List of suggested books 2010

Book options for Assignment 2

Please review the list of books below. In mid-October, we will distribute a sign-up sheet for you to list three choices, and assign book review groups of 2-4 people based on your choices. Note that for long books, dividing up chapters between group members is permissible, but all group members should read the introductory, methods (if applicable) and conclusion chapters. If dividing up chapters, each group member should provide a summary to the others.

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Assessments/critiques of urban policy

- Logan, John & Harvey Molotch. 1982. *Urban Fortunes*. University of California Press. An expanded analysis of the idea that we can understand "place" politics by examining the tension between "growth coalitions" that value land and property for its exchange value and other community residents (home owners and renters) who value property for its use as a home.

Specific cities or regions


Housing, Neighborhood Change, and Community Development

- Freeman, Lance. 2006. *There Goes the 'Hood: Views of Gentrification from the Ground Up*. Temple University Press. Freeman studies two gentrifying neighborhoods in New York City, Harlem and Clinton Hill, first hand via participant observation to explore the impacts of neighborhood transitions from the viewpoint of the residents themselves.

Culture and Migration

- Myers, Dowell. 2008. *Immigrants and boomers: Forging a new social contract for the future of America*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation. Demographer and planning professor looks at two demographic groups that will shape the near future of US metropolitan regions and seeks to find common ground based on mutual interests and social responsibility.

Suburban Growth

- Flint, Anthony. 2006. *This land: The battle over sprawl and the future of America*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. Former Boston Globe journalist Flint chronicles the battles over sprawl (e.g., Smart Growth, New Urbanism) and the resistance to these movements.

Food, agriculture, natural resources, and cities

- Cronon, William. 1991. *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*. New York: W. W. Norton. This is a fascinating analysis of the relation between Chicago and agroindustrial development, with separate chapters focusing on different types of commodities and commodities trading, and how these shaped the US Midwest.