

Syllabus

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

A Planet of Slums? Informal Settlements and the Transition to Formality and Planning

192-2-32

Dr. Yodan Rofè

Spring, 2022

Course Description:

This is a research seminar intended to survey the literature on informal settlements as a worldwide phenomenon, and its understanding as both a problem and a solution to the pressures of housing under rapid population growth and urbanization, or in the wake of natural or man-made disasters. The course will also examine the various solutions proposed over time for the transition of informal housing areas over time and the processes of formalizing them and including them in the city. It will examine informal housing in urbanizing and peri-urban areas, and in the aftermath of natural and human-made disasters.

The course is given as a reading seminar. Students have to choose a topic within the wide literature on informal settlements and how to deal with them in the context of rapid urbanization. The students will research it throughout the semester by identifying, reading and reviewing the most significant literature on their chosen topic.

Course Objectives:

- Understanding informal settlement as an historical and human process.
- Examining the phenomenon from different disciplinary perspectives
- Reviewing the policy and planning response to informal settlements and its change over time

Course Structure:

Seminar: Total # of Points: 2

The class will meet every two weeks for 3 hours.

Course requirements: (Include required pre-courses, compulsory attendance, etc.)

1. Reading course bibliography, at least one book.
2. Presenting a paper in class
3. Discussion in class
4. Final paper – a book review of one of the books in the bibliography

Structure of Final Course-Grade:

	Component	Weight
1.	Participation	60 %
2.	Paper	40%
Total:	<hr/>	<hr/> 100%

A "Pass" requirement regarding final exam: ~~Yes~~/No

Lecturer Details:

Reception hours: Wed., 13:00 -15:00, Main Campus, Bldg. 72 Room 541F.
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Description of Meetings

Meeting	Date	Subject(s)	Details (as necessary)	Chapters (in course textbook)
1	23/03	Informal Settlements as a Problem		
2	06/04	“		
3	27/04	Informal Settlements as a Solution		
4	11/05	“		
5	25/05	Policy and Planning Responses		
6	08/06	“		
7	22/06	The State of the Art		

References (preliminary):

A. Course textbooks

1. Mike Davis, *A Planet of Slums*, Verso, 2006. HV 4028 .D38 2007

2. Robert Neuwirth, *Shadow Cities: A Billion Squatters, a New Urban World*, Routledge, 2004. HD 7287.95.N48 2005, available also at Jane Shapiro Library
3. UN Habitat, *The Challenge of Slums — Global Report on Human Settlements*, 2003. Available as Electronic resource.
4. Shlomo Angel, *Planet of Cities*, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2012. HT 361 .A537 2012. Also available as an electronic book.
5. Kim Dovey, Elek Pafka, Mirjana Ristic (Eds.), *Mapping Urbanities: morphologies, flows, possibilities*. Routledge, 2018. HT 166.M2556 2018
6. Asquith, L., & Vellinga, M. (2006). *Vernacular architecture in the twenty-first century: theory, education and practice*. Taylor & Francis.
7. Gouverneur, D. (2015). *Planning and design for future informal settlements : shaping the self-constructed city* . Abingdon, Oxon ; Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group.

B. Other References (only from 2000 and onward)

a. Informal settlements as a problem

1. Garmany, Jeff. 2011. Situating Fortaleza: Urban space and uneven development in Northeastern Brazil. *Cities* 28 (1) (2): 45-52.
2. Khalifa, Marwa A. 2011. Redefining slums in egypt: Unplanned versus unsafe areas. *Habitat International* 35 (1) (1): 40-9.
3. Liu, Yuting, Shenjing He, Fulong Wu, and Chris Webster. 2010. Urban villages under china's rapid urbanization: Unregulated assets and transitional neighbourhoods. *Habitat International* 34 (2) (4): 135-44.
4. Makachia, P. A. (2011). Evolution of urban housing strategies and dweller-initiated transformations in Nairobi. *City, Culture and Society*, 2(4), 219–234. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ccs.2011.11.001>
5. ROY, ANANYA. 2011. Slumdog cities: Rethinking subaltern urbanism. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research* 35 (2): 223-38.
6. Romero-Lankao, P., Hughes, S., Qin, H., Hardoy, J., Rosas-Huerta, A., Borquez, R., & Lampis, A. (2014). Scale, urban risk and adaptation capacity in neighborhoods of Latin American cities. *Habitat International*, 42, 224–235. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2013.12.008>
7. Munshifwa, E. K., & Mooya, M. M. (2016). Property rights and the production of the urban built environment – Evidence from a Zambian city. *Habitat International*, 51, 133–140. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2015.10.005>
8. Lombard, M., & Rakodi, C. (2016). Urban land conflict in the Global South: Towards an analytical framework. *Urban Studies*, 53(13), 2683–2699. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0042098016659616>
9. Gaisie, E., Poku-Boansi, M., & Adarkwa, K. K. (2018). An analysis of the costs and quality of infrastructure facilities in informal settlements in Kumasi,

