

# Rochester Urban Fellows 2023 Syllabus

## OVERVIEW AND EXPECTATIONS

**Purpose:** To provide local undergraduates with opportunities to: develop personal and professional skills through a summer fellowship; increase their understanding of urban issues and poverty through faculty-led dialogues and community experiences; and develop an appreciation for cross-cultural issues and urban life by participating in community activities.

**Professionalism:** You will be held to the highest standards of academic and professional integrity. Fellows are expected to observe all regulations detailed in the University of Rochester's Conduct Standards, Policies, and Procedures, and exemplified in the University's Communal Principles.

**Fellowship Expectations:** You are an ambassador of the program, the University of Rochester and other area colleges, your host site, and (if applicable) AmeriCorps VISTA. You will be held to the same standards as employees at your host agency and are expected to demonstrate respect for agency staff and become part of their team. Students are expected to follow all agency rules and regulations. Any workplace issues should first be addressed with your host agency.

**Attendance:** Wednesday sessions begin at **9:00 a.m. EST**, with a reflection on the past week and announcements. Attendance is mandatory, and Fellows are expected to be on time. If you are late more than twice, a disciplinary meeting will be held. Refer to the disciplinary guide for more information.

**Participation:** Students are expected to come prepared to demonstrate a conversational knowledge of assigned readings and to offer insights and opinions regarding various urban issues. It is expected that students write **weekly reflections** via Blackboard (due **Sundays at 11:59PM EST**) focused on their experiences and/or accomplishments and challenges at their service site. These reflections are private.

**Readings:** Course readings will be accessible on Blackboard. **Have the readings available** to you!

**End-of-Summer Symposium:** During the final weeks of the program, students will prepare a **10-minute presentation** about their Urban Fellows experience. One Fellow will be selected to present about their experience at our closing celebrations.

**Reporting:** Students are required to report both quantitative and qualitative data on the work they do at their host sites during their service. Reporting forms should be filled out by **11:59 PM EST on Sunday, July 16**, at which time program staff will review them. Fellows **should continue to add to their reporting document** as necessary after July 16, but reporting must be completed accurately and on time in order to receive the end of service education award.

## **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

As a result of participation in the Urban Fellows Program, we anticipate that students will:

### **Civic Engagement and Leadership**

- Discuss the local civic process
- Participate in service/volunteer activities (as feasible)

### **Professional Competencies**

- Implement strong oral communication skills
- Implement strong written communication skills
- Employ professionalism, including attire, punctuality, and accountability
- Apply adaptability/creativity when faced with project-related or community-centered challenges

### **Intrapersonal Competency**

- Demonstrate self-motivation when accomplishing tasks
- Demonstrate cultural awareness of self
- Articulate personal strengths, challenges, and experiences

### **Interpersonal and Cultural Competency**

- Demonstrate cultural humility when interacting with diverse stakeholders
- Apply teamwork/collaboration when working with diverse stakeholders

### **Cognitive Complexity**

- Apply critical thinking when faced with project-related or community-centered challenges
- Apply problem solving when faced with project-related or community-centered challenges
- Implement reflective thinking

### **Knowledge Acquisition**

- Relate theoretic urban issues to personal experiences within Rochester and beyond
- Interpret historic or socioeconomic trends and their impact on policy
- Evaluate social policies and their influence on people

We also anticipate that students will:

- Demonstrate increased commitment to the Rochester area
- Develop an increased connection to the Rochester area
- Develop meaningful relationships with community members
- Demonstrate reciprocity with various stakeholders

## **STANDARD SCHEDULE**

*Subject to change – see detailed schedules below.*

9:00-10:00	Reflection
10:00-12:00	Urban Issue Seminar
12:30-1:30	Lunch
2:00-4:00	Community Engagement Activities

## **WEEK 1**

**Monday, May 22**

## **ORIENTATION - DAY ONE**

**Douglass 403**

- 9:00 Introductions and icebreakers
- 9:30 Invitations for discussion
- 10:00 Urban Fellows overview
- 11:00 Ally Bootcamp workshop  
*Col Raimond, Director of LGBTQ Life and AS&E Staff Ombudsperson*
- 12:00 VISTA Summer Associate [training and oath](#)
- Lunch John's Tex Mex
- 2:00 Rochester tour
- Susan B Anthony Square (Dawn Noto, neighborhood leader) - 2:00
  - High Falls (Liza Amirault, Greentopia) -2:40
  - Rochester Public Market & First Market Farm (Edan Lambright and Graham Hughes, Taproot Collective and City Roots Community Land Trust) - 3:20
- 4:15 Individual meetings at CCE (107 Lattimore Hall)

