

C I N E M A C I T Y

(CP 4040c and CP 6815c)

Faculty:

Nancey Green Leigh, Professor of City Planning
Office hours: Tuesday 3.30pm to 5.30pm or by appointment.
Office located in Dept. of City & Regional Planning, 204 Old Architecture Bldg.
Phone: 894-9839; email: nancey.leigh@coa.gatech.edu

Schedule:

Spring Semester 2006
Tuesday 6.00pm-8.55 pm
123 Architecture (East)

Readings:

Required text: Clarke, David B., *The Cinematic City*, New York: Routledge, 1997.
Additional Readings on reserve in Architecture Library.

Date	Topic
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<i>Modern City: Urban Form and Scale, Livability and Opportunity, Conformity and Creativity</i>	
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Week I

Jan. 10th	Course Introduction: Our Love/Hate relationship with the City
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Film	Cinema City Clips: <i>Sleepless in Seattle</i> , and <i>Escape from New York</i>
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The Mechanized City

Films	<i>Modern Times</i> . (1936) Charlie Chaplin. Farmington Hills, Mich.: Magnetic Video Corporation. <i>Metropolis</i> (1927) Fritz Lang. Charlotte, N.C., United American Video
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Readings	Berman, Marshall, "Introduction: Modernity -- Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," in <i>All That is Solid Melts into Air</i> , New York: Penguin Books, 1988 edition.
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Monkkonen, E. Chapter I, "Writing About Cities," pp. 9-27, in *America Becomes Urban*, Berkeley: UC Press, 1988.

Clarke, Chapter I, "Introduction: Previewing the Cinematic City."

Copeland, Larry and Charisse Jones, "Atlanta Puts Heat on Panhandlers," *USA Today*, August 15, 2005

Fischer, Robert L., "Toward Self-Sufficiency: Evaluating a Transitional Housing Program For Homeless Families," *Policy Studies Journal*: 2000, Vol. 28 Issue 2, p402-420.

Cramer, Bob, "Lots of Hype, Little Help for Homeless," *Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, June 22, 2005.

Week 2

Jan. 17th **Cities to Suburbs: Paradise of the American Dream**

Film *Cinema City Clip: It's a Wonderful Life, . . .*

Avalon (1990) Directed by Barry Levinson. Burbank, CA: RCA/Columbia Home Pictures. (126 minutes)

Readings Southworth, Michael and Eran Ben-Joseph, "Street Standards and the Shaping of Suburbia, *APA Journal*, Winter 1995, pp. 65-81.

Palen, J. John, Ch. 5, "Myths, Ideology, and Imagery," in *The Suburbs*, New York: McGraw Hill, Inc., 1995, pp. 69-100.

Clarke, Ch. 1, "Chinese Boxes and Russian dolls: tracking the elusive cinematic city."

Week 3

Jan. 24th **Cities to Suburbs: Parody of the American Dream**

Film *Cinema City Clip: Edward Scissorhands*,

True Stories (1986) Directed and narrated by David Byrne. Burbank, CA: Warner Bros. Inc (89 minutes).

Readings Byrne, David. "Introduction." *True Stories*, New York: Penguin Books, 1986, pp. 9-18.

Kay, Jane Holtz, Ch. 3, "The Landscape of the Exit Ramp." *Asphalt Nation*, Crown Publishers, 1997, pp. 55-78.

Crang, Mike. Chapter 2, "Rethinking the Observer: Film, Mobility, and the Construction of the Subject," in Tim Cresswell and Deborah Dixon, ed.s, *Engaging Film*, Lanham, MD: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, Inc., 2002.

Week 4

Jan. 31st **Exurbia: Parody of the American Dream**

Raising Arizona (1987) Directed by Joel Cohen. Beverly Hills: Twentieth Century Fox Studios, (97 minutes).

Readings Garreau, Joel, Ch. 1, "The Search For the Future Inside Ourselves," in *Edge City*, New York: Anchor Books, 1992, pp. 3-15.

Leigh, Nancey Green, Ch.1, "Are Americans as Well-Off as We Used to Be?" and Ch. 7, "Changing Earnings Distributions and Opportunities for Middle-Class Living: What Should Be Done?" in *Stemming Middle Class Decline: The Challenges to Economic Development Planning*, Rutgers: CUPR Press, 1994.

Hill, Ingrid, "A Poetics of Trailer Park Class," *Peace Review*, 11:2 (1999), p225-230.