Ghana. *International Planning Studies*, 23(4), 391–407.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13563475.2018.1513359>

b. Informal settlements as a solution

10. Ahmed M., Soliman. 2012. The Egyptian episode of self-build housing. *Habitat International* 36 (2) (4): 226-36.
11. Arefi, Mahyar. 2011. Order in informal settlements: A case study of Pinar, Istanbul. *Built Environment* 37 (1) (March): 42-56.
12. Asquith, L. 2006. Lessons from the vernacular: Integrated approaches and new methods for housing research. In *Vernacular architecture in the twenty-first century: Theory, education and practice.*, eds. L. Asquith, M. Vellinga, 126-144 Taylor & Francis.
13. Bremer, J., & Bhuiyan, S. H. (2014). Community-led infrastructure development in informal areas in urban Egypt: A case study. *Habitat International*, 44, 258–267. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2014.07.004>
14. Patel, S., & Bartlett, S. (2016). “We beat the path by walking” Part II: Three construction projects that advanced the learning and credibility of the Indian Alliance. *Environment and Urbanization*, 28(2), 495–514. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956247816644399>
15. Gutberlet, J., Kain, J. H., Nyakinya, B., Ochieng, D. H., Odhiambo, N., Oloko, M., ... Zapata Campos, M. J. (2016). Socio-environmental entrepreneurship and the provision of critical services in informal settlements. *Environment and Urbanization*, 28(1), 205–222. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956247815623772>
16. Caputo, S., de Oliveira, F. L., & Blott, D. (2019). Values for self-build urbanism. *European Planning Studies*, 27(6), 1200–1216. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09654313.2019.1579299>
17. Mottelson, J., & Venerandi, A. (2020). A Fine-Grain Multi-Indicator Analysis of the Urban Form of Five Informal Settlements in East Africa. *Urban Science*, 4(3), 31. <https://doi.org/10.3390/urbansci4030031>
- 18.

c. Policy and planning responses

19. Das, Ashok K., and Lois M. Takahashi. 2009. Evolving institutional arrangements, scaling up, and sustainability: Emerging issues in participatory slum upgrading in Ahmedabad, India. *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 29 (2) (December 1): 213-32.
20. Doherty, Gareth, and E. Silva Moises Lino. 2011. Formally informal: Daily life and the shock of order in a Brazilian favela. *Built Environment* 37 (1) (March): 30-41.
21. Kombe, Wilbard J., and Volker Kreibich. 2000. Reconciling informal and formal land management: An agenda for improving tenure security and urban governance in poor countries. *Habitat International* 24 (2) (6): 231-40.
22. Mooya, Many M., and Chris E. Cloete. 2010. Property rights, real estate markets and poverty alleviation in Namibia's urban low income settlements. *Habitat International* 34 (4) (10): 436-45.

23. Sullivan, Esther, and Peter M. Ward. 2012. Sustainable housing applications and policies for low-income self-build and housing rehab. *Habitat International* 36 (2) (4): 312-23.
24. Uzun, Bayram, Mehmet Çete, and H. Mustafa Palancıoğlu. 2010. Legalizing and upgrading illegal settlements in turkey. *Habitat International* 34 (2) (4): 204-9.
25. Wigle, J. (2014). The “graying” of “green” zones: Spatial governance and irregular settlement in Xochimilco, Mexico City. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 38(2), 573–589. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.12019>
26. Patel, K. (2013). A successful slum upgrade in Durban: A case of formal change and informal continuity. *Habitat International*, 40, 211–217. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2013.05.005>
27. Marais, L., & Ntema, J. (2013). The upgrading of an informal settlement in South Africa: Two decades onwards. *Habitat International*, 39, 85–95. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2012.11.001>
28. Van Assche, K., Beunen, R., & Duineveld, M. (2014). Formal/Informal Dialectics and the Self-Transformation of Spatial Planning Systems. *Administration & Society*, 46(6), 654–683. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0095399712469194>
29. Özdemirli, Y. K. (2014). Alternative strategies for urban redevelopment: A case study in a squatter housing neighborhood of Ankara. *Cities*, 38, 37–46. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2013.12.008>
30. Earle, L. (2014). Stepping out of the Twilight? Assessing the Governance Implications of Land Titling and Regularization Programmes. *International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*, 38(2), 628–645. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1468-2427.12112>
31. Adegun, O. B. (2015). State-led versus community-initiated: stormwater drainage and informal settlement intervention in Johannesburg, South Africa. *Environment and Urbanization*, 27(2), 407–420. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956247815569700>
32. Soliman, A. M. (2016). Collective planning process: a driving seat for formalising urban informality in Egypt. *International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development*, 8(1), 25–48. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19463138.2015.1046076>
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d. *State of the art*

34. Abbott, John. 2003. The use of GIS in informal settlement upgrading: Its role and impact on the community and on local government. *Habitat International* 27 (4) (12): 575-93.
35. Connolly, Priscilla. 2009. Observing the evolution of irregular settlements: Mexico City's colonias populares, 1990 to 2005. *International Development Planning Review* 31 (1): 1-35.
36. Dovey, Kim, and Ross King. 2011. Forms of informality: Morphology and visibility of informal settlements. *Built Environment* 37 (1) (March): 11-29.

37. Elsheshtawy, Yasser. 2011. The informal turn. *Built Environment* 37 (1) (March): 5-10.
38. Harris, Richard. 2003. A double irony: The originality and influence of John F.C. Turner. *Habitat International* 27 (2) (6): 245-69.
39. Patil, A. P., & Dongre, A. R. (2014). An approach for understanding encroachments in the urban environment based on complexity science. *Urban Design International*, 19(1), 50–65. <https://doi.org/10.1057/udi.2013.12>
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