Brief Intro:
This class will look at urban and regional planning in the twentieth century from a top-down and a bottom-up perspective. The concept of “planning” and “planners” will be interrogated, as well the specific uses and consequences of design decisions. Topics include urban and suburban housing, work environments, public spaces, transportation and utility infrastructures, utopianism.

Grades:
30% - Attendance and participation
20% - Book review
50% - Final paper

What You Should Expect:

In General: You should expect to read A LOT. You will also write an original research paper that may be used to fulfill (by petition) your upper-division writing requirement for Eleanor Roosevelt College. You are required to petition ERC for this credit using Option A. Please keep in mind the requirements listed on ERC’s website:

“[T]he paper(s) must be written in English and have received a passing or C- grade. You must also have received a passing grade in the course for which the paper was written. The writing should demonstrate invention of a thesis, an original argument, and development of the argument with evidence and analysis. Papers need not include secondary sources. Papers may include description, provided a significant portion of the paper is devoted to an analysis of the description. Poetry, short stories, in-class exams, group projects, and laboratory reports are NOT acceptable to meet this requirement. To facilitate processing, please do a word count before submitting the paper/portfolio to the ERC Academic Advising Office. We return your paper(s) immediately. Photocopies are not necessary.”

Participation: You are expected to lead discussion for one class. You should pre-circulate a list of ten discussion questions at least 24 hours before class via tritoned. You are expected to actively participate in discussion. Quality counts!

Book Review: You will write a short, 800-word book review of Ladd. You should follow the standard format of a book review for the American Historical Review.

These are the requirements laid out by the AHR:

We expect reviewers to write thoughtful and engaging critiques that explain the basic argument of a book, assess its strengths and weaknesses, and place it in its historiographical context, and preferably to do so in a way that addresses readers beyond their particular specialty. See http://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/american-historical-review/book-review-guide.

Our house style is based on the Chicago Manual of Style. In addition, please note the following points:
• If you are including quotations from the book, please keep them short, and be sure to include the relevant page numbers. Do not quote from other reviews of the work.
• When you refer to other scholars or historical figures, please provide complete names. If you refer to scholarly works other than the book under review, please provide full publication information, including author names, complete titles, publication dates, and periodical volume and issue numbers if applicable.
• We do not use footnotes in our book review section, so please do not include them. If you are reviewing a collection of essays, please do not merely list the contents of the book.

Final Paper: Please write a final paper of at least 2,500 words (no upper limit on pages) answering one of the questions listed below. All papers must have a central argument and demonstrate analysis; do NOT summarize readings. Please use footnotes rather than endnotes or in-text citations. Please include a works cited page at the end (not included in page count.) In addition to the assigned text(s) for each question, you are required to find at least two other scholarly sources addressing the question. Further details and deadlines will be given.

Books:
All readings are on digital course reserves or available in full through roger.

Schedule:
Week 1: Are cities shaped most by local, national, or transnational forces?

Week 2: Can planners erase history? How much power do planners have to realize their ambitions?
Le Corbusier, The City of Tomorrow and its Planning (excerpt) OR Tom Wolfe, From Bauhaus to Our House (excerpt)
Week 3: Do citizens have housing rights? How do mass housing movements reflect or contradict the needs of urban residents?

Week 4: What does it mean to have a right to the city?
Henri Lefebvre, *Right to the City* (excerpt)

Week 5: Where does gentrification occur and why? Can it be stopped? Should it be stopped?