Gentrification is transforming New York City. But what is gentrification? What produces it? What are its effects? In this First Year Seminar we will explore New York’s gentrifying neighborhoods. We’ll walk through neighborhoods with community leaders to learn first hand about gentrification and its affects. They will share neighborhood history and the residential, industrial, and commercial changes that are transforming the places they call home. To provide some context for what we see on the street, we’ll read a brand new text book on gentrification written by three of the foremost experts on the subject. Movies, class discussions, and music will complement our visits offering context and alternative perspectives to help us understand what we see.
Requirements

Attend all classes, read all assigned material and enthusiastically participate in class discussions and field trips. We will travel to New York City on two of the five class meetings to tour gentrifying neighborhoods. Bring a camera, pad, and a pen for all field trips.

Submit a five page double spaced paper that critically assess how gentrification is affecting Coney Island or Harlem. Incorporate photographs and other materials you collect while in the field.

Materials


All other materials are available on the course Sakai website

Grading

Attendance and participation 50%

No matter what your background is, this is an excellent opportunity to engage in the debates about gentrification. Even though we are reading the same literature and traveling through the same neighborhoods, who we are shapes the questions we ask and informs how we interpret what we read, see, and hear. I anticipate and expect lively class discussions.

Lateness is frowned upon

Written Assignment 50%
Plan

**September 13 Gentrification**


**September 20 Trip to Coney Island, Brooklyn**

Less, Slater, and Wyly. Chs 2 & 3

**September 27**

Lees Slater, and Wyly Chs 3 & 4

In class film: Josh Pais. *7th Avenue*

**October 4 Trip to Harlem**

Lees, Slater, and Wyly Chs 5, 6

**October 11**

Lees, Slater, and Wyly Chs 7