**Tuesday, May 23**

## **ORIENTATION - DAY TWO**

- 9:00 Reintroductions
- 10:00 Community Engagement 101 workshop  
*Andrew Thomas and Lauren Caruso, Center for Community Engagement*
- 11:00 Mapping Rochester activity
- Lunch Arnett Cafe
- 1:30 July '64 Screening at the Arnett Branch Library  
*Josie McClary, President, 19th Ward Community Association*
- 3:00 RTS Scavenger Hunt
- 5:00 Reflection

**Wednesday, May 24**

**FIRST DAY AT HOST SITES**

**Flower City Feeling Good Bike Ride (optional)**

SWAN, Inc. at Montgomery Neighborhood Center, 10 Cady Street  
6:45-8:00 pm

**Thursday, May 25**

**Reshaping Rochester Lecture: “Housing is Economic Development” by Laurie Volk (optional)**

Memorial Art Gallery, 500 University Ave  
5:30 pm reception, 6:30 pm lecture

Register here:

<https://586.blackbaudhosting.com/586/The-Community-Design-Center-of-Rochesters-18th-Annual-Lecture-Series-25May2023>

**WEEK 2**

**Wednesday, May 31**

**Genesee 325**

**Urban Education**

Reflection in Genesee Hall then we will go to East High School

LUNCH:

Salena’s

AFTERNOON:

Dr. Shaun Nelms

*Superintendent, East Educational Partnership Organization*

*Associate Professor, University of Rochester Warner School of Education*

*Director, Center for Urban Education Success*

REQUIRED READING:

- Valerie L. Marsh, Shaun C. Nelms, Sarah Peyre, and Joanne Larson, “How a university and a school district made change together”:  
<https://kappanonline.org/university-school-district-change-marsh-nelms-peyre-larson/>
- Joanne Larson and Shaun Nelms, “Collaborating for Equity in Urban Education: Comprehensive Reform in an Innovative University/School Partnership”:  
<https://journals.sagepub.com/eprint/MMQJDWBNMYCH9BDCZQVQ/full>

**Saturday, June 3**

**19th Ward Square Fair at Aberdeen Square Park (optional)**

**WEEK 3**  
**Wednesday, June 7**  
**Genesee 325**

**(De)carceration**

Dr. Joshua Dubler  
*Associate Professor of Religion, University of Rochester*

REQUIRED READING:

- Jackie Wang, “Carceral Capitalism”:  
<https://thenewinquiry.com/carceral-capitalism/>
- Tobi Haslett, “Magic Actions: Looking back on the George Floyd rebellion”:  
<https://www.nplusonemag.com/issue-40/politics/magic-actions-2/>

LUNCH: Dogtown

AFTERNOON: Screening and discussion of *Home: Access Denied* with filmmaker Carvin Eison at the Phillis Wheatley Community Library

**Reporting Training**

*Emerson Carmel, VISTA Leader*

**WEEK 4**  
**Wednesday, June 14**  
**Genesee 325**

**Community Engagement and Empowerment**

Dr. Richard DeJesus-Rueff  
*Emeritus Vice President of Student Affairs, St. John Fisher University  
Academic Director, First Generation Scholars Program*

REQUIRED READING:

- Michael Gecan, “How Not to Do Activism”:  
<https://www.bostonreview.net/articles/michael-gecan-activism/>
- Michael Gecan, *Going Public*, chapters 5, 8, and 10 (on Blackboard)

LUNCH: Foodlink Community Cafe

AFTERNOON: **Community-Driven Projects**  
*Nancy Johns-Price, Southeast Neighborhood Service Center*

**WEEK 5**  
**Wednesday, June 21**  
**Douglass 401**

**Urban Planning**

Dr. Rachel Remmel  
*Assistant Dean and Director, University of Rochester Teaching Center*

REQUIRED READING:

