



Urban Studies Senior Thesis Colloquium
Wednesday May 8, 2013
Princeton University
300 Wallace Hall

11:00-12:00 **Session I** **Landscapes of Power, Landscapes of Reason**

Moderator **Alison Isenberg, Professor of History**

Merik Mulcahy, Politics

“Renaissance for the Rest of Us? Spatial Inequity in the Neoliberal, Post-industrial American Metropolis”

Alexandra Kinney, Economics

“The Evolution of Capital Controls in China: Roadblocks to the Roadmap of Convertibility”

Ellen Shakespear, Architecture

“The Interstate Tourist Trap: Sites of Reaction to a Landscape of Reason”

Nate Sulat, History

“War of the Rose City: Metro, Senate Bill 100, and How Portland Won It's Fight for Regional Planning”

Lunch

1:00-2:00 **Session II** **Neighborhood, Home, and Property**

Moderator **Professor Bruno Carvalho, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures**

Elise Dubuque, History

“A Women’s Boston: Property, Public Life, and Independence in the Late Nineteenth Century”

Sarah Simon, Comparative Literature

“An Image Enters In: Stories, Dance and Seeing with Words”

Diane Cho, English

“Housekeeper, Homemaker, Streetwalker: Women Embodied by the House in Betty Smith’s A Tree Grows in Brooklyn”

Allison Weiss, English

“Traversing the White City: Ralph Ellison and Black Performance in New York Public Transportation”

Charlotte Leib, Architecture

“The Garden and the Grid: A History and Theory of Los Angeles Community Gardens as Cultural Infrastructure”

Diane Cho is a senior in the English department pursuing a certificate in the Urban Studies Program. Her interest in gender studies found a place in literature and her interest in architecture a place in Urban Studies. Her thesis combines these two seemingly disparate topics of study in a critical examination of the relationship between women and their homes in the novel *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*. She will go on as a one-year fellow at an affordable housing non-profit, Housing Development Fund, in Stamford, Connecticut. Advisor: Anne Cheng

Elise Dubuque is a senior history major with a focus on the United States. With certificates in Urban Studies and American Studies, she was able to convert her love of her hometown, Boston, into her independent work at Princeton. It was research on the history of her own home and its occupants over the past 130 years that formed much of the initial curiosity for her thesis. After graduation she will be able to put her knowledge of Boston's downtown residential districts to good use when she joins Campion & Company in residential real estate brokerage and development primarily within Boston's Back Bay, Beacon Hill, and South End. Advisor: Alison Isenberg

Alexandra Kinney is a senior in the economics department with certificates in American Studies and Urban Studies. Her thesis focuses on the evolution of capital controls in China, and how their deep-rooted xenophobic culture is affecting the future of their business capabilities. Alexandra became interested in her research through a summer job this year at Alternative Investments for BlackRock. One of Alexandra's coworkers in Hong Kong mentioned the development of one of the programs that are tracked in her paper. At Princeton, Alexandra played on the Women's Ice Hockey Team. After graduation, she will be moving to New York City to begin her career at BlackRock in the Hedge Fund Platform. Advisor: Orley Ashenfelter

Charlotte Leib is a senior in the School of Architecture receiving certificates in Urban Studies and American Studies. She is interested in how cross-pollination between landscape, architecture, and infrastructure can cultivate more livable and local urban and (post)suburban environments. Over this past summer, Charlotte interned at Kilo Architectures in Paris, France. After graduation, Charlotte will be working as Community Outreach Coordinator at Yestermorrow Design/Build School in Waitsfield, Vermont, while pursuing Permaculture Design and Sustainable Building and Design Certifications. At Princeton, Charlotte trained and competed on the Varsity Swimming and Diving team. She looks forward to testing the waters of triathlon after graduation. In September, she will compete for Team USA at the Sprint Triathlon World Championship in Hyde Park, London. Advisor: Mario Gandelsonas

Merik Mulcahy is a senior in the Politics Department from Sonoma, California. He began his academic career in international development, writing junior papers on the statistical correlation between quality of municipal government measurements and Human Development Index outcomes in Indian cities. He has since become interested in poverty alleviation and integration in the United States. After interning with the City of Newark, New Jersey's Department of Housing and Economic Development, Merik wrote a senior thesis on the taxonomy of institutions and policies that are driving urban investment in the present post-industrial, neoliberal development era and the correlated patterns of urban investment, spatial inequity and demographic segregation. Merik is interested in connecting the poor to economic opportunity, and hopes to spend his career engaging this challenge through innovations in private, non-profit and public sector strategies and organization. He is still looking for a job in a related field: community development intermediaries and professional services, community development finance, policy research, real estate development, urban planning and design, or economic development consulting. Merik plans to attend professional school, but has not decided between business school, master's in public policy or urban planning, or law school. Advisor: Doug Massey

Ellen Shakespear is a senior in the School of Architecture, and is interested in the intersection of housing, urbanism, and infrastructure both within and outside of the profession of architecture. Outside of the classroom, Ellen worked as a freelance journalist at local New Jersey papers with the University Press Club. Next year Ellen will be working at the architecture firm, Skidmore, Owings, and Merrill in New York City. Advisor: Christine Boyer

Sarah Simon majored in Comparative Literature with certificates in Dance, Creative Writing and Urban Studies. Her thesis, entitled "An Image Enters In: Stories, Dance and Seeing with Words," is comprised of a collection of short stories and a critical section that looks at the relationship between art-making and urban life. Next year she will be teaching English in Chiang Rai, Thailand as a Princeton in Asia fellow. Advisors: Sandra Bermann, Maaza Mengiste and Colson Whitehead

Nate Sulat is a senior in the history department, with certificates in environmental studies and urban studies. Depending on whom and when you ask, he is from either San Francisco or New York City. After graduation, he will be returning to the City to pursue a career as a freelance journalist. Advisor: Martha Sandweiss

Allie Weiss is a senior in the English department receiving certificates in Urban Studies and African American Studies. She is enamored by New York City, and has studied the city in both of her junior papers and her thesis, which was on race and public transportation in Ralph Ellison's works. Allie has spent much of her time on campus as the editor of the Street section of The Daily Princetonian. She will pursue a career in journalism after graduating. Advisor: Daphne Brooks