

Summer Course
POSC 321
URBAN POLITICAL PROBLEMS



A film introduction to urban politics

Professor Jefferey Sellers

May 20 – June 29

10:00 a.m. - 2:10 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays

The social and political questions the world faces today are by and large problems of cities and their surrounding regions. Economic globalization, immigration and their consequences concentrate here. So do widespread problems like poverty, social exclusion, education, crime prevention, and environmental degradation. Around the world, film has emerged as one of the most influential media for documenting and confronting these problems. This course offers the chance to examine some of the most important of these problems and their politics through the lens of classic and contemporary films about the city and urban politics. Selected films will be analyzed to examine the city and its politics over the twentieth and twenty-first centuries in the United States, and to compare with cities across the developing world, including Latin America and Asia.

Assignments: One research paper and a series of internet discussion postings. For further information contact Jefferey Sellers at sellers@usc.edu or (213) 740-1684.