- Le Corbusier, “The City of To-morrow and Its Planning,” (original 1929), excerpt (on Blackboard)
- Jane Jacobs, “The Death and Life of Great American Cities,” (original 1961), excerpt (on Blackboard)
- Congress for New Urbanism, “The Charter of New Urbanism,” (original 1996—on Blackboard)
- American Institute of Architects, “10 Principles for Livable Communities” (2005—on Blackboard)
- City of Rochester, “Rochester 2034 Comprehensive Plan,” (2019), read pages 3, 8-12, 27-37, 41-44, and flip through the rest (on Blackboard)
- City of Rochester, “Rochester DRAFT ZAP Map Tour” (5:37 video explaining how to explore interactive map #6 below:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q7Cf2gbfuvl>)
- City of Rochester, “DRAFT Zoning Alignment Project Map” (For this resource, watch the video above, then explore the different layers of information associated with a particular area of the city of your choice):  
<https://maps.cityofrochester.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=73cf7c9a943a4e9c8629009572e2b5ee>

LUNCH: Reshaping Rochester luncheon

AFTERNOON: **ROC the Riverway Tour**

**WEEK 6**  
**Wednesday, June 28**  
**Genesee 325**

**Urban Agriculture – TIME CHANGE: 1:30pm!!!**

Councilmember Mitch Gruber, Rochester City Council  
*Chief Program Officer, Foodlink*

REQUIRED READING:

- Nargi, Lela. “Critics say it’s time to stop using the term ‘food deserts’”  
<https://thecounter.org/critics-say-its-time-to-stop-using-the-term-food-deserts-food-insecurity/>
- Florida, Richard. “It’s Not the Food Deserts: It’s the Inequality”.  
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-01-18/are-we-thinking-about-urban-food-deserts-the-wrong-way>
- Semuels, Alana. “‘They’re Trying to Wipe Us Off the Map.’ Small Farmers Are Nearing Extinction”.  
<https://time.com/5736789/small-american-farmers-debt-crisis-extinction/>

- Peters, Adele. “The Vertical Farming Bubble is Finally Popping”.  
<https://www.fastcompany.com/90824702/vertical-farming-failing-profitable-appharvest-aerofarms-bowery>
- Lorr, Benjamin. “Op-Ed: The Grocery Chain Wars Prove That the Modern Supermarket Model isn’t Sustainable”.  
<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2022-10-23/kroger-alberstons-low-prices-consumers-labor-environment-grocery-stores>
- Mitchell, Stacy. “The Real Reason Your Groceries Are Getting So Expensive”.  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/29/opinion/inflation-groceries-pricing-walmart.html>
- Andreatta, David. “New Food Policy Council looking to drain Rochester’s ‘food swamp’”.  
<https://www.roccitynews.com/news-opinion/new-food-policy-council-looking-to-drain-rochesters-food-swamp-13127297>
- Costanza, Mike. “Building a food system that serves all”.  
<https://rochesterbeacon.com/2022/04/28/building-a-food-system-that-serves-all/>

4:00 pm

**Urban Land Use Simulation at 490 Farmers**  
*Evan Lowenstein, Rochester Ecology Partners*

5:00-7:00 pm

490 Farmers Urban Gardening Night

Dinner

Picnic at Cobbs Hill Park - Cedar Mediterranean

## **Thursday, June 29**

### **Rochester Board of Education Meeting**

Meet at Susan B. Anthony Hall at 5pm  
Wear Business Casual & we’ll provide pizza  
RCSD Central Office: 131 W Broad Street  
Meeting will run 5:30-8:00 pm

## **WEEK 7**

### **Wednesday, July 5**

**Genesee 325**

### **Residential Segregation and Redlining**

Shane Wiegand  
*Co-Lead, Antiracist Curriculum Project*  
*4th grade teacher, Rush-Henrietta School District*

#### REQUIRED READING:

- Visit [resistancemapping.org](https://resistancemapping.org). Go to the maps section and click on the civic action dots to explore civil rights actions across Rochester.
- View the [Home: Access Denied Film](#). Feel free to check out the [Discussion Guide](#)

- Read [Confronting Racial Covenants: How They Segregated Monroe County and What to Do About Them](#), by Rochester’s City Roots Community Land Trust, in partnership with the Yale Environmental Protection Clinic —July 29, 2020
- Check out City Roots Community Land Trust: <http://cityrootsclt.org/>
- Explore the section of the RASE report on “Housing Recommendations”: <https://rocrase.com/>
- Explore the Current Greater Rochester Zoning Map” <https://experience.arcgis.com/template/d7229bb5ae014c98bdd38da1169f89c1/page/Page-1/?views=Zoning-Map>
- [“After the Rochester Riots of 1964: Community Response to the Housing Situation.”](#) Vacca, Carolyn S; Wakefield, Wanda Ellen. *Afro - Americans in New York Life and History*; New York. Vol. 18, Iss. 2, (Jul 31, 1994): 19.
- “Safe Haven in Tense Times” by Dolores Ormon. *Democrat and Chronicle*, 21 Feb 1994, Mon, Pages 9 & 13.
  - Page 9: <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/30729140/safe-haven-in-tense-time-p-1/>
  - Page 13: <https://www.newspapers.com/clip/30729206/safe-haven-in-tense-times-p-2/>

