DHA 2401 Introduction to Housing (3 cr) Fall 2009
University of Minnesota, College of Design Housing Studies Program
Department of Design, Housing & Apparel
Time: 9:35-10:25 MWF
Place: Room 146 McNeal Hall St. Paul Campus
Instructor: Dr. Ziebarth, Associate Professor-Housing Studies
Office: 358 McNeal Hall
Phone: 612-625-8795
E-mail: aziebart@umn.edu
Office Hour: Wednesday 1:00-2:00; additional times by appointment

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COURSE DESCRIPTION
Housing is more than “protection from the elements”. House and home have social,
economic, and psychological implications. This course is designed to develop an
understanding of and appreciation for the complexity of housing. The goal is to familiarize you
with housing as a process and a product in the context of the individual, the family, and the
community. The impacts of federal, state, and local governmental policies will also be
considered. Topics to be addressed during this semester include: an introduction to housing
studies, architectural styles and preferences, residential construction methods and components,
housing finance (buying a home), housing markets, social and psychological aspects of home,
and housing laws, policies and regulations, and the way housing impacts the wellbeing of
individuals.

COURSE PREREQUISITES--There are no prerequisites for this class.

COURSE LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES—
Students successfully completing this course will be able to:
1) Identify, define and solve problems understanding key aspects of housing in the U.S.
2) Master a body of knowledge and mode of inquiry through the use of basic housing research
   skills including observation, interviewing, & data analysis
3) Explain constraints families’ experience in acquiring housing
4) Analyze the process of obtaining housing from a household perspective and understand the
   basic principles of financing home ownership
6) Recognize the relationship between housing and community development
7) Understand various theories regarding residential relocation
8) Evaluate public policies impacting housing acquiring skills for effective citizenship and life-
   long learning
9) Communicate their understanding of the material effectively through written assignments, in-
    class exercises, and class discussions.
YOUR LEARNING OBJECTIVES—
Learning is never a one-way experience. Below you will find space to write in your own objectives for this class. Include objectives that focus on content knowledge as well as the grades you would like to achieve.
1)
2)
3)
4)

COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND DUE DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Assignment/Exam</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 28, 2009</td>
<td>Assignment 1 Observing housing and neighborhoods</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 19, 2009</td>
<td>Exam I</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov. 9, 2009</td>
<td>Assignment 2 Housing Policy Analysis</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<td>Nov. 18, 2009</td>
<td>Exam II</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<td>Nov. 30, 2009</td>
<td>Assignment 3 Housing history interview</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<td>Dec. 2, 2009</td>
<td>Last day for extra credit</td>
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<td>Dec. 14, 2009</td>
<td>Assignment 4 Home buying computer lab report</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 18, 2009</td>
<td>Final Exam—10:30-12:30</td>
<td>150 points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Throughout</td>
<td>In-class Activities</td>
<td>50 points</td>
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REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND READINGS
The course schedule will provide you with a list of specific readings for the class.

Textbooks

Readings/In-class handouts
A course packet of readings is required and available for purchase at St. Paul Books Underground. Additional materials or on-line readings will be required during class sessions.

WEB CT/Blackboard- A RESOURCE FOR LEARNING
Support information and course materials will be available on the web.
To access the web site you will use log into your computer account type myu.umn.edu in the browser, select the option to log into your account. You will need to use your x500 user name and password (the same ones you use for e-mail and to access your scholastic records). Our class should appear. If you click on that page, the website should come up. If you have difficulty please ask the instructor or a computer lab assistant.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS (the rules)
- **Attendance** at all class sessions is expected. I will begin the class promptly and expect that you will be there. Please do not disturb other student's ability to learn by coming in late or leaving early.
- You are expected to **be attentive** during class, to **ask questions** if you do not understand something, and to **participate** in class discussions. You are also expected to **listen respectfully** to other students and me when speaking. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism, and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in this class.
• Turn off all electric devices! Cell phones, beepers, or other electronic devices must be disabled during all class sessions. You may NOT use laptop computers during class.

• Read assigned materials prior to class and come prepared to discuss the topic.

• Assignments are to be turned in at the beginning of the class period in which they are due. All assignments must be hard copies; I do not accept electronic versions of assignments. Written assignments must by word processed (or typed), double space. Put your name on the upper right hand corner of the first page. Please do not use plastic covers.

• Late assignments will not be accepted. Make sure you have ink in your printer and that you complete your assignments with time to spare.

• Exams are to be taken at their scheduled time. A missed test is a missed grade. Make up exams are only possible in emergency situations. Contact the instructor as soon as possible if an emergency situation occurs.

• Incompletes are given only in strict accordance with University guidelines. An incomplete grade is only possible for students who have completed all of the coursework and for some legitimate reason (illness, family emergency) miss the final exam. In no case will an "I" be given when the student has not completed assignments or has missed a substantial portion of the classes. Course work must be completed before the start of the next term.

• The College of Design expects the highest standards of honesty and integrity in the academic performance of its students. Any act of scholarly dishonesty is regarded as a serious offense may result in loss of credit or even expulsion.

• The workload varies throughout the semester, however it is expected that students will spend on average a minimum of six hours each week in addition to class time.

• Students needing special accommodations regarding assignments and/or examinations due to a disability must provide documentation from Disability Services. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible in the semester to make arrangements.

GRADING
Grades are based on a percentage of total possible points as follows:
  Assignments- 50 points each (200 points)
  Midterm Exams (100 points)
  Final exam (150 points)
  Class participation/In-class activities (50 points)

"A" represents outstanding achievement above and beyond the course requirements
"B" represents achievement exceeding the level necessary to meet course requirements
"C" represents achievement that meets the course requirements in every respect
"D" represents achievement that is worthy of credit even though it fails to meet fully the course requirements.

A/A-  450-500 points
B+/B/B- 350-449 points
C+/C/C- 300-349 points
D 250-299 points
F <250 points

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

• Students with disabilities that might hinder their ability to participate in the full range of class activities should contact Disability Services for assistance. Accommodations may be made only if an official letter is provided to the instructor. See the website at http://ds.umn.edu for more information.

• Writing assignments must be clearly organized and in coherent prose containing proper grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Assignments not meeting these specifications and papers that are judged by the professor to contain excessive errors will not be accepted. If you feel you need help with your writing, assistance is available through the Student Writing Center, 306B Lind Hall. Check their website at http://swc.umn.edu for hours and services. Writing support is also available at the Smart Commons in Magrath Library.

• The Student Dispute Resolution Center is located at 107 Eddy Hall. The Student Dispute Resolution Center assists students with campus-based concerns including grading and instructional complaints. While I hope you will not feel a need to use this service you can find out more information on the website at www.tc.umn.edu/~sos.

COMPUTER FACILITIES

As a student registered with the University of Minnesota you have access to computer labs on campus. We will use computers for some assignments. The St. Paul Public Computer Labs, including the computer classrooms in McNeal Hall and the Classroom Office Building are managed by the U of M Academic Distributed Computing Services (ADCS).