

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH
DEPARTMENT OF MARKETING AND CONSUMER STUDIES
MCS*2850 Service Learning in Housing
Fall 2010 Course Outline

INSTRUCTOR: Professor Eden Grodzinski
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OFFICE HOURS: Tuesday 2:00 – 2:30 p.m. or by appointment
LECTURES: Tues./Thurs., Section 1 10:00 - 11:20 a.m.; Section 2 11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m., MACS 129

APPEALS PROCEDURE: Refer to Undergraduate Calendar

DROP AND ADD PROCEDURE: Refer to Undergraduate Calendar.

CALENDAR DESCRIPTION: This course provides an introduction to ethics and social capital as they apply to the housing and real estate industries. Students will be required to participate in a 10-15 hour service learning exercise where they volunteer for a frontline housing agency/provider. They will then share their experiences with their classmates during the final week of classes.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE:

The format will be a combination of lectures, films, discussions, guest speakers and presentations by students related to their volunteer experiences.

By the end of this course students should:

1. Be able to compare the causes of poverty in Canada.
2. Be able to describe the links between poverty and housing affordability in Canada.
3. Be able to analyze the economic impediments to the production of affordable rental housing by the private sector.
4. Have completed at least 15 hours of volunteer work for an organization involved in the provision of housing to low income individuals/households or completed another service activity.
5. Have reflected on how their volunteer/service experience has changed their views of the problems associated with poverty and affordable housing.
6. Be able to explain why the real estate industry is more open to ethics dilemmas than other industries.
7. Be able to critically assess a code of ethics for a professional real estate organization.

Prerequisites: 4 credits

EVALUATION:

Project Proposal	10%
Midterm exam	30%
Presentation on Service Learning Project & Experience	15%
Participation (in-class discussions, volunteer hours completed, agency assessment, peer assessment)	10%
Journals	10%
Reflection Paper	25%

TEXT: There is no textbook for this course; readings are taken from a variety of sources and will be available

through links on D2L. There is a case packet for sale at the book store (required)

SCHEDULE

Week 1 Class 1 (Sep 9)	CLASS CANCELLED
Week 2 Class 1 (Sep 14)	Introduction to Course In class exercise: Describe your home. What would it mean if you lost this home? Film - <i>Just Kids</i> by Andrew deWaard
Week 2 Class 2 (Sep 16)	Service Learning Expectations & Opportunities – What are they? How to Apply? Homework: Project application (due Sept 23) Every Family Needs a Home – the Links between Poverty, Housing Affordability and Homelessness Read (links on D2L) and come to class prepared to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Defining and re-defining poverty in Canada</i> (CCSD, Perception, Vol. 29, No 3 & 4, 2008). Pages 4-6. • <i>SHELTER. Homelessness in a growth economy: Canada's 21st century paradox</i> (CCSD, 2007). Pages 4-10: Findings & Policy Summary
Week 3 Class 1 (Sep 21)	Film - No Place Called Home by Craig Chivers and Silva Basmajian, National Film Board of Canada, c2003.
Week 3 Class 2 (Sep 23)	Introduction to Social Housing Housing Affordability Budget exercise Read (links on D2L) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Social Housing Waiting Lists, 2010</i> • <i>Timeline: History of Social Housing in Ontario</i>
Week 4 Class 1 (Sep 28)	Affordable Housing Case Studies Guest speaker - Sheila Cramner-Byng, County of Wellington
Week 4 Class 2 (Sep 30)	Project Assigned. Working in Groups, Codes of Conduct. In class exercise: Groups meet and exchange contact info; assign roles; develop a code of conduct; agency contact information distributed
Week 5 Class 1 (Oct 5)	Why Doesn't the Private Sector Build More Affordable Rental Housing? Guest lecturer – Jane Londerville Read (link on D2L) and come to class prepared to give two reasons why developers don't build more rental housing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Where's Home, 2010?</i> Sign up for group meeting with instructor (Oct 14)
Week 5 Class 2 (Oct 7)	Time for groups to meet with agency to start project

Week 6 Class 1 (Oct 12)	Group meetings with instructor to discuss project proposal
Week 6 Class 2 (Oct 14)	Wellington-Guelph Youth Housing Forum This is a special class that will be held <u>at the Cutten Club</u> , in order to accommodate community guests. Guest speakers from across the province will be sharing their stories and experiences about working on affordable housing initiatives for youth. Students are welcome to attend one or both lecture times (10 and 11:30). This is an excellent opportunity to learn about innovative practices in affordable housing, as well as to network with our guest speakers and local service providers.
Week 7 Class 1 (Oct 19)	Film - Poverty No More by Deveaux Babin, c2010. What should be the Role of Real Estate Sector in Society? Read (in case packet) and come to class prepared to discuss the affordability problems among Ontario Households and what (if any) should be the role of the real estate sector in addressing these issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Note on Individuals, Corporations and Society</i> Project Proposals due
Week 7 Class 2 (Oct 21)	Time to work on project
Week 8 Class 1 (Oct 26)	Introduction to Ethics: What is ethics – how do we define it? Why is the real estate industry particularly susceptible to ethics violations? Read (in case packet) and come to class prepared to discuss the case studies, and what specific actions you would take if you were in those positions? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A Tattle Tale?</i> • <i>Grandview Excavators</i>
Week 8 Class 2 (Oct 28)	Time to work on project
Week 9 Class 1 (Nov 2)	Ethical Dilemmas in Real Estate Film - <i>Glengarry GlenRoss</i> by James Foley, c1992 (1 st half)
Week 9 Class 2 (Nov 4)	Ethical Dilemmas in Real Estate (continued) Film - <i>Glengarry GlenRoss</i> (2 nd half and discussion) - what caused the characters to break their own codes of ethics?
Week 10 Class 1 (Nov 9)	Codes of Ethics Read (in case packet) and come to class prepared to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Up to Code</i> • <i>Ethical Dilemmas for Estate Agents</i> Sign up for group meeting with instructor (Nov 11)
Week 10 Class 2 (Nov 11)	Group meetings with instructor to discuss project status
Week 11 Class 1	Midterm

(Nov 16)	
Week 11 Class 2 (Nov 18)	Time to finish projects
Week 12 Class 1 (Nov 23)	Presentation of completed projects
Week 12 Class 2 (Nov 25)	Presentation of completed projects
Week 13 Class 1 (Nov 30)	Presentation of completed projects Course Evaluation & Wrap-up; what did we learn from this course? Did we meet the objectives set in the course outline? Will you continue to volunteer for this organization or others? What most surprised you about the project/organization? What most surprised you about yourself (reaction to clients, etc.)?
Week 13 Class 2 (Dec 2)	Reflection Paper due Student Evaluations due (peer, course)

Academic Integrity

<http://www.webapps.ccs.uoguelph.ca/lc/AcademicIntegrity/>

University Grading Scheme:

This course follows the University grading scheme outlined in the University Calendar:

A+	90-100%	Excellent: An outstanding performance in which the student demonstrates a superior grasp of the subject matter, and an ability to go beyond the given material in a critical and constructive manner. The student demonstrates a high degree of creative and/or logical thinking, a superior ability to organize, to analyze, and to integrate ideas, and a thorough familiarity with the appropriate literature and techniques.
A	85-89	
A-	80-84	
B+	77-79	Good: A more than adequate performance in which the student demonstrates a thorough grasp of the subject matter, and an ability to organize and examine the material in a critical and constructive manner. The student demonstrates a good understanding of the relevant issues and a familiarity with the appropriate literature and techniques.
B	73-76	
B-	70-72	
C+	67-69	Acceptable: An adequate performance in which the student demonstrates a generally adequate grasp of the subject matter and a moderate ability to examine the material in a critical and constructive manner. The student displays an adequate understanding of the relevant issues, and a general familiarity with the appropriate literature and techniques.
C	63-66	
C-	60-62	
D+	57-59	Minimally acceptable: A barely adequate performance in which the student demonstrates a familiarity with the subject matter, but whose attempts to examine the material in a critical and constructive manner are only partially successful. The student displays some understanding of the relevant issues, and some familiarity with the appropriate literature and techniques.
D	53-56	
D-	50-52	
F	0-49	Fail: An inadequate performance.

http://www.uoguelph.ca/undergrad_calendar/index.shtml

Course Evaluation

Course and instructor evaluation for MCS*2850 will be handled via a separate D2L site during the final two weeks of the term.