LUNCH: Aladdin’s Natural Eatery

AFTERNOON: **Inner Loop North Transformation Tour**  
*David Riley, Rochester Department of Environmental Services*  
*Project Manager of the Inner Loop North Transformation*

**WEEK 8**  
**Wednesday, July 12**  
**Genesee 325**

**Health Disparities and Social Determinants of Health**  
 Mr. Wade Norwood  
*Chief Executive Officer, Common Ground Health*

REQUIRED READING:

- “Poverty and Racism are a Public Health Crisis” (on Blackboard)
- “Overloaded: The Heavy Toll of Poverty on Our Region’s Health”: <https://media.cmsmax.com/ravk3pgz5ktlujs1r08ci/overloaded-the-heavy-toll-of-poverty-on-our-regions-health.pdf>
- “The Color of Health: The Devastating Toll of Racism on Black Lives”: <https://media.cmsmax.com/ravk3pgz5ktlujs1r08ci/37712-common-ground-health-book-reader-spreads-fix.pdf>
- OPTIONAL - “Critical Condition: Sustainable Investments Required to Build a Skilled, Supported, and Equitable Health Care Workforce”:

<https://media.cmsmax.com/ravk3pgz5ktlujs1r08ci/workforcereport-r10.pdf>

- OPTIONAL - "Comprehensive Regional Community Health Assessment": <https://media.cmsmax.com/ravk3pgz5ktlujs1r08ci/134-45-cgh-communityhealthassessment-2022-r9.pdf>

LUNCH: Abyssinia Ethiopian

AFTERNOON: **Together Now**  
Sara Volz-Rogers, Community Engagement Lead  
**Saint Joseph's Neighborhood Center**  
Jennifer Sahrle, Executive Director

**Sunday, July 16**

**REPORTING DRAFT DUE**

**WEEK 9**  
**Tuesday, July 18**

**Rochester City Council Meeting**

Meet outside Grab & Go in Business Casual for 5:15  
We'll eat our Pellegrino's orders on campus and then head to City Hall  
Expect to return to campus by 8:30 or 9 at the latest

**Wednesday, July 19**  
**Genesee 325**

**Economics of Poverty**

Dr. Jim Johnson  
*Professor of Political Science, University of Rochester*

REQUIRED READING:

- Edward Doherty & ACT Rochester. "Hard Facts: Race & Ethnicity in the Nine County Rochester Area". (on Blackboard)
- Cathy Cohen & Michael Dawson. 1993. "Neighborhood Poverty and African American Politics," American Political Science Review (on Blackboard)
- Amartya Sen. 1999. "Development as Freedom". Knopf. [Chapters 3 & 4] pages 54-110. (on Blackboard)

LUNCH: Swillburger

AFTERNOON: **Financial Empowerment**  
*Angela Rollins, Financial Empowerment Center*

5:30-7:30 Dinner at the Patrick Barry House with University of Rochester Provost David Figlio

**Wednesday, July 26**  
**Genesee 325**

**FINAL PRESENTATIONS**

All Urban Fellows will give an 8-10 minute presentation on their summer experience. Lunch will be catered to Genesee Hall. More details and a schedule will be provided.

Family, Friends, & Supervisors are welcome to attend or join via Zoom  
<https://rochester.zoom.us/j/96867449436>

Lunch: Tandoor of India

**Thursday, July 27**

**Mount Hope Cemetery Twilight Tour**

Presented by The Friends of Mount Hope Cemetery  
Arrive at Mount Hope Cemetery by 6:30 or meet outside Susan B. Anthony Hall by 6:00pm to walk together.

**WEEK 10**  
**Thursday, July 27**

**LAST DAY AT HOST SITES**

**Friday, July 28**

**CLOSING CEREMONY**

Rochester City Hall, 30 Church St  
4:00-6:00 pm  
Meet at Sue B. Hall by 3:40pm

**FINAL REPORT DUE**  
**POST-SERVICE SURVEY DUE**