). Urban citizenship and right to the city: the fragmentation of claims. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 39(4), 655-665.

Bauder, H., & Gonzalez, D. A. (2018). Municipal responses to 'illegality': Urban sanctuary across national contexts. *Social Inclusion*, 6(1), 124-134.

Mayer, M. (2017). Cities as sites of refuge and resistance. *European Urban and Regional Studies*, First published September 8, 2017, 1-18. (0969776417729963).

### **8. Who Governs – Multilevel governance and migration (March 29<sup>th</sup>)**

Zapata-Barrero, R., & Barker, F. (2014). Multilevel governance of immigration in multinational states: 'Who governs?' reconsidered. In *The Politics of Immigration in Multi-Level States* (pp. 19-40). Palgrave Macmillan, London.

Scholten, P., & Penninx, R. (2016). The multilevel governance of migration and integration. In *Integration processes and policies in Europe* (pp. 91-108). Springer, Cham.

**The assessment method** will be an essay ("paper") of a maximum of 4 pages (15000 characters). The student will be required to hand this assignment in on the teacher's digital work environment on the Moodle website three weeks after the end of the course.