

Syllabus Overview

Course Title	Introduction to Housing
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Course Designator	HSG	Section Number	
Course Number	1461	Semester and Year	Fall 2015

Class Meeting Days & Time	T Th 10:15-11:30
Classroom	McNeal Hall 146
Number of Credits	3
Final Exam Date & Time <i>(Also state if there is NO final)</i>	There will <i>not</i> be a final exam

Instructor's Information

Name	Ann Ziebarth, Professor-Housing Studies
Office Location	McNeal Hall 358
Office Phone	612-625-9785
Email	aziebart@umn.edu
Office Hours	Tuesday 1:00-2:00pm or by appointment

Course Information and Instructor's Expectations

Course Description:

Housing is more than “protection from the elements”. House and home have social, economic, and psychological implications. A user-focused approach will examine the role of shelter in the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. 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 impacting individuals and families.

Course Prerequisites:

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Required and Recommended Materials:

Textbook:

Housing Education & Research Association (HERA) (2006) *Introduction to Housing*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Person Prentice Hall.

Readings/In-class materials:

Additional readings will be posted on the course moodle site and some materials will be provided in-class. To access the web site you will log into your computer account from the browser at **my.umn.edu**. 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.

Established Course Objectives:

The course objective is that learners will develop an understanding of and appreciation for the complexity of housing as a field of study. The goal is to familiarize course participants with housing as a process and a product in the context of the individual, the family, and the community.

Student Learning Outcomes following course completion: *(must identify from the list at least one outcome and how it relates to this course how it will be addressed and how it will be assessed, <http://www.slo.umn.edu/>)*

This course addresses four of the required University Student Learning Outcomes. Following course completion you will be able to:

1. Identify and define US housing problems and potential solutions to address those problems
2. Locate and critically evaluate relevant secondary housing information; evidence of this skill will be demonstrated through course assignments including a policy analysis paper and a home buying exercise.
3. Apply modes of inquiry including observational research, data analyses, and interviewing techniques.
4. Demonstrate effective communication skills through in-class discussions, written exams and assignments

Release of Work Statement:

Students understand that enrollment in this course grants consent for their work to be selected for inclusion in college or departmental publications (online or in print). Your instructor may select to use your work to represent her/his skills as an instructor in a teaching portfolio (online or in print).

Attendance:

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 students' ability to learn by coming in late or leaving early.

Workload:

This class requires weekly readings (approximately 50 pages/week), four written homework assignments, two exams, and class participation.

Grading Structure:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/GRADINGTRANSCRIPTS.html>

Grades will be awarded based on a total of 400 points.

Homework Assignments 4 @ 50 each = 200 points

Exams: 30% of total points 2 @ 50 each = 100 points

In-Class participation: 100 points

Accepting and Returning Assignments:

All assignments are to be turned in at the **beginning** of the class period on which they are due. Assignments must be hard copies, word-processed and double-spaced. Put your name on the upper right hand corner of the first page. I **do not** accept electronic versions of assignments. Please do not use plastic covers.

Grading Late Work:

Late assignments will not be accepted unless there is an emergency situation. Please contact the instructor as soon as possible if you cannot meet the assignment deadline. NOTE: Make sure you have ink in your printer and that you complete your assignment with time to spare. Printer failures are NOT emergencies.

Policy for Missed Exams:

A missed test is a missed grade. Make up exams are only possible in emergency situations and will be scheduled at the end of the semester during scheduled time for final exam 8:00-10:00 am Wed. December 23, 2015.

Make Up Work for Legitimate Absences:

<http://www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/MAKEUPWORK.html>

Extra Credit Options:

Extra Credit opportunities will be posted on the course Moodle site.

University Policies

Personal Electronic Devices in Classroom:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>.

Please turn off **all electronic devices**. Computers, cell phones, beepers, and other electronic devices must be disabled during all class sessions.

Use of Class Notes and Materials:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/CLASSNOTESSTUDENTS.html>

Scholastic Dishonesty and Student Conduct Code:

<http://policy.umn.edu/Policies/Education/Education/STUDENTRESP.html>.

Violations of the Student code of conduct and incidences of scholastic dishonesty will NOT be tolerated. Any such unethical behavior will result in a failing grade for this course.

Sexual Harassment:

<http://policy.umn.edu/hr/sexualharassment>

Harassment of any sort will not be tolerated.

Statement on Climate of Inclusivity:

You are expected to be attentive during class, ask questions if you do not understand something, and to offer your opinion. You are also expected to listen respectfully to other students and to me when speaking. The University of Minnesota is committed to providing a safe climate for all students, faculty, and staff. All persons shall have equal access to its programs and facilities without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation. Racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, ageism and other forms of bigotry are inappropriate to express in this class. Reports of harassment are taken seriously, and there are individuals and offices available for help.

(or refer to http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Equity_Diversity_EO_AA.pdf

Academic Freedom and Responsibility:

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Academic_Freedom.pdf

Availability of Disability and Mental Health Services:

The University of Minnesota is committed to providing all students equal access to learning opportunities. The Office of Equity and Diversity has a *Disability Resource Center* (DRC) that works with students who have disabilities to provide and/or arrange reasonable accommodations.

- Students who have, or think they may have, a disability (e.g. mental health, attentional, learning, vision, hearing, physical or systemic), are invited to contact DS to arrange a confidential discussion at 612- 626-1333 (V/TTY) or drc@umn.edu.
- Students registered with DRC, who have a letter requesting accommodations, are encouraged to contact the instructor early in the semester to discuss accommodations outlined in their letter.

For additional information please visit: <https://diversity.umn.edu/disability/>

As a student you may experience a range of issues that can cause barriers to learning, such as strained relationships, increased anxiety, alcohol/drug problems, feeling down, difficulty concentrating and/or lack of motivation. These mental health concerns or stressful events may lead to diminished academic performance or reduce your ability to participate in daily activities. University of Minnesota services are available to assist you with addressing these and other concerns you may be experiencing. You can learn more about the broad range of confidential mental health services available on campus via www.mentalhealth.umn.edu or contact Counseling/Consulting Services at 612-624-3323.

Academic Services:

If you would like additional help, please contact one of the offices listed below.

Center for Writing	10 Nicholson Hall, Mpls	612-626-7579
Student Academic Success Service	340 Appleby Hall, Mpls 199 Coffey Hall, St. Paul	612-624-3323