



Online Summer Course

3rd - 4 week session: July 25-August 20, 2016

Urban Studies 150 - Multicultural America

(Satisfies cultural diversity requirement)

Instructor: Dr. Jamie Harris (jmh@uwm.edu)

We increasingly live in an urban and multicultural world. Yet we also know from experience that cities and metropolitan regions are socially fragmented and often divided by race, ethnicity and class. For example, Milwaukee is often ranked as the one of most hypersegregated cities/regions in the country. Why is that? This course will try to answer this question and others by exploring the intersection of multiculturalism and urban development and change. Taking an interdisciplinary approach and drawing on several case studies, this course will look closely at how race and ethnicity have shaped, and continue to influence, patterns of segregation and economic division across the American urban landscape. The course will also focus on the role of immigration and ethnic enclaves and economies in transforming urban spaces in the 20th and 21st centuries. Treating cities as dynamic and ever changing, we'll look at the ways different groups have used urban space to construct distinct community identities and to foster movements for social change, as well as how gender and sexual difference have been defined and represented in urban space. This is a social science GER course that satisfies the cultural diversity requirement.