Urban Image/Urban Issues: as told in an L.A. Story

Week 5

Feb. 7th Crime and Corruption

Film *Chinatown* (1973) Directed by Roman Polanski. Beverly Hills: Fox Video (131 minutes).

reading Stone, Clarence, Ch. 7, "The Coalition Restabilizes," in *Regime Politics*, University Press of Kansas, 1989, pp. 135-159.

Clarke, Ch. 4, "Something more than night: tales of the noir city."

Grigg, Neil S., Chapter 4, "Planning and Decision-Making Processes," in *Water Resources Management*, New York: McGraw Hill, pp 87-112.

Atlanta Journal Constitution, 01/15/06, "Campbell divides Atlantans – again; Corruption trial set to start this week"

<http://www.ajc.com/news/content/metro/atlanta/stories/0115mercampbell.html>

Week 6

Feb. 14th Race and Place I

Film *Boyz 'N The Hood* (1992) Directed by John Singleton. Santa Monica, CA: Columbia Tristar (111 minutes)

Readings Short, James F. "Personal, Gang, & Community Careers," in *Gangs in America*, C. Ronald Huff, ed., 2nd edition, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 1996, pp. 221-240.

New York Times, "TV Getting a Closer Look as a Contributor to Real Violence," December 14, 1994.

Carpini, Michael X. Delli, "Race and Community Revitalization: Communications Theory and Practice." Unpublished manuscript, October 1998, prepared for the Aspen Institute Roundtable on Comprehensive Community Initiatives.

Sutton, Sharon E. "African American Youth as Actors in Community Change," Unpublished manuscript, October 1998, prepared for the Aspen Institute Roundtable on Comprehensive Community Initiatives.

Week 7

Feb. 21st Race and Place II

Film *Do the Right Thing* (1989). Directed by Spike Lee. Universal City Studios. (120 minutes).

Readings Hughes, Langston, "Montage of A Dream Deferred," poem excerpt printed in Nemiroff, Robert, ed., *Unabridged 25th Anniversary Edition of A Raisin in the Sun*, by Lorraine Hansberry, New York: Plume, 1987, p. 5.

Johnson Jr., James H.; Farrell Jr., Walter C.; Stolloff, Jennifer A., An Empirical Assessment of Four Perspectives on the Declining Fortunes of the African-American Male. *Urban Affairs Review*, May2000, Vol. 35 Issue 5, p695, 22p

Mahon, Nancy, "Race, Crime and Neighborhood Safety," Center on Crime, Communities & Culture Open Society Institute, unpublished manuscript, October 1998.

Davis, Robert C. and Arthur J. Lurigio, Chapter 3, "Community Antidrug Strategies," in *Fighting Back: Neighborhood Antidrug Strategies*, Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 1996, pp. 36-67.

Week 8

Feb. 28th Inequality and Isolation

Film *Grand Canyon* (1992). Directed by L. Kasden. Beverly Hills: Fox Video (134 minutes).

Readings Davis, Mike. "Los Angeles Intellectuals: An Introduction," in *City of Quartz*, pp. 17-97.

Clarke, Ch. 8, "The People in Parentheses."

Dail, Paula W., Introduction to the Symposium on Homelessness. *Policy Studies Journal*, 2000, Vol. 28 Issue 2, p331, 7p

Carter, Tom, "Review essay: Perspectives on homelessness--characteristics, causes and solutions." *Housing Studies*, Mar 98, Vol. 13 Issue 2, p275, 7p

Cinema of Postmodernity

Week 9

Mar. 7th Postindustrialism

Film *Roger and Me* (1990). Directed by M. Moore. Burbank: Universal City Warner Home Video (106 minutes).

Readings Natter, Wolfgang and John Paul Jones, III, "Pets or Meat: Class, Ideology, and Space in *Roger & Me*," *Antipode*, 1993.

Pagano, Michael a. and Ann O'M. Bowman, Ch.3, "Aspirations, Visions, and Images," in *Cityscapes and Capital*, Baltimore: John Hopkins Press, 1995, pp 44-67.

Ehrenreich, Barbara. "Nickel-and-dimed: On (not) getting by in America." Harper's, New York; January 1999, pp. 37-52.

Week 10

Mar. 14th *Local Hero* (1983) Directed by Bill Forsyth. (111 minutes)

Collum, Canny Duncan. "Modern times redux." *Utne Reader*, n 63, pp 131-134, May/June 1994.

