SPRING 2015 – M. Warner  
CRP 6590 - Special Topics: Urban Development Planning: Austerity and City Response

1-3 hrs Variable Credit: The one credit option is a half semester course. Those signing up for 2-3 credits will have work that continues throughout the term. Grading: 1 credit option: S/U only, 2-3 credit option: graded or S/U

Class Meeting Time and Location: Wednesdays 4:30pm – 6:00pm, 211 W Sibley Hall

Instructor: Prof. Mildred Warner, City and Regional Planning, mew15@cornell.edu  
255-6816, 215 W. Sibley  
Office Hours: generally 2:30-4:30 Wednesdays and Fridays

Class web site: http://blackboard.cornell.edu Other important material can be found at http://www.mildredwarner.org/gov-restructuring All books available on reserve.

Course Description: This course will involve reading key books on urban austerity and local government response, follow up work from the Dec 2014 NYS Local Fiscal Stress conference, and study of club approaches to urban service delivery. Prerequisite: CRP 4120/6120 or permission of instructor.

Learning Objectives: PAB Learning Goals:  
The Future - Emerging trends – Students will exhibit understanding of local government fiscal stress and its implications.  
Written, Oral and Graphic Communication – Students will learn and practice effective communication skills.  
Growth and Development – Students will develop understanding of the challenges and opportunities of linking local government fiscal management, economic development.

Ethics

Academic Integrity: Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. Any work submitted by a student in this course for academic credit will be the student’s own work. Citation of sources is fundamental to the academy – when in doubt, cite. Students caught plagiarizing will be given an F. Each student in this course is expected to abide by the Cornell University Code of Academic Integrity. See http://cuinfo.cornell.edu/Academic/AIC.html

Students are expected to review the AICP Planners Code of Ethics and abide by it in the professional work for this class. See http://www.planning.org/ethics/ethicscode.htm

Course materials developed in this class or posted on Blackboard are intellectual property belonging to the author. Students are not permitted to buy or sell any course materials without the express permission of the instructor. Such unauthorized behavior constitutes academic misconduct.
**Academic Accommodation:** In compliance with the Cornell University policy and equal access laws, I am available to discuss appropriate academic accommodations that may be required for students with disabilities. Requests for academic accommodations are to be made during the first three weeks of the semester, except for unusual circumstances, so arrangements can be made.

**Assignments and Grading**

Students will summarize readings and post their summaries to Blackboard at least 24 hours before class.

Collaborative team work is required in this class. Group projects and class discussion depend on full participation of all students. Thus, failure to deliver your component of the work on time undermines the learning experience of others and therefore constitutes an ethics violation of the class code (and will result in a grade reduction).

**Students signing up for 1 credit hour** will write two summaries (article or book chapter) and participate in class discussion. Class attendance is required. Only S/U grading option for 1 credit students.

**Only students signing up for 2 or 3 hours credit** can request letter grades. Students taking the class for more than 1 credit hour have several options for supplemental credit. These include: 1) follow up to the Fiscal Stress conference in December – preparing research and analysis for the local government association and union clients and working on book chapters, 2) participation in the club approaches to urban service delivery set of lectures in the CRP Friday colloquium series and writing a paper on club goods.

**Week 1 Organization and Outline for the Course**

**Weeks 2-3 Citizenship Discussions**


http://soc.sagepub.com.proxy.library.cornell.edu/content/24/2/189.full.pdf+html

Weeks 4-7 Book Fest (one book each week)


Additional Work for 2-3 credit hour students

Follow up to Fiscal Stress Conference
Conduct research and prepare papers as needed for local government association and union clients. Attend additional conferences in winter if desired (NYS Assoc. of Counties, NYS Assoc. of Towns and NY Conference of Mayors all have conferences in February, NYS Urban Council is coming to Ithaca this spring). We will also be working on a book on upstate fiscal stress and if you would like to help with research and writing for some of the chapters, you should sign up for 1-2 credits for this option.

Club Approaches to Public Service Delivery
Write a research paper on club goods, attend lectures and participate in Friday afternoon discussions. We will have 4 lectures in the spring relevant to Club Goods. Students opting for this option should plan to attend these lectures 12:30-2:00 on Fridays and participate in follow on discussions with speakers either immediately before or after the lecture (TBA). Where possible we will provide advance readings from the speakers.  

Speaker Schedule below.

January 30th  
Matthew Hoffman, Private Property in Shared Landscapes

March 6th  
Jim Rokakis, Foreclosures, Abandonment and How Aggressive Demolition Policies Will Help Save Distressed American Cities
March 13th  
Kris Goddard, *Business Improvement Districts: The Evolution and Equity of BIDs in New York City*

April 24th  
Kevin Sherper Walker, *We Own It!: The Promise, Impact, and Lessons of Resident Ownership in Manufactured Housing Communities*