

Local Policy & Immigration

CRN 55971

Department of Urban & Regional Planning

Stacy Harwood, Professor

About the Course

UP535 explores major issues confronting urban planners and policy makers working in highly diverse communities that are undergoing rapid demographic, economic, social, and cultural change. Focuses specifically on planning and policy making in communities with large numbers of immigrants, particularly in cities and regions in the United States, Canada and Europe. Weather permitting we will take a field trip to either Chicago or St Louis and explore the local CU community as well.



Who should take it?

Urban Planning, Education, History, Political Science, Geography or any student interested in local policy making in communities undergoing rapid demographic change.

What will you learn?

- National versus local impacts of immigration
- Trends, particularly "Browning of the Midwest"
- Cultural variations in the use of work, home and neighborhood spaces
- Ethnic enclaves: neighborhood revitalization and economic development
- Local politics around living and work conditions of immigrants
- Anti-immigrant legislation at the local and state levels
- Community participation in multicultural and transnational communities

What will you do?

- Discuss the literature on local policy and immigration
- Research a specific local policy-making conflict
- Develop recommendations for those working in a multicultural community



About the Instructor

Professor Harwood's research, rooted in social justice, focuses on the emerging field of planning for difference and diversity. She links scholarship to planning practice by examining how practitioners deal with the mandates of participation and equity in land-use planning and how planning codes and regulations differentially affect diverse populations. This interest is founded on years of participant-observation of planning in U.S. and Latin American cities, where she has paid particular attention to the phenomenon of multicultural communities in which planning processes that endorse the ideals of justice and tolerance nevertheless often fall short.