Bateman, Thomas S. and Tomoaki Sakano, "Roger, me and my attitude: Film propaganda and cynicism toward corporate leadership," *Journal of Applied Psychology*, v 77, n 5, pp 768-772, October 1992.

Kennedy, Marlene. "Schenectady could take lessons from Flint," *Capital District Business Review*, v 24, n 52, p. 18-23, April 13. 1998.

Week 11

Mar. 21st No class-Spring Break

Week 12 Postindustrialism cont.

Mar. 28th

Film *Sunshine State* (2002) Directed by John Sayles. 141 minutes.
Reading :

[Brevard County, "Planning and Zoning Minutes."](#)

Sea Consortium of South Carolina. "South Carolina Coast Zoning."

Explore these sites to learn about Mainstreet programs which can be used to revitalize and promote economic development in small towns::

<http://www.mainstreet.org/>

<http://dhr.dos.state.fl.us/preservation/architecture/mainstreet/>

<http://www.nationaltrust.org/>

Week 13

Apr. 4th Future Film Noir I

Film *Blade Runner* (1982) Director's cut. Directed by H. Fancher and D. Peoples. Burbank, CA: Columbia Home Video. (118 minutes)

Readings Harvey, David. Chapter 18, "Time and space in the postmodern cinema," pp. 308-323, *The Condition of Postmodernity*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell, Ltd, 1989.

Doreen Massey (1994) "Flexible Sexism" in *Space, Place and Gender*, University of Minnesota Press, pp. 212-248.

Clarke, Ch. 7, "From Ramble City to the Screening of the Eye: *Blade Runner*, death and symbolic exchange."

Week 14

Apr. 11th Future Film Noir II

Film *Tank Girl* (1995) Directed by Rachel Talalay. Santa Monica, CA: MGM Home Entertainment.

Readings Haraway, Donna J., Ch. 9, "Situated Knowledges: The Science Question in Feminism and the Privilege of Partial Perspective," in *Simians, Cyborgs, and Women: The Reinvention of Nature*, pp. 183-201.

Wright, Bob. "Urban Pictures: The City in Film," in *Planning Theory*, vol 15, 1996, pp. 24-44.

Shepherd, Anne. "Drought Contingency Planning: Evaluating the Effectiveness of Plans," *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management*, September/October, pp 246-251.

Week 15

Apr. 18th Global Connections

Film *Connections: AT & T's Vision of the Future*. (1993) (12 minutes.)

Readings Reich, Robert B., Chapter 25, "Who is Us?" in *The Work of Nations*, New York: Vintage Books, 1992, pp. 301-316.

Zukin, Sharon, Ch. 3, "The Urban Landscape," in *Landscapes of Power: From Detroit to Disney World*, Berkeley: UC Press, 1991, pp. 39-53.

Student Screenings Begin

Week 16

Apr. 25th Student Screenings

Week 17

May 2nd Final Papers due at 4 pm. Submit to Dept. secretary, Debra Jones in City Planning office, or, place in Prof. Leigh's box.

Notices

Honor Code:

The Georgia Tech Honor Code is in effect throughout this course. You should review this code and make sure you understand your responsibilities. If you have any questions, please contact me.

ADA Accommodations:

If you require course adaptations or accommodations due to a disability, if you have emergency medical information that I should be aware of, or, if you need special arrangements in the event the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment to discuss within the first week of classes, or, as soon as possible after a change in your circumstances occurs which requires an accommodation.

Email policy:

I will try to answer your questions about the course or other program matters within one business day of receiving your email. Unless specifically stated in the syllabus or permission has been given in advance, I do not accept assignments electronically.

Writing:

The quality and appropriateness of student writing will be a key factor of evaluation of student work. Students are expected to prepare their work on a word processor, using double-spacing. The use of grammar and spell checking programs is strongly encouraged. You are expected to submit a carefully written paper--in terms of organization, grammar, and spelling. Make sure your pages are numbered and stapled together, and that your name appears on each page. As per department policy, you are expected to use *bias free writing*. Please review the City & Regional Planning student manual's section on writing.

Late Work Policy:

All written work must be turned in on time so that it can be discussed openly. Work that is submitted late will receive reduced credit, except in highly unusual instances. Usually, ten percent of the total

possible points will be deducted for each school day that an assignment is late. It is extremely important that you stay current in this course. Once you fall behind, it is very difficult to get caught up, due to the pace of the course and the cumulative nature of the material.