



contemporary urban theory I: political economy | soc 2202: cities and society fall 2019

## Business Matters

- Place Profiles — Graded; uploading final papers (tonight)!
- Midterm grading
  - Revise and Resubmit Option (at the end of the semester)
- Final Paper Prospectus — uploaded to OneDrive by **Friday, November 1 at 11:59 pm.**























## points of departure

- Mark Gottaliener (1977) and Joe Feagin (1988)
- **Socio-spatial perspective:** Emphasizes physical space and how space can be manipulated to affect urban life.
  - Real estate developers and local government officials are more influential in changing the form and function of cities than other growth entrepreneurs.
  - Emphasis on people's understanding of space, including the ways in which local cultures differ in the symbolic meanings they attach to different spaces.
  - Metropolitan development is also global.

From both the chapter "The City as a Growth Machine", from John R. Logan's Urban Fortunes, and from Kevin Loughran's "Parks for Profit" paper, it is evident that the strategic use of land enables for economic growth within cities. The power to push for these economic advancements is often wielded entirely by the active elites of the urban population. Logan notes that important roles in city growth have been given to "mass media, urban professionals, and skilled political entrepreneurs" (Logan 2007, 58). As we have learned throughout this course, and is reiterated in Logan's piece, minorities and the urban poor are often underrepresented in these groups, and certainly do not have the political power wielded by the urban "elites."

Is economic growth achieved by the creation of privileged spaces such as New York's High Line progress for a city, or are the benefits outweighed by the inequality it perpetuates within the city? How can a city create public spaces that will economically and socially benefit the entire urban population rather than just the elite?

—Kate F., Expert Question

