

Ryan Coonerty

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Office Hours: Monday 5-6 pm (in courtyard next to Soc Sci II) and by appt

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## **LGST/POLI 110: Law & Society: Can Mayors Save the World?**

**Summer 2017**

### Course Overview:

In a world where federal and state governments are locked in gridlock, local governments have become centers of activism and activity. Mayors are now trying to address issues of income inequality, housing, nutrition, climate change and innovation. This course will explore how and why local governments are able to act and the impact this approach could have on society and the world.

Just as Mayors are acting in new and innovative ways, this course will ask students to do the same. Students will be expected to do outside research, speak with government officials, actively participate in discussions and give in-class presentations.

Required Reading: (available at Bookshop Santa Cruz and on 2-hour reserve at McHenry Library)

*The Triumph of the City* by Edward Glaeser (Penguin Books, 2012)

*New Urban Crisis* by Richard Florida (Basic Books, 2017)

*If Mayors Ruled the World* by Benjamin Barber (Yale University Press 2013)

CityLab Daily Top Stories e-newsletter [www.citylab.com](http://www.citylab.com)

### Assignments and Evaluation

Students will be evaluated on the following: Group Presentation (33%), Research Paper (33%), and Daily Quizzes & Participation (34%).

### **July 31: Course Introduction, Your City, and Urbanized**

**Readings:** Glaeser Introduction & Ch. 1-3 and CityLab

**August 2: Defining the City**

**Readings:** Glaeser Ch. 4-6 and CityLab

**August 7: Success of the City**

**Readings:** Glaeser Ch. 7-9 & Conclusion and CityLab

Guest Speaker: Matthew Thompson

**August 9: Limits and Problems of Local Governments**

**Readings:** Florida Ch. 1-3 and CityLab

Guest: Jacob Martinez

**August 14: The Challenges of Urban Inequality**

**Readings:** Florida Ch. 4-7 and CityLab

Guest: Mayor Cynthia Chase

**August 16: Solving the Urban Crisis**

**Readings:** Florida Ch. 8-10 and CityLab

PAPER DUE

Guest: John Laird

**August 21: If Mayors Ruled the World**

**Readings:** Barber Ch. 1-4 and CityLab

MEET DOWNTOWN AT 6 PM FOR WALKING TOUR

**August 23: If Mayors Ruled the World (part 2)**

**Readings:** Barber Ch. 5-8 and CityLab

**August 28: Mayors and Global Governance**

**Readings:** Barber Ch. 9-12 and CityLab

**August 30: Group